

## What You Need To Know About My Child

\*Questions for parents to consider when communicating with caregivers about their child

\*Designed to provide/exchange information about child's needs and ensure a smooth transition

\*Dates/times of ongoing telephone calls will be arranged by the assigned Social Worker

Name of child? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a nickname for your child? \_\_\_\_\_

Any name he/she DOES NOT like to go by \_\_\_\_\_

How do you prefer your child address the caregivers?  
Examples (Mrs., Mamma, by first name, Aunt?)

Is there a nightly routine (such as normal time for bed, bedtime reading, and prayers, special stuffed animal, blanket, music, night light, etc)

Does your child sleep through the night?  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If not what is the best way to help him/her.

Does your child wet the bed? \_\_\_ If yes, how is this handled? \_\_\_\_\_

Any fears? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you provide your child comfort? \_\_\_\_\_

Any special toys or games your child likes to play? \_\_\_\_\_

Any specific foods that your child likes?

What does a normal breakfast, lunch and dinner consist of? \_\_\_\_\_

Any meal time routines or chores (prayer before meal, setting table, TV during meals, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Any food allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

Any foods your child will not eat? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have any special names for their body parts? \_\_\_\_\_

What does your child's weekend routine look like?

My child attends \_\_\_\_\_  
religious services

My child's doctor is \_\_\_\_\_  
His phone number and/or address is \_\_\_\_\_

My child's dentist is \_\_\_\_\_  
His phone number and/or address is \_\_\_\_\_

Next medical appointment is \_\_\_\_\_  
My child takes \_\_\_\_\_  
medication for \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have any immediate or ongoing medical needs we should be aware of? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your child's favorite game? \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Sport? \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite TV program? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any friends or extended family members you would like for them to keep in contact with? Include relationship, name and contact information.

Does he/she have a pet at home? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what kind? \_\_\_\_\_ Name? \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you think we should know about your child to make him/her feel more safe and secure?

# Kern County JUVENILE COURT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Dear Parent or Guardian:

## **PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION.**

### **1. Why is this matter being investigated?**

There have been one or more reports about the safety of your child: a police officer or social worker must investigate to see if your child's safety and protection require official intervention through the juvenile court.

### **2. If my child was taken from me, why?**

Your child may have been taken from you and placed in protective custody because a police officer or social worker believes it necessary for the protection of your child. Some of the reasons may be:

- a. Your child had inadequate care or supervision.
- b. Your child was neglected or abused or molested.
- c. Your child was left with someone who could not or would not provide adequate care.

### **3. If my child is not with me, where is my child?**

Your child may be at a county shelter or in a temporary foster home. The social worker will provide additional information or give you a number to call to find out more about the arrangements that have been made for your child's care and about your future contact with your child. To learn more, call your child's social worker at the number on the back of this pamphlet during regular business hours.

### **4. Will my child be returned to me?**

It is possible that your child will be returned to you. The social worker assigned to investigate the case will review information about you, your home, and your child and will act according to what appears to be the best way to make sure your child is safe. If your child is not returned to you, your child may be temporarily placed with:

- a. Your child's other legal parent (if you are not living together)
- b. A relative
- c. A foster or shelter home

### **5. What about relatives?**

The law requires that you tell the social worker the names, addresses, phone numbers, and other information about your child's other legal parent or other relatives who may be able to care for your child. The social worker will contact them, see if they can provide for your child, and determine if the home will be safe for your child. In this way, your child may not have to go to someone your child and you do not know.

### **6. What happens now?**

If the social worker believes your child is not safe, the social worker will file papers in juvenile court, asking the court to declare your child to be dependent of the court and to make orders regarding the care, custody, and supervision of your child.

The first paper filed is called a "petition," and it must be filed within two court days

(regular work days) of the time your child was taken from you or within a reasonable time if your child remains with you.

You will be notified of the date, time, and place of the first court hearing.

***It is very important for you to come to court for this hearing.***

#### ***Additional Information:***

***Kern County Juvenile Court  
2100 College Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93305***

***You can get more information about where your child is and about the court processes from your child's social worker or your local child welfare agency. The following is a list of local helpful telephone numbers:***

***Social worker: (661) 631-6474***

***Other useful numbers to be provided by the county:***

***Jamison Children's Center  
(661) 334-3500***



100 E. California Ave. ■ Bakersfield, CA 93307  
Tel 661.631.6000 ■ Fax 661.631.6631 ■ TTY 800.735.2929

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KCDHS is an equal opportunity agency.