

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF FRESNO

Family Court Services
1130 "O" Street
Fresno, California 93724

Email: FresnoFCS@fresno.courts.ca.gov

Request for a New Family Court Services Counselor

Family Court Services appreciates your taking the time to submit a formal request for a new Family Court Services (FCS) Counselor. We encourage you to notify us of a request for a new FCS Counselor as early as possible. We are committed to responding to your request in a prompt and thorough manner and are interested in helping you make the best decisions in meeting the needs and interests of your children.

Please note the following guidelines for filing a formal request for a new FCS Counselor:

We ask that your request be typewritten or printed neatly. You must provide a copy to the opposing party. FCS may require proof that the Request for New FCS Counselor was provided to the opposing party before proceeding with the request. Also, please email your completed request to Family Court Services at FresnoFCS@fresno.courts.ca.gov.

A request for a new FCS Counselor must set out the specific reasons the request is being made. Pursuant to the Superior Court of Fresno County, Local Rule, rule 5.5.6(D)(1), *Request for a New FCS Counselor*:

A change of Mediator/CCRC counselor may be granted by FCS when a conflict of interest exists. A conflict of interest exists if it is determined that one or more of the following has occurred:

- The Mediator/CCRC counselor has personal knowledge of the matter or parties outside of the mediation context.
- The Mediator/CCRC counselor has a financial interest in the potential outcome of the matter.
- The Mediator/CCRC counselor is related to the parties within the third degree.
- There is substantial doubt as to the impartiality of the Mediator/CCRC counselor.

Attached is a set of questions that will help us better understand the nature of your request for a new FCS Counselor. Please complete the form and return it to the Family Court Services office via email at FresnoFCS@fresno.courts.ca.gov. Your request form will be reviewed and someone from the office will contact you, either in writing or by telephone once your request has been evaluated.

Below is general information to help you understand the responsibility of Family Court Services:

1. Family Court Services cannot reverse or change a court-ordered parenting plan. Only a judge can change the court order. If you are concerned about the custody or visitation orders that were made by a judge, please contact your attorney, the Family Law Clerk's Office, and/or the Self-Help Center to receive assistance in this area.
2. The internal processes for addressing your request for a new FCS Counselor are:
 - review your request;
 - talk with the FCS Counselor who was involved in the case;

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Name: _____

Address: _____
Street or P.O. Box City State Zip Code

Phone: _____

Other Parent: _____

Address: _____
Street or P.O. Box City State Zip Code

Phone: _____

Date of FCS Appointment: _____

FCS Counselor's Name: _____

Court Case Number: _____

Date of Court Hearing: Past: _____ Upcoming: _____

Department Number: _____

Do you have an Attorney? Yes Name of Attorney: _____ No

Reasons for request for a new FCS Counselor please be specific.

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Have you been ordered to return to FCS for an additional FCS appointment? Yes No

If so, what is the date of your upcoming FCS appointment? _____

What other information do you think is important for use to know in reviewing your request?

ISI _____

Signature

(Unsigned or anonymous complaints cannot be accepted)

Dated