

CAUSE NO. _____

_____ * IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
* HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
* _____TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

ORDER FOR EVALUATION IN CONTESTED ADOPTION

The Court finds that an evaluation would be of assistance to the Court, the evaluation is in the best interest of the child(ren), and that good cause has been shown for the appointment of an evaluator. Therefore, it is ORDERED that the Harris County Domestic Relations Office, Family Court Services Division, is appointed to prepare an evaluation to determine whether termination of respondent's parental rights is in the best interest the child(ren) who is the subject of this suit and concurrently, evaluate the circumstances and the condition of the home and social environment of the petitioner(s) who are requesting adoption of the child(ren). The Court finds that evaluators employed by or under contract with the Harris County Domestic Relations Office are qualified to conduct evaluations pursuant to Section 107.104(b)(3). The evaluation shall follow the guidelines set out in Chapter 107, Subchapters D, E and F, Texas Family Code.

PETITIONER: _____	CO-PETITIONER: _____
Address _____	Address _____
City _____ Zip Code _____	City _____ Zip Code _____
Phone (H) _____ (C) _____	Phone (H) _____ (C) _____
Employer _____	Employer _____
Phone (W) _____ DOB: _____	Phone (W) _____ DOB _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____
Relationship to Child _____	Relationship to Child _____
RESPONDENT: _____	CO-RESPONDENT: _____
Address _____	Address _____
City _____ Zip Code _____	City _____ Zip Code _____
Phone (H) _____ (C) _____	Phone (H) _____ (C) _____
Employer _____	Employer _____
Phone (W) _____ DOB: _____	Phone (W) _____ DOB _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____
Relationship to Child _____	Relationship to Child _____

The Domestic Relations Office is authorized to collect a reasonable fee pursuant to Sections 107.115 and 107.162, Texas Family Code. It is ORDERED that Petitioner(s) shall pay \$350.00 for the cost of the evaluation to the Domestic Relations Office, 1310 Prairie, Suite 700, Houston, Texas 77002 within ten (10) days of this Order. Preparation of the evaluation shall commence when said sum is paid in full.

Taking into account the circumstances of the family to be assessed, It is ORDERED that the elements of the evaluation as set forth in Section 107.109, Texas Family Code are modified to only include elements related solely to the questions of termination and adoption of the child(ren). The Court does not require: (1) an observation of the child in the presence of the parent(s) contesting the termination of his/her parental rights; (2) observation or interview of other adults or children who reside with the parent contesting termination; (3) evaluation of home environment of the parent contesting termination; or (4) consideration of any criminal history or Department of Family and Protective Services information for other individuals residing in the residence of the parent contesting termination.

It is ORDERED that the parties and their counsel shall cooperate with the Domestic Relations Office in the preparation of this evaluation. Each party is ORDERED to sign appropriate releases for the Harris County Domestic Relations Office to review the child(ren)'s and the party's own school records; physical and mental health records; and records from any other collateral source that may have relevant information.

It is further ORDERED that a report containing the evaluator's findings, opinions, and recommendations shall be filed with this Court ninety (90) days from the date of assignment to a Family Court Services Evaluator, unless the suit is settled before completion of the evaluation.

Signed on _____, 20__.

JUDGE PRESIDING

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BY: _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
E-Mail _____

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER(S)

BY: _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
E-Mail _____

AMICUS ATTORNEY

BY: _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
E-mail _____

ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT