

Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento Street Address: 3341 Power Inn Road Mailing Address: 3341 Power Inn Road City and Zip Code: Sacramento, CA 95826 Branch Name: William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse Juvenile Dependency Court		<i>For Court Use Only</i>
Name of Person to be Evaluated/Assessed:		
Case Name:		Case Number:
Judicial Officer:		Department:
Next Court Date:		
COURT ORDERED PSYCHOLOGICAL/PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION OR MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT – FOR PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)		

The Court orders the Department of Child, Family and Adult Services to arrange the following evaluation(s) or assessment(s). The parent/guardian is ordered to submit to the following evaluation(s) or assessment(s):

- 1. **Psychological/Psychiatric Evaluation Prior to Disposition to Determine if the Parent Can Utilize Services pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) § 361.5(b) (2).** The parent/guardian appears to be suffering from a mental disability that may render him/her incapable of utilizing available services designed to enable the parent/guardian to care for and control the child adequately. “Mentally disabled” means that a parent or guardian suffers a mental incapacity or disorder that renders the parent or guardian unable to care for and control the child adequately (CA Family Code §7827(a)). The Department of Child, Family and Adult Services (DCFAS) is authorized to release to the selected professional those DCFAS and Dependency Court records necessary for the completion of the assessment. The parent/guardian is advised that failure to comply with this court order to submit to these evaluations may provide a basis for denying reunification services.¹

The Court orders DCFAS to arrange 2 psychological/psychiatric evaluations.²

The evaluation shall address all of the items below and the completed report provided to the DCFAS within 45 days from the issuance of this order. DCFAS shall report to the Court the results of the evaluation no later than 60 days from this order.

¹ *In re C.C.* (2003) 111 Cal. App. 4th 76.

² The Section references Family Code Section 7827 which requires evidence from two (2) experts.

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- a. Is the parent/guardian suffering from a mental disability? If so, what is the parent's/guardian's disability? Is the parent's /guardian's disability likely to remain so in the foreseeable future?
- b. Can the parent/guardian utilize available services designed to enable him/her to care for and control the child adequately?
- c. What length of time will the parent/guardian need to utilize services to enable him/her to care for and control the child adequately?
- d. If the parent/guardian can utilize services, describe the types of treatment, interventions, and services, including any recommendations as to the manner in which the services or treatment should be delivered to best enable the parent/guardian to care for and control the child adequately.
- e. Other, specify:

2. **Mental Health Assessment to Ensure Reunification Services are Tailored to the Parent's/Guardian's Needs.** The parent/guardian may suffer from a mental disability that may render the parent/guardian unable to care for and control the child adequately. A mental health assessment is required to assist the Court in determining what services will best enable the parent/guardian to care for and control the child adequately. The DCFAS is authorized to release to the selected mental health professional those DCFAS and Dependency Court records necessary for the completion of the assessment.

The assessment shall address all of the items below. The mental health professional shall provide a written report to the DCFAS within 45 days of the issuance of this order. DCFAS shall report to the Court no later than 60 days.

- a. What is the parent's/guardian's mental disability?
- b. Does the parent/guardian have a developmental disability?
- c. What specific social, mental health or other available services will assist the parent/guardian to develop the skills necessary to care for and control the child adequately?
- d. Describe any particular techniques that should be utilized or avoided to be effective in assisting the parent/guardian to gain the skills necessary to care for and control the child adequately?
- e. Is psychological testing or a psychiatric evaluation needed to answer questions a-d?
- f. Other, specify:

3. **Psychological Evaluation Following a Mental Health Assessment to Ensure Reunification Services are Tailored to the Parent/Guardian's Needs.** The parent/guardian suffers from a mental health disability that appears to hinder his/her ability to parent the child safely. A psychological evaluation and testing is required to assist the Court in determining what services will best assist the parent/guardian in developing the skills necessary to safely parent the child. The DCFAS is authorized to

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release to the selected mental health professional those DCFAS and Dependency Court records necessary for the completion of the evaluation.

The evaluation shall address all of the checked items below. The evaluator shall provide a written report to the DCFAS within 45 days. DCFAS shall report to the Court no later than 60 days the results of the evaluation and include the recommendations for a specifically tailored case plan.

- a. What is the parent's/guardian's mental health diagnosis and/or mental disability?
- b. Does the parent/guardian have a developmental disability?
- c. What specific social, mental health or other available services will assist the parent/guardian to develop the skills necessary to care for and control the child adequately?
- d. Describe any particular techniques that should be utilized or avoided to be effective in assisting the parent/guardian to gain the skills necessary to care for and control the child adequately?
- e. Other, specify:

Date: _____

► _____

Judicial Officer of the Juvenile Court