

SAMPLE EMERGENCY LANGUAGE FOR SUPERVISED VISITATION COURT ORDERS

Intended as a Sample Only - Please Adapt or Modify as Needed

EXTRINGENT CIRCUMSTANCES DUE TO THE CURRENT PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS CREATED BY COVID-19

In Re: XXXXX

Docket: XXXX

Date: XXXX

In light of the evolving public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 virus, the declaration issued by [Governor, Mayor, CDC] and the Administrative Orders issued by [Court], it is HEREBY ORDERED that as of March XX:

1. All on-site supervised parental access at [Center or Centers] is hereby suspended;
2. In lieu of on-site access, [Centers], where safe and possible, shall facilitate alternate remote parental access through phone or video services.
3. In each case, the Center shall draw up tailored remote access guidelines. In developing the guidelines, the Center shall hold the safety of the child/ren and the protected parent paramount. The guidelines shall maintain to the extent possible given safety considerations the same contact as in the prior access order. Where this is not practical, the Center shall consider additional shorter visits or other means of balancing safety and access considerations.
4. In developing the guidelines, the Centers shall consider:
 - a. Its ability to maintain safety of the child/ren and protected parent;
 - b. The most appropriate available technology that is accessible to both parents;
 - c. Any history of stalking or other abusive behavior using technology by a parent;

Sample Language for Adaptation as User Sees Fit – Not intended as Model Practice
For Further Assistance and Support

Center for Court Innovation (court assistance): dvinfo@courtinnovation.org
Inspire Action for Social Change (supervised visitation & safe exchange programming):
info@inspireactionforsocialchange.org

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- d. Whether the Center shall be able to adequately monitor the visiting parent;
 - e. Attempts to take advantage of the crisis, the protected parent or the Center;
 - f. Other factors as the Center deems relevant.
5. If, after consideration of the above factors, the Center determines that safe and effective access is not possible, the Center shall notify both parties, their counsel, if any, and the Court.
 6. All communication from the parties and/or their counsel concerning this order shall be made to the Center or to the Court.
 7. To access the Center for any questions during this time, contact [Insert the best method of contact] and to access the Court for any questions during this time, contact [Insert the best method of contact].

Until the further rule of the Court, it is so ordered.

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