

# **Family Law / Child Welfare Resource Library 2009**

In an effort to provide judges, attorneys, caseworkers, and other community partners with a centralized source for information on a wide variety of issues affecting children and families, the Judicial Policies, Programs and Practices Team (“JP3”) of the Colorado State Court Administrator’s Office maintains this **Family Law/Child Welfare Resource Library**. The library contains print literature, DVD, online resources, and training materials relating to juvenile law, dependency and neglect, foster youth, domestic violence, family law, child support, and probate law. Judicial Policies, Programs, and Practices does not endorse or promote any outside organizations or agencies responsible for the publication of these resources.

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## JUVENILE LAW

### *CHILD WELFARE/DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT*

#### [A Snapshot of the Child Victims Act Model Courts Project: Status Reports](#)

Description: Chronicles the work of the PPCD Child Victims Model Courts for 1999-2007. Provides a brief summary of reform initiatives in each Model Court, including a matrix section showing jurisdictional differences.

Fee: \$20

#### [Promoting Healthy Families in Your Community: 2008 Resource Packet](#)

Description: This information packet was written to support child maltreatment prevention efforts by describing strategies and activities that promote protective factors. It is written for service providers, to encourage and support them as they engage and partner with parents to protect, nurture, and promote the healthy development of children. The packet includes suggestions for enhancing each of the five protective factors in families; tip sheets in English and Spanish for providers to use when working with parents and caregivers on specific parenting challenges; strategies for sharing the message about child abuse prevention in communities; and information about child abuse and neglect (tip sheet is available in English and Spanish)

Fee: Free PDF

#### [A Coordinated Response to Child Abuse and Neglect: The Foundation for Practice](#)

Description: Written for new child protective services (CPS) caseworkers, professionals working with children and families, and other professionals and concerned community members. This manual addresses the definition, scope, causes, and consequences of child abuse and neglect. It presents an overview of prevention efforts and the child protection process from identification and reporting through investigation and assessment to service provision and case closure. This manual is intended to accompany each profession-specific manual in the User Manual Series. Appendices include a glossary of terms, resource listings of selected national organizations concerned with child maltreatment, and State toll-free child abuse reporting numbers. (150 references)

Fee: Free PDF

#### [Protecting Children in Families Affected by Substance Use Disorders](#)

Description: This is the third edition of the Child Abuse and Neglect User Manual Series, and it provides an overview of how child welfare and other related professionals can assist families affected by substance use disorders (SUDs) through prevention, identification, investigation, assessment, and treatment.

Fee: Free

[Adoption and Permanency Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases](#)

Description: Guides juvenile and family courts in assessing and implementing improvements in the handling of child abuse and neglect cases through the termination of parental rights and adoption process. (November 2000)  
Fee: Free PDF or \$15 hard copy

[Resource Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases](#)

Description: Guides juvenile and family courts in assessing and implementing improvements in the handling of child abuse and neglect cases. (August 1995)  
Fee: Free PDF or \$15 hard copy

[Child Welfare and Law Practice: Representing Children, Parents, and State Agencies in Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Cases](#)

Description: Advocacy training and resource for attorneys (aka The Red Book)  
Fee: \$79

[Implementing Performance Measures for Children: A Training Aid](#)

Description: (Training Video) Introduction, Implementing the measure, nine key measures, achieving timely permanency, tools for judicial oversight  
Fee: Can access/rent at National Center for State Courts Library

A Handbook for Families in Dependency and Neglect Cases:

[English Version](#) or [Spanish Version](#)  
Description: This handbook contains important about the courts, the court process, and the people involved in dependency and neglect cases. (Available through the [Colorado Judicial Branch](#) )  
Fee: Free PDF

[Making Differences Work: Cultural Context in Abuse and Neglect Practice for Judges and Attorneys](#)

Description: Outlines ways to interact with litigants from different cultures and backgrounds and identifying key culture and subculture issues. Features resource lists, practice tips, and question checklists to help lawyers and judges be more culturally sensitive  
Fee: \$15.99

[Judicial Leadership and Judicial Practice in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases](#)

Description: (Training for judges) Presents an overview of effective leaders and effective leadership.  
Fee: \$10

[Child Abuse and Neglect Institute: The Role of the Judge- A Curriculum Guide and Instructor's Manual](#)

- Description: (Training for judges) The *Curriculum Guide* adapts the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' (NCJFCJ) successful in-residence training program and materials to provide local and state jurisdictions with a *Curriculum* that can be adapted to implement their own dependency court judge trainings or offer materials as a self-directed or online course
- Fee: Available by contacting the Permanency Planning for Children Department of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges at [caninfo@ncjfcj.org](mailto:caninfo@ncjfcj.org). A copy of the *Curriculum* is also available from the State Justice Institute designated library in each state

[National Judicial Curricula Series- Part I-Part III](#)

- Description: **Part I:** Focuses on judicial participation in collaborative community efforts. Included are discussions of judicial leadership and ethical restraints.  
**Part II:** Focuses on judicial leadership in community and cultural awareness.  
**Part III:** Examines judicial leadership and management of child abuse and neglect cases and the ethical issues and concerns that may arise from such leadership.
- Fee: Part I and Part II are \$45 each/Part III is free PDF

[Legal Representation of Children: Recommendations and Standards of Practice for the Legal Representation of Children in Abuse and Neglect Cases](#)

- Description: Document is designed to assist children's attorneys, courts, and policy makers working to improve the legal representation of children. The focus is on the the representation of children in abuse and neglect proceedings. The document also has application to private custody and adoption matters.
- Fee: Available through NCSC

[The Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children: A Manual and Instructional Guide for Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#)

- Description: Presents information necessary to effectively implement the ICPC and provides instructional information to assist judges and court staff in teaching others about the Compact.
- Fee: Free PDF

[Representing Parents in Child Welfare Cases](#)

- Description: Training for attorneys
- Fee: Free PDF

[Achieving Quality Legal Representation for Children, Families, and the State: Children's Law Manual](#)

Description: Each year the NACC publishes a Children's Law Manual in conjunction with its National Conference. Each manual covers a wide range of children's legal issues.

Fee: \$25-\$35 depending on membership

[Colorado Child Welfare Practice Handbook](#)

Description: This publication provides guidance for child welfare professionals (e.g., casework practitioners, supervisors, case aides, foster parents) and their colleagues (e.g., mental health professionals, school personnel, juvenile justice system staff) on how to work with families and with each other to achieve positive outcomes for children and families within the child welfare system.

The purpose of the Handbook is to raise and support standards of practice in Child Welfare by exploring how quality child welfare practice implements policy. It brings together current views and experience of many child welfare professionals and applies these to the decisions and activities of child welfare work in Colorado

Fee: Currently being converted for web access. Contact [Susan Ludwig](#) at CDHS for access to the full handbook.

[The Child's Attorney: A Guide to Representing Children in Custody, Adoption, and Protection Cases](#)

Description: A resource guide to analyzing and advocating the rights of children in civil cases.

Fee: Available to order online

[Building a Better Collaboration: Facilitating Change in the Court and Child Welfare System](#)

Description: Offers a framework for thinking about facilitating change in the child welfare system. Uses the experiences of Project Sites to illustrate ways in which these theoretical concepts can be implemented in the real world of child welfare reform

Fee: Available online for \$10

[Guide to County Training Services](#)

Description: Website created by the CDHS which provides a list of training services

Fee: Website access is free

[CW360: A Comprehensive Look at a Prevalent Child Welfare Issue](#)

Description: Annual publication that provides communities, child welfare professionals, and other human service professionals, comprehensive information on the latest research, policies and practices in a key area affecting child well-being today.  
Fee: Free PDF

[The Guardian](#)

Description: Juvenile and family law quarterly publication  
Fee: Free online to members (located under the PUBLICATIONS)

[Questions Every Judge and Lawyer Should Ask Infants and Toddlers in the Child Welfare System: Technical Assistance Brief](#)

Description: Training for judges and lawyers  
Fee: Order online for \$5

[Child Welfare Competencies: Promoting Family-centered, Culturally Relevant, and Interdisciplinary Child Welfare Practice and Training](#)

Description: Training for professionals  
Fee: Available by contacting the Institute for Human Services

[Knowing Who You Are](#)

Description: Three part curriculum helps child welfare professionals explore race and ethnicity and prepares them to support the healthy development of their constituent's racial and ethnic identity.  
Fee: Free- Available through video streamlining or can order a copy for free with a guide

[Indian Child Welfare Act Checklists for Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#)

Description: Provides benchcard checklists for use by judges and child welfare professionals in the implementation of the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act.  
Fee: Available for \$7.50 on NCJFCJ website

[Indian Child Welfare Act Training](#)

Description: Training Video  
Fee: Free online at the Colorado Office of the Child's Representative

[Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997](#)

Description: Act  
Fee: Free PDF

[Parenting From Prison](#)

Description: A resource guide for incarcerated parents who wish to continue having a relationship with their children.  
Fee: Free PDF

## ***FOSTER YOUTH***

### [Legal Center for Foster Care and Education Fact Sheets](#)

Description: FAQs  
Fee: Free PDF

### [A Child's Journey Through the Child Welfare System](#)

Description: PEW Commission study on children in foster care  
Fee: Article and PDF available free

### [Handbook for Colorado Children who are not Living at Home](#)

Description: Books for children ages 3-6, 7-12, and 13-18 (available in English and Spanish)  
Fee: Free PDF

### [Blueprint for Change: Educational Success for Children in Foster Care](#)

Description: The Blueprint for Change sets forth 8 goals for youth, as well as specific, correlating benchmarks for each goal that would indicate progress toward achieving education success.  
Fee: Free PDF

### [Opening Doors for LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care: A Guide for Lawyers and Judges](#)

Description: Guide aims to increase the legal community's awareness of LGBTQ youth in foster care and the issues they face.  
Fee: \$9.95/\$8.95 ABA member

### [Achieving Permanency for Adolescents in Foster Care: A Guide for Legal Professionals](#)

Description: This book provides guidelines for judges and lawyers on practical strategies to help teens make the transition from foster care into situations that give them the best  
Fee: \$24.95

### [Learning Curves: Education Advocacy for Children in Foster Care](#)

Description: General education advocacy strategies; Education rights and key federal laws; Special education process; Educational needs of young children; How school discipline policies impact children in foster care; and Creative approaches to address education barriers for children in foster care  
Fee: \$15.95

[Asking the Right Questions II: A Judicial Checklist to Ensure that the Educational Needs of Children and Youth in Foster Care are Being Addressed](#)

Description: Provides a field-tested checklist that judges can use to make inquiries regarding the educational needs of children and youth under their jurisdiction with the goal of positively impacting their educational outcomes and preparing them for adulthood

Fee: Asking the Right Questions I: Free PDF  
Asking the Right Questions II: Free PDF or \$10 hard copy

[Addressing the Educational Needs of Children in Foster Care: A Guide for Judges, Advocates, and Child Welfare Professionals](#)

Description: A guide for judges, advocates, and child welfare professionals

Fee: Free PDF

[Youth Aging Out of Foster Care: Identifying Strategies and Best Practices](#)

Description: The first section of the brief will outline the current federal framework addressing youth aging out of foster care. The second identifies general outcomes for youth aging out of care and a third highlights model county programs and best practices that are addressing the needs of this population in an innovative way.

Fee: Free PDF

[Visitation with Infants and Toddlers in Foster Care: What Judges and Attorneys Need to Know](#)

Description: This brief, published by the American Bar Association, explains why safe and effective visitation is particularly important to the healthy development of young children and emphasizes the role of visitation in permanency planning.

Fee: Free PDF

***DELINQUENCY:***

[Juvenile Law Benchbook: Relinquishment and Adoption, Dependency and Neglect, Paternity and Support, and Truancy](#)

Description: Beta Web Benchbook (CD version) for online viewing only  
Fee: Free

[You Can Make a Difference: Stories from Juvenile Court](#)

Description: DVD  
Fee: \$7.00

[Telling Our Stories from Juvenile Court](#)

Description: DVD  
Fee: Not sold online but can obtain copies by emailing NCJFCJ

[Stepping up to Juvenile Court](#)

Description: DVD for Judges  
Fee: Copies available by calling or writing Judicial Education at SCAO:  
1301 Pennsylvania Street, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80203

[Tools For Promoting Educational Success](#)

Description: Office of Child Representative web site training  
Fee: Free PDF

[Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Juvenile Delinquency Cases](#)

Description: The publication identifies 16 key principles for juvenile delinquency courts, as well as recommended best practices throughout the juvenile delinquency court process – from determining whether a case should in fact enter the system, to whether the youth should remain under juvenile court jurisdiction or be transferred to criminal court, and to post-disposition review of the reentry process when the youth returns to the community.  
Fee: Free PDF or order for \$35

[The Juvenile Court Response to Victims of Juvenile Offenders- A Training Curriculum](#)

Description: Targeting judges and other juvenile court professionals, the curriculum addresses the rights and needs of victims of juvenile offenders  
Fee: \$17

[A Judicial Curriculum on Juvenile DWI and Alcohol and Other Drug Use](#)

Description: This regionally based training curriculum will impart a new perspective to judges who deal with youth DWIs and give them the tools needed to become a proactive member of their community and advocates for change.

Fee: Free PDF

[Establishing Juvenile Drug Courts: A Judicial Curriculum](#)

Description: The curriculum is designed for judges who are considering, or are at the early stages of planning the establishment of a juvenile drug court in their jurisdiction. The audience may include other members of a planning team who have an interest in the topic area as well.

Fee: Free PDF

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

### [Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice](#)

Description: “The Green Book”  
Fee: Free PDF or free first hard copy(additional hard copies are \$5)

### [National Coalition Against Domestic Violence: Domestic Violence Fact Sheet](#)

Description: Fact sheets available for numerous topics  
Fee: Free PDF

### [Children’s Exposure to Domestic Violence: A Guide to Research and Resources](#)

Description: Designed to help judges and practitioners identify and understand the key issues surrounding children’s exposure to domestic violence.  
Fee: \$15.00

### [Will You Hold my Child?](#)

Description: Training DVD  
Fee: \$65

### [Secret Wounds: Working with Child Observers of Domestic Violence](#)

Description: Curriculum consists of two modules on a single videotape, a Leader's Guide and Activity Sheets which can be reproduced for use by children as part of professional intervention.  
Fee: \$95 DVD

### [Hostages at Home](#)

Description: DVD resource on basics of Domestic Violence  
Fee: \$99.95

### [The Story of Rachel](#)

Description: This dramatic four-minute presentation depicts the events set in motion by one battered woman's call to 911 ... from the criminal court case, to the child protection investigation, to a protection-order petition, to more calls to the police, to a visitation center visit, to her ultimate eviction. (Training DVD)  
Fee: \$49

[A Guide for Effective Issuance and Enforcement of Protective Orders](#)

Description: “The Burgundy Book”  
Fee: Free PDF

[Law Enforcement Training Manual](#)

Description: This manual provides information about the dynamics involved in domestic violence and describes the roles and responsibilities of law  
Fee: Free PDF

[Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)

Description: A list of domestic violence journals, issue briefs, and manuals.  
Fee: Free PDF

[Domestic Violence Reference Tool](#)

Description: Colorado Coalition against domestic violence  
Fee: Free PDF

[Standards of Practice for Lawyers Representing Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking in Civil Protection Order Cases](#)

Description: These Standards of Practice are intended to improve the quality of legal representation of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking; to enable lawyers to effectively, ethically, and holistically represent victims in civil protection order cases; and to raise awareness about the need for high-quality representation for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in civil protection order cases.  
Fee: Free PDF

[The DV Civil Law Manual: Protection Orders and Family Law Cases](#)

Description: A compilation of essential legal theory, practice tips, procedural requirements, and safety planning strategies, is designed to guide the victim's attorney through the process of representing domestic violence victims in either protection order or family law cases.  
Fee: \$60

[The Impact of Domestic Violence on Your Legal Practice: A Lawyer's Handbook](#)

Description: Provides an overview of domestic violence and the law. It aids attorneys in every field of practice in representing clients responsibly, by helping them recognize domestic violence and how a legal matter may be impacted by domestic violence.

Fee: \$75 for nonmembers and \$65 for members

[A Judicial Guide to Child Safety in Custody Cases](#)

Description: Because custody cases involving abuse have intermingled issues of safety and access, judges require effective and accessible information and tools to aid their decision-making. The Judicial Guide contains 14 bench cards which provide an easy-to-use checklist system for judges at critical decision-making points throughout the case, as well as a supplemental guide which provides additional information about in- and out-of-court behaviors, best interest of the child, and order issuance and enforcement.

Fee: Free PDF

[Navigating Custody and Visitation Evaluations in Cases with Domestic Violence: A Judge's Guide](#)

Description: As the volume of cases involving custody, parent access, and domestic violence continues to rise, judges are relying on professional custody evaluators to inform their decisions more than ever before. This Guide is designed to serve as a practical tool for judges on how to interpret and act on professional child custody evaluations when domestic violence is involved in family law cases. The Guide includes four bench cards and supplementary materials.

Fee: Free PDF; Single hard copy free, additional copies \$4.00

## DOMESTIC AND FAMILY LAW

Connecting with Your Kids: [English Version](#)      [Spanish Version](#)  
Description: Training for parents (available in English and Spanish)  
Fee: Free PDF

### [A Family's Guide to the Child Welfare System](#)

Description: A comprehensive resource that answers many of the questions families face when they become involved with the child welfare system. (Available in English and Spanish)  
Fee: Free PDF or \$10 for a hard copy

### [Family Court Review: An Interdisciplinary Journal](#)

Description: Quarterly Journal  
Fee: \$84 annual subscription or individual articles \$29.95

### [A Parent's Guide to Visitation](#)

Description: How to establish and enforcement parenting time  
Fee: Free PDF

### [Family Courts: An Effective Judicial Approach to the Resolution of Family Disputes](#)

Description: The advantages, disadvantages and questions to be resolved in the establishment of a unified and comprehensive family court system. Draws on the experiences of existing family courts  
Fee: \$5

### [A Judges Guide: Making Child-Centered Decisions in Cases](#)

Description: Guide for judges  
Fee: Free PDF

### [Up to Parents: Home of Parents' Commitments to Children of Divorce](#)

Description: Online tool to help divorcing and divorced parents find transitional help  
Fee: Free PDF

## CHILD SUPPORT

### [Link to Be a Fan of Your Kid](#)

Description: A resource for dads or father figures  
Fee: Free PDF

### [A Father's Guide to Child Support](#)

Description: Designed to help users understand how child support works  
Fee: Free PDF

### [A Parent's Guide to Visitation](#)

Description: How to establish and enforcement parenting time.  
Fee: Free PDF

### [Child Support Worksheets](#)

Description: Assists parents in determining child support amounts  
Fee: Free PDF

### Connecting With Your Kids [English Version](#) [Spanish Version](#)

Description: Resource book for parents who are divorcing or are divorced. It helps parents deal with the emotional needs of their  
Fee: Free PDF

# PROBATE

## [American Bar Association Probate FAQ](#)

Description: This website contains answers to frequently asked probate questions.  
Fee: Free PDF

## [Real Property Books: A Practical Guide to Commercial Real Estate Transactions](#)

Description: Provides a practical introduction to transactional real estate law—a bridge between theory and the reality of practice. It helps lawyers with less experience navigate through the maze of steps involved in a real estate transaction.  
Fee: \$159.95

## [Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Journal](#)

Description: A scholarly law review journal published four times annually by the Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section with assistance from the University of South Carolina School of Law.  
Fee: Free PDF

## [National Center for the State Courts Probate Courts Resource Guide Webpage](#)

Description: This website contains numerous probate resources and website links. It also provides access to the NCSC Library catalog.  
Fee: Free PDF

## [National College of Probate Judges](#)

Description: For an annual membership fee, this website provides access to resources for judges, former judges, magistrates, attorneys, law professors, law clerks, and court personnel and staff.  
Fee: Must be a member to access publications and resource materials (Regular membership: \$150 annually/associate membership \$75 annually)

## [National Guardianship Association](#)

Description: This website provides free resources for Guardians or potential Guardians.  
Fee: Free PDF

[National Probate Court Standards](#)

Description: Probate practice, jurisdiction, and the structure of courts exercising probate jurisdiction vary greatly from state to state. There is often a dramatic difference in the terminology used in probate courts and the type of cases included within the term, probate. Consequently, there is a limited degree of consistency in the practice and procedures used to resolve probate proceedings.

Fee: Free PDF

[Aging with Dignity: Five Wishes](#)

Description: Living will that talks about your personal, emotional, and spiritual needs as well as your medical wishes

Fee: Free PDF Booklet