

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

STANDING ORDER OF COURT

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

WHEREAS, §12-15-315(a), *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.

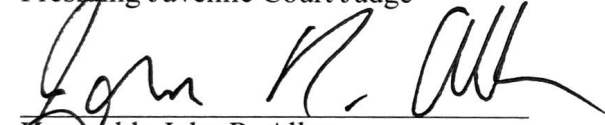
It is therefore **ORDERED, ADJUDGED** and **DECREED** by the Court as follows:

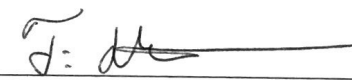
1. In each dependency case before this Court, the guardian *ad litem* for each child shall
  - a) Conduct an age-appropriate consultation with the child, regarding the permanency plan and any transition plan to independent living;
  - b) Provide the Court, each attorney of record and each non-represented party, at least five (5) days prior to a dispositional or permanency hearing, a written report certifying that the consultation occurred and whether the permanency plan and any transition to independent living is in the best interests of 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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026.

  
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Honorable Patricia Dunn Demos  
Presiding Juvenile Court Judge

  
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Honorable Linda F. Coats  
Juvenile Court Judge

  
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Honorable John R. Allen  
Juvenile Court Judge

  
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Honorable Tim J. Douthit  
Juvenile Court Judge