

A Social Workers Guide to Evaluating Incarcerated Parent-Child Visitation

This is a guide to assist social workers with giving the court and parties relevant information to determine if the minor child in interest should have visitation with their incarcerated parent. Depending on your jurisdiction, the information obtain may be contained in a separate report or should be used to in your case permanency plan.

1. Child's Information

- a. Name/Age/D.O.B.:
- b. Distance from child's placement to IP:
- c. Child's Relationship with IP:
- d. Child's opinion on visitation
- e. Child's Therapist's opinion on visitation
- f. Other's Parent's opinion on visitation
- g. Custodian's opinion on visitation
- h. Other Relative's opinion on visitation

2. Incarcerated Parent Information:

- a. Name/Relationship to Child (mother/father)
- b. Is Paternity (if applicable) Established? If so, how?
- c. Offense(s):
- d. Was this child a victim or witness to the crime?
- e. Was any child a victim or witness to the crime?
- f. Place of Confinement:
- g. Length of Sentence/Tentative Discharge Date:
- h. In Person Visitation Rules:
- i. Describe visitation setting:
- j. Who would facilitate visitation
- k. IP's Counselors Recommendation on visitation
- l. Services available to IP
- m. List any Parenting Deficiencies:

3. Visitation

- a. What has IP done to initiate visitation?
- b. Efforts made by DHS to provide contact between the child and IP
- c. Type(s) of contact occurring between child and IP
 - i. Phone, Video Conferencing, In-person
 - ii. Length and Frequency of Contact
- d. Efforts made by DHS to make contact between SW2/CM and IP