

<b>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF FRESNO</b>	FOR COURT USE ONLY
(559) 457-	
PLAINTIFF/PETITIONER:	CASE NUMBER:
DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT:	
<b>STANDARDS FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> PARTY SUPERVISORS OF SUPERVISED VISIT</b>	

Supervised visitation is defined as contact between a non-custodial party and one or more children in the presence of a neutral third party. The neutral third party may be any person who is not paid for providing supervised visitation services. These standards are provided to assist adults who will be, upon agreement of the parties involved, acting as third party supervisors of court ordered supervised visits. The goal of is to assure the safety and welfare of the child(ren) and adults involved in the supervised visitations.

**STANDARDS FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> PARTY SUPERVISORS:**

1. Is 21 years of age or older.
2. Is not on probation or parole and has not been for 10 years.
3. Has no conviction for child molestation, child abuse or other crimes against a person.
4. Has proof of automobile insurance if transporting the child(ren).
5. Has no civil, criminal or juvenile restraining orders against them, within the past 10 years.
6. Has no current or past orders from a court in which the supervisor is the person being supervised.
7. Agrees to adhere to and enforce the court order regarding supervised visitation.
8. Has no conflict of interest as defined below:
  - a. All supervisors shall maintain a neutral role.
  - b. No supervisor shall be financially dependent on, or an employee of any party.
  - c. Shall not be a supervisor or an employee of or affiliated with any court in the county where supervised visits are to occur.

**WHAT TO DO WHILE SUPERVISING THE CHILD(REN):**

1. Monitor the visit to assure safety and welfare of the child(ren).
2. Don't take sides, remain neutral.
3. Unless otherwise ordered, remain within sight and hearing of the child(ren).
4. Allow no derogatory comments about either parent or other family members.
5. Allow no discussion of the court case or future outcomes.
6. Ensure the child isn't used to transmit information regarding the other parent.
7. Allow no spanking, hitting or other verbal or physical abuse.
8. No visits shall occur if the parent is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
9. In cases where there are allegations of sexual abuse leading to supervised visits:
  - a. Allow no exchange of gifts, money or cards.
  - b. Prohibit photographing, audiotaping or videotaping the child(ren).

- c. Prohibit whispering, passing notes, hand signals or body signals.
  - d. Prohibit visits shall take place in the location of the alleged abuse.
  - e. Prohibit physical contact such as tickling, lap sitting, stroking, hand holding, prolonged hugging, wrestling, changing diapers or accompanying the child(ren) to the bathroom.
10. Speak the language of the child(ren) and the visiting parent.

**LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- 1. Advise the parties that no confidential privilege exists.
- 2. Report suspected child abuse to the appropriate agency, as provided by law, and inform the parties of your obligation to do so.
- 3. Implement the terms and conditions of supervision as noted in the "what to do" section.
- 4. Suspend or terminate visits as warranted.

**Remember:**

If you are the 3<sup>rd</sup> party asked to supervise the visitation, use your common sense. If something doesn't feel right, check it out. If you feel the child is in danger or otherwise is being emotionally or physically harmed, you must act to end the visit. You have agreed to supervise and your goal is to ensure the safety and welfare of the child(ren) and all parties. It's an important and serious responsibility. Please act accordingly.

I declare under penalty of perjury under laws of the State of California that I have read, understood and agree to comply with each item above.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to party/parties: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name