

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

STANDING ORDER OF COURT

**AGE-APPROPRIATE CONSULTATION WITH CHILD  
PURSUANT TO §12-15-315, ALABAMA CODE (1975)**

WHEREAS, §12-15-315, *Alabama Code (1975)* applies in permanency hearings conducted in dependency cases of this Court, and

WHEREAS, this statute obligates the Court to consult with dependent children in an age-appropriate manner, regarding the permanency plan and any transition plan to independent living.

It is therefore **ORDERED, ADJUDGED** and **DECREED** by the Court as follows:

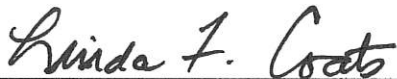
1. In each dependency case before this Court, the guardian *ad litem* for each child shall
  - a) Conduct an age-appropriate consultation with the child;
  - b) Provide the Court, each attorney of record and each non-represented party, at least five (5) days prior to a dispositional or permanency hearing, a written report regarding that consultation.

The report shall include the recommendation of the guardian *ad litem* concerning the appropriateness of further, direct, in-court consultation with the child.

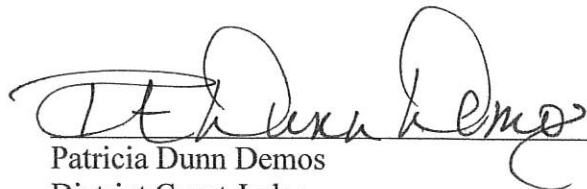
2. This order shall be maintained in the office of the Family Court Division of the Circuit Court Clerk and shall be spread upon the minutes of the Juvenile Court of Madison County, Alabama.

3. The clerk of the Juvenile Court shall forward a copy of this order to the Director of the Madison County Department of Human Resources and to the Executive Secretary of the Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association for distribution to attorneys practicing before this Court.

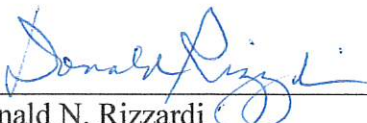
DONE and ORDERED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.



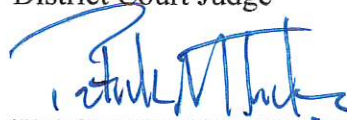
Linda F. Coats  
Presiding District Court Judge



Patricia Dunn Demos  
District Court Judge



Donald N. Rizzardi  
District Court Judge



Patrick M. Tuten  
District Court Judge