

Rules To Follow In The Court Room

WHEN YOU ENTER THE COURTROOM

- LEAVE Children Outside With A Friend Or In The Court Child Care Center- Unless Instructed To Do Otherwise.
- TURN OFF All Cell Phones and Pagers unless you were issued one by the courts child care center.
- ANSWER All Questions From The Judge With A Firm (but not too loud) Audible Voice.
- ALWAYS address the judge As **Your Honor**.
- DO NOT interrupt **The Judge** When He/She Is Speaking.
- ALWAYS Be Polite and Respectful, Even Towards The SW You Absolutely Despise.
- **NEVER, EVER LOSE YOUR TEMPER**

YOU & YOUR ATTORNEY

Court Appointed Attorneys are notoriously lax in the performance of their duties in CPS cases. They are often trained in CPS cases by the same agencies they are assigned to protect your rights as a parent against. They do not return phone calls and almost always try to serve you the papers and talk with you ten minutes before the trial or hearing.

It is very important that you KNOW-

- The Child Welfare Laws Of Your State
- The State Agencies Policy & Procedures Manual.
- The Local Rules Of Court
- How To File A Request For A Marsden Hearing To Replace An Ineffective Attorney.
- **HOW TO EFFECTIVELY DOCUMENT YOUR CASE AND CREATE A PAPER TRAIL.**
- **PUT THE TRUTH ON THE RECORD.**

American Family Rights

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A Guide To Your Court Appearance And Recommended Dress Code



Suggested Dress Code For Men



Whenever possible, men should dress in a clean and neatly pressed Suit and Tie.

If you don't have a suit, wear clean and neatly pressed Dress Pants With Dress Shirt and Tie.

Shoes Polished. Hair and Facial Hair Neatly Combed and Trimmed.

If you don't have a tie, a dress type shirt will be acceptable.

NEVER SHOW UP IN COURT WEARING-

Jeans and a T-Shirt, Baggy Pants, pants hanging off your hips with your underwear showing, shirt not tucked in, sun glasses, a hat on your head, displaying Gang Colors or Logos, with a dirty

and Unkempt Appearance. Or an "Attitude".

Your Appearance and Attitude Directly Affect the Outcome of the Hearing

Suggested Dress Code For Women



Women should dress in clean and neatly pressed Business Attire such as a Pant Suit or Blouse and Skirt, a nice dress. comfortable shoes/heels. Moderate make up. Conservative hair style. Skirts and Dresses Mid Thigh or Longer. Not Too Much Exposed Cleavage. Appropriately Fitting Clothing.

NEVER SHOW UP IN COURT WEARING-

Shorts or a Mini Skirt. T-Shirts or Tank Tops or a Blouse showing excessive cleavage. Exposed Navel. Excessive jewelry. Excessively Tight Fitting Clothing. Excessive Makeup. Hats, Sun Glasses. Gang Colors or Logos. An "attitude" or Lacking In Personal Hygiene.

Your Appearance And Attitude Directly Affect the Outcome of the Hearing

Your CPS Court Appearance

When you appear in court on an allegation of Child Abuse or Neglect there are a few very important things to remember.

You are under scrutiny from the moment you enter the courthouse until you leave-

- The way you dress.
- The way you conduct yourself in the waiting area and through out the courthouse.
- The way your children behave.
- The way you interact with your children.
- The volume of your voice and your emotional state are all being watched.
- The outcome of your case depends on your appearance and the way you conduct yourself.

Always keep calm and in control.

Keep your children occupied, quiet and on their best behavior.

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