

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO
JUVENILE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF:

_____ : Case No. (s) _____

alleged _____ :
Child(ren)

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION constitutes the Abused/Neglected/Dependent arraignment procedure and your rights in Juvenile Court on the filing of a Complaint alleging Abuse, Neglect or Dependency of children.

1. You may be represented by an attorney. After being advised of the following rights you may admit the charge and proceed without an attorney if you wish. If you cannot afford an attorney and are indigent, you may request an attorney and have an attorney appointed for you as a parent/custodian. A *Guardian ad litem* shall be appointed for the child(ren). If you are a parent and are under the age of eighteen (18), your parents shall also be notified and an attorney will be appointed for you.
2. You may deny the allegations, and have a trial to the Court.
3. A Probable Cause or Shelter Care hearing is the first hearing held to determine if sufficient reason exists to place the child(ren) out of the home until further hearing.
4. At the Probable Cause hearing, questions may be asked by you, and statements made as to why temporary care of your children should not be Ordered at this time.
5. The abuse, neglect or dependency must be proven by "clear and convincing evidence".
6. You may ask questions of any witness who testifies at trial and you may testify yourself, if you wish.
7. You may call persons to testify as a witness. The witnesses you wish to testify can be compelled to appear for you by filing a written request with the Court, called a precipe for subpoena, stating the names and addresses of the witnesses. If they can be located by the Sheriff prior to trial, they shall be served with notice and Ordered to appear.
8. You can be granted a continuance for an opportunity to consult an attorney before admitting or denying the allegations, or you may be represented anytime thereafter even if you begin without counsel.
9. An audio record will be made of the proceeding.

10. If allegations of the Complaint are not proven, the charge(s) will be dismissed. If the allegations of the Complaint are proven, the Court may place the child(ren) with you or outside the home. If placement is made outside the home, a written reunification plan is required to be prepared to permit safe return of the child(ren). The Court may order child support payments, and or other support orders for medical care, and for clothing and necessary items if the child is placed outside the home.
11. The first objective is to ensure that the child(ren) are safely placed, preferably in the child(ren)'s home. Placement will not be made in the home if, and until, the best interest of the child is served. Permanent custody can be taken from the parents if reunification cannot be accomplished, it is in the best interest of the child(ren) and if requested by Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services (DCDJFS).
12. I can read and speak the English language. I have read and do understand the above information.
13. I _____ give up the right to an attorney for this hearing.
do/do not
14. I _____ understand that I can retain an attorney at anytime throughout these
do/do not
proceedings and I have the right to court appointed attorney if I am indigent.
15. I _____ the allegation in the Complaint for _____
admit/deny abuse/neglect/dependency

Signature of Father Age DOB

Address City State

Social Security # Phone #

Signature of Custodian Age DOB

Address City State

Social Security # Phone #

Signature of Mother Age DOB

Address City State

Social Security # Phone #

Attorney for Father/Mother/Custodian

Attorney for Father/Mother/Custodian

Guardian ad litem (if appointed)