

**STANDING ORDERS IN ALL CHILD PROTECTION CASES IN THE
COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF PANOLA COUNTY, TEXAS**

The following orders are necessary to protect each child and are in the best interest of each child before the Court in any case filed by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and its single source continuum contractor, currently 4 Kids 4 Families, (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Department"):

1. **IT IS ORDERED** that all hair and nail drug tests conducted in these cases shall include detection for the presence of fentanyl. This order does not apply to alcohol testing.

The following orders are necessary to protect each child and are in the best interest of each child before the Court while in the temporary or permanent managing conservatorship of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and its single source continuum contractor, currently 4 Kids 4 Families, (hereinafter collectively referred to as the ("Department")):

1. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department shall file the visitation plan as defined in Texas Family Code Section 262.115 before the Adversary Hearing under Texas Family Code Section 262.201.
2. **IT IS ORDERED** that, absent an emergency, a child's placement shall not change unless agreed to by the child's Guardian Ad Litem/CASA or a court order.
3. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department shall produce to the child's attorney and guardian ad litem the child's common application and Every Child A Priority (ECAP) assessment that is submitted to determine a child's placement at each placement search.
4. **IT IS ORDERED** that for every placement search for a child the Department shall search each and every licensed placement in the state of Texas, including but not limited to placements licensed or contracted directly with the Department of Family and Protective Services (hereinafter "DFPS") or placements licensed or contracted with other Single Source Continuum Contractors operating outside of Panola County, Texas. **IT IS ORDERED** that every placement search shall include a search of the General Placement Search (GPS) Database maintained by DFPS.
5. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department shall not place a child in an emergency shelter outside of Panola County until the Department has searched each and every licensed placement in the state of Texas, including but not limited to placements licensed or contracted directly with the Department of Family and Protective Services or placements licensed or contracted with other Single Source Continuum Contractors operating outside of Panola County, Texas. **IT IS ORDERED** that every placement search shall include a search of the General Placement Search (GPS) Database maintained by DFPS.

FILED

At 11:29 O'clock a M.

JUL 24 2024

LINDSEY SMITH, CLERK
DISTRICT COURT & COUNTY
COURT AT LAW, PANOLA CO., TX

BY: [Signature] DEPUTY

6. **IT IS ORDERED** that if a child/children has not been placed in Panola county or within 150 miles of Panola county and is not in a relative/fictive kin or adoptive home after a period of three (3) months- the 4 Kids 4 Families "placement specialist" assigned to the child/children shall provide a written report to the Court that includes the following information: 1) what placements were contacted; 2) what person with personal knowledge of the child/children contacted the placements; and 3) the response from the placement. Emails or fax contacts attempts will not be considered as compliance with this requirement.
7. **IT IS ORDERED** that if a child/children has not been placed in Panola county or within 150 miles of Panola county and is not in a relative/fictive kin or adoptive home for a period of three (3) months- the 4 Kids 4 Families "placement specialist" assigned to the child/children shall appear in person at the next court hearing scheduled for that child/children to discuss the active, ongoing efforts to place the child/children within Panola county or within 150 miles of Panola County.
8. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department shall place each child in the least restrictive setting regardless of whether the placement is licensed or contracted directly with the Department of Family and Protective Services or licensed or contracted with another Single Source Continuum Contractor operating outside of Panola County, Texas.
9. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department shall list all placement types, county of placements, and placement changes in the Status Report and each court report thereafter.
10. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department shall include each respite or other temporary placement stay (e.g. hospital, jail, hotel, overnight in an office, etc.) in each court report, including the Status Report.
11. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department shall conduct a search for an adoptive placement at least one time each month for each child in the permanent managing conservatorship of the Department whose parents have been terminated or are deceased. Each month the 4 Kids 4 Families "placement specialist" assigned to the child/children is **ORDERED** to provide a written report to the Court and the child's attorney and guardian ad litem/CASA that includes the following information: 1) what placements or agencies were contacted; 2) what person with personal knowledge of the child/children contacted the placements or agencies; and 3) the response from the placement or agency. Emails or fax contacts attempts will not be considered as compliance with this requirement.
12. **IT IS ORDERED** that the adoption specialist who returns an adoption subsidiary packet for deficiency shall meet with the prospective adoptive family and permanency case manager and child placing agency within three (3) business days to correct the deficiency.
13. **IT IS ORDERED** that the Department employee who returns a TARE application for a deficiency shall meet with the permanency case manager and their supervisor within three (3) business days to correct the deficiency.
14. **IT IS ORDERED** that, absent an emergency, the Department first provide the travel approval form to the child/children's attorney ad litem and Guardian Ad Litem/CASA prior to Judge's approval if the child/ children will be traveling outside of the state of Texas.

IT IS ORDERED that this standing order is effective September 1, 2024.

Signed this 15 day of July, 2024.

Lisa M. Andrews

Lisa M. Andrews
Associate Judge
Northeast Texas CPC #1

Rick McPherson

Rick McPherson
County Court at Law
Panola County, Texas