

**MADISON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
CHRISTOPHER J. BROWN, JUDGE**

LOCAL RULES OF COURT

Effective April 23, 2026

Table of Contents

<u>RULE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1	Local Rules Introduction.....3
2	Effective Date3
3	Hours of Court3
4	Security Deposits for Court Costs and Bond Schedule3
5	Copies and Copy Charges.....3
6	Facsimile Filings.....4
7	Forwarding Copies.....7
8	Disposition of Exhibits7
9	Fees and Costs: Payment of Fines, Fees and Costs7
10	Court Records7
11	Conduct in Court.....8
12	Correspondence9
13	Delinquency and Unruly Actions.....9
14	Juvenile Traffic Cases.....10
15	Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Cases.....10
16	Parentage Actions11
17	Change of Residential Custodian, Visitation and Support Cases11
18	Criminal Cases Involving Adults.....11
19	Contempt Cases12
20	Contempt Arrests12
21	Indigent Public Defender (ORC 120.36)12
22	Attorney Registration Number.....13
23	Court Appointed Counsel and Compensation.....13
24	Alleged Delinquent, Unruly Children and Juvenile Traffic Offenders.....14
25	Court Appointed Guardians-Ad-Litem14
26	Guardians-Ad-Litem15
27	Appointment of Interpreters.....15
28	Security Plan15
29	Recording of Proceedings15
30	Service of Process16
31	Court Records Management and Retention16
32	Case Management Plan.....16
33	Jury Management Plan.....18
34	Exceptions to the Rules.....19
35	Transcripts19
36	Competency Proceedings.....19
37	Public Access to Proceedings20
38	Local Child Restraint Rule23
39	Special Projects Fund.....23
40.	Prohibition of Parenting Coordinators24
41.	Reporting to Law Enforcement & Compliance Plan24
42.	Cell Phone/Recording Ban25
APPENDIX A.....	26
APPENDIX B.....	27
APPENDIX C.....	28

1 Local Rules Introduction

These local rules are adopted pursuant to the authority of Rule 5 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as amended from time to time. These local rules are supplemental to the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio and must be read in conjunction therewith.

2 Effective Date

The effective date of these rules is July 1, 2016. These Rules were distributed to members of the Madison County Bar on June 6, 2016 and shall be open for comment until June 28, 2016.

3 Hours of Court

The Juvenile Court shall be open for the transaction of business from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

4 Security Deposits for Court Costs and Bond Schedule

Advance deposits for court costs shall be required in accordance with the schedule attached hereto as "Appendix A." The Clerk may demand an additional security deposit in any amount up to \$150.00 if the initial deposit is insufficient to cover costs already incurred.

If there is an outstanding balance of court costs owed by a party petitioning the Court on a post-judgment motion, those costs are to be paid in full before the case is reopened on the motion.

The bond schedule for traffic and other offenses is attached hereto as "Appendix B".

5 Copies and Copy Charges

Copies to be served

A party who files a pleading, a copy of which is to be served through the Clerk's office, shall furnish a sufficient number of copies for service. Any copies which must be made for service by the Clerk's office shall be charged to the attorney or party filing the same at the rate of \$0.10 per page.

The Clerk shall make copies of all orders prepared by the Judge for service upon parties without cost to any party.

Any person preparing a Journal Entry or Order for the Judge's approval or at the direction of the Judge, shall prepare sufficient copies to be served upon all parties and shall include an order to the clerk to serve parties by listing each party's name individually and providing an address if

there is no current address in the file. This rule applies to public agencies, attorneys, and private persons.

Copy costs

Copies of records considered public pursuant to the Rules of Superintendence of the Courts of Ohio may be obtained by any party at a cost of \$0.10 per page. Certified copies of records may be obtained at a cost of \$3.00 per record.

6 Facsimile Filings

The provisions of this local rule are adopted under Civ.R. 5(E).

Pleadings and other papers may be filed with the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office by facsimile transmission to (740) 852-7134 subject to the following conditions:

APPLICABILITY

These rules apply to proceedings in the Madison County Juvenile Court.

ORIGINAL FILING

- A. A document filed by fax shall be accepted as the effective original filing. The person making a fax filing need not file any source document with the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office but must, however, maintain in his or her records and have available for production on request by the Court the source document filed by fax, with original signatures as otherwise required under the applicable rules, together with the source copy of the facsimile cover sheet used for the subject filing.
- B. The source document filed by fax shall be maintained by the person making the filing until the case is closed and all opportunities for post judgment relief are exhausted.

DEFINITIONS

As used in these rules, unless the context requires otherwise:

- A. A "facsimile transmission" means the transmission of a course document by a facsimile machine that encodes a document into optical or electrical signals, transmits and reconstructs the signals to print a duplicate of the source document at the receiving end.
- B. A "facsimile machine" means a machine that can send and receive a facsimile transmission.
- C. "Fax" is an abbreviation for "facsimile" and refers, as indicated by the context, to facsimile transmission or to a document so transmitted.

COVER PAGE

A. The person filing a document by fax shall also provide therewith a cover page containing the following information:

- (I) the name of the court;
- (II) the title of the case;
- (III) the case number;
- (IV) the title of the document being filed; (e.g. Defendant Jones' Answer To Amended Complaint; Plaintiff Smith's Response to Defendant's Motion)
- (V) the date of transmission;
- (VI) the transmitting fax number;
- (VII) an indication of the number of pages included in the transmission, including the cover page;
- (VIII) if a judge or case number has not been assigned, state that fact on the cover page;
- (IX) the name, address, telephone number, fax number, Supreme Court registration number, if applicable, and e-mail address of the person filing the fax document if available; and
- (X) if applicable, a statement explaining how costs are being submitted.

B. If a document is sent by fax to the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office without the cover page information listed above, the Clerk may, at its discretion:

- (I) enter the document in the Case Docket and file the document; or
- (II) send a faxed notice to the sending party of failed fax filing.

SIGNATURE

A. A party who wishes to file a signed source document by fax shall either:

- (I) fax a copy of the signed source document; or
- (II) fax a copy of the document without the signature but with the notation "/s/" followed by the name of the signing person where the signature appears in the signed source document.

B. A party who files a signed document by fax represents that the physically signed source document is in his/her possession or control.

EXHIBITS

A. Each exhibit to a facsimile produced document that cannot be accurately transmitted via facsimile transmission for any reason must be replaced by an insert page describing the exhibit and why it is missing. Unless the Court otherwise orders, the missing exhibit shall be filed with the Court, as a separate document, not later than five (5) court

days following the filing of the facsimile document. Failure to file the missing exhibits as required by this paragraph may result in the Court striking the document and/or exhibit.

B. Any exhibit filed in this manner shall be attached to a cover sheet containing the caption of the case which sets forth the name of the court, title of the case, the case number, name of the judge and the title of the exhibit being filed, and shall be signed and served in conformance with the rules governing the signing and service of pleadings in this Court.

TIME OF FILING

A. Subject to the provisions of these rules, all documents sent by fax and accepted by the Clerk shall be considered filed with the Clerk's Office as of the date and time the Clerk time-stamps the document received, as opposed to the date and time of the fax transmission. However, the fax machine will be available to receive facsimile transmission of documents on the basis of 24 hours per day, seven days per week including holidays.

B. The Clerk's Office may, but need not, acknowledge receipt of a facsimile transmission.

C. The risks of transmitting a document by fax to the Clerk's Office shall be borne entirely by the sending party. Anyone using facsimile filing is urged to verify receipt of such filing by the Clerk's Office through whatever technological means are available.

FEES AND COSTS

A. No document filed by facsimile that requires a filing fee shall be accepted by the Clerk for filing until court costs and fees have been paid. Court costs and fees may be paid by check or money order. Documents tendered to the Clerk without payment of court cost and fees, or with incomplete information on the charge authorization or request, or which do not conform to applicable rules will not be filed.

B. No additional fee shall be assessed for facsimile filings.

LENGTH OF DOCUMENT

Facsimile filing shall not exceed 20 pages in length. The filer shall not transmit service copies by facsimile.

EFFECTIVE DATE

These local rules shall be effective June 1, 2016, and shall govern all proceedings in actions brought after they take effect and also further proceedings in pending actions, except to the extent that, in the opinion of the Court, their application in a particular action pending on the effective date would not be feasible or would work an injustice, in which event, the former procedure applies.

7 Forwarding Copies

The Court will not return file-stamped copies by mail unless submitted with a return, self-addressed stamped envelope.

8 Disposition of Exhibits

All exhibits offered for admission during a hearing or trial shall be labeled by party name and item identification. In a proceeding recorded by a Court stenographer, custody of exhibits admitted or proffered shall be given to the stenographer, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. If the proceeding is electronically recorded, exhibits shall be filed in the Court case file, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

Upon agreement of the parties or by order of the Court, copies may be substituted for the original exhibit.

9 Fees and Costs: Payment of Fines, Fees and Costs

The Juvenile Court shall tax and collect the same fees and costs as allowed by the Clerk of Common Pleas Court for similar services. No fees or costs shall be taxed in cases of delinquent, unruly, dependent, abused, or neglected children except as required by Section 2743.70 or 2949.091 or 2949.094 of the Revised Code. The Clerk shall also tax the costs associated with the service of subpoenas by the Sheriff's office or Bailiffs in delinquent, unruly and traffic cases.

Fines and costs in all cases filed with the Juvenile Court shall be paid at the conclusion of a case from deposit or as ordered. If payment is not made within a reasonable time period, the Court may elect to employ a collection agency to collect the same, pursuant to O.R.C. 2152.20.

10 Court Records

- A. All files in the Juvenile Court and all reports and records of the Madison County Probation Department, with the exception of files relating to parentage actions, support actions, custody actions and visitation actions, criminal actions involving adults, are be considered confidential in accordance with Juvenile Rule 37(B).
- B. Official Court records of cases involving juveniles shall be open for inspection by the parent(s), guardian(s) or, if deceased, next of kin, or by legal counsel or guardian-ad-litem of any child affected by any order of any proceedings. Otherwise, such records shall not be available to any person except by order of the Judge or Magistrate or by written consent of the juvenile involved.

- C. The inspection of social histories or other investigative reports by attorneys and other interested parties shall be governed by Rule 32(C) of the Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedure. Any probation, social, physical or mental examination prepared at the direction of the Court shall not be copied without the express approval of the Court.
- D. No person except a Judge of the Court, Magistrate or representative to either shall remove any documents or case files from the custody of the clerk.
- E. Upon request, the Clerk of Courts shall allow a party, or attorney of record representing a party, to examine but not remove any oral documents or case file. Examination shall be allowed during regular business hours.
- F. For all records deemed public by these rules and upon request and the payment of photocopy fee, the clerk shall provide copies of an original document, except official transcripts, maintained by its office. Copies shall be provided during regular business hours within a reasonable period of time as determined by the Clerk of Courts. A reasonable period of time shall be based upon the extent of the request with efforts toward a 24-hour response time.
- G. Record checks by counsel, law enforcement and other agencies shall be directed to a Deputy Clerk of the Juvenile Court.
- H. Pursuant to Rule 45(D) of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio, it is the responsibility of the filing party to omit or redact personal identifiers from case documents. Personal Identifiers include social security numbers, except for the last four digits, financial account numbers, including but not limited to debit card, charge card and credit card numbers, and employer and employee identification numbers. Pursuant to Sup. R. 45(D)(3), all personal identifiers shall be provided to the court on the Confidential Disclosure of Personal Identifiers form promulgated by the Supreme Court as prescribed in and adopted by his rule. The Clerk of this Court shall keep in a secure location the Confidential Disclosure of Personal Identifiers forms filed pursuant to this Rule, during the pendency of the case. Thereafter, the clerk may destroy the original form and shall maintain it in electronic form only.

11 Conduct in Court

Proper decorum in the Court is necessary for the administration of justice.

In any preliminary juvenile matter presented to the Court, the Court may restrict the attendance at said hearing to next of kin, interested parties and their counsel.

No radio or television transmission or voice recording other than equipment supplied by the Court for purposes of maintaining a record of proceedings shall be permitted without the express consent of the Court in advance pursuant to Sup. R. 12.

12 Correspondence

Copies of all correspondence addressed to the Court by any party or counsel may be mailed or furnished to the counsel or parties in the case and the correspondence to the Court shall disclose to whom copies were furnished. Correspondence not in compliance with the order may be disregarded by the Court.

13 Delinquency and Unruly Actions

- A. In all actions involving charges of delinquency or unruliness, the Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedure and the Ohio Rules of Criminal Procedures, where applicable, shall apply.
- B. Prior to filing, the Complaint shall be approved and certified by the Prosecuting Attorney or the Intake Officer or Probation Officer.
- C. The Intake Officer or a Probation Officer shall review each complaint for screening pursuant to Juvenile Rule 9. Any assignment of a complaint to the Juvenile Diversion Program shall first have the approval of the Juvenile Judge or a Juvenile Magistrate if the Judge is unavailable.
- D. After all complaints are reviewed and deemed appropriate for formal processing in the Juvenile Court, they shall be delivered to the Clerk of the Juvenile Court for filing.
- E. The initial appearance shall be set by the Clerk of the Court on the first available court date after the filing of a delinquency or unruly charge.
- F. After advising the juvenile of his or her constitutional rights, the possible consequences for offense charged, the Court shall ask the juvenile if he or she desires an attorney. If a juvenile desires an attorney and does not have one at the initial appearance, the Court shall appoint the Madison County Public Defender unless the Court determines that the juvenile does not qualify for public defender service.
- G. In cases where complaints are filed which allege a juvenile to be a delinquent child for committing an offense that would be a misdemeanor if committed by an adult and the juvenile resides outside of the State of Ohio, the juvenile shall be given the opportunity to waive his or her legal rights and admit to being a delinquent child and pay a standard fine and costs without court appearance. This Court hereby

establishes a form which may be utilized for an alleged delinquent child who has committed a misdemeanor offense and his/her parent admit to the charge and pay the fine, pursuant to a schedule attached hereto as Appendix B, and costs. The form is attached hereto as Appendix E to these rules.

- H. Juvenile competency proceedings shall be scheduled and heard on an expedited basis. Hearings in juvenile competency proceedings shall be held in strict compliance with applicable deadlines as established by statute or by this rule.

Upon the conclusion of each hearing, the Court shall provide written notice to the prosecuting attorney, the child's attorney, the child's guardian-ad-litem, and the child's parents, guardian, or custodian of the date, time and place of the next scheduled hearing. Mailed notice shall not be required for any party or other individual designated in this rule to whom notice of the next hearing was provided in writing upon conclusion of the immediately preceding hearing.

Upon the filing of a motion for a determination regarding a child's competency or upon the Court's own motion the Court shall stay all delinquency proceedings pending a determination of competency. If, upon a determination of competency, the Court determines that the child is not competent but could likely attain competency, the Court order staying the delinquency proceedings shall remain in effect until such time as the child attains competency or the proceeding is dismissed.

14 Juvenile Traffic Cases

In all actions involving juvenile traffic matters, Ohio Traffic Rules, the Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedure and the Ohio Rules of Criminal Procedures where applicable shall apply.

USE OF ELECTRONICALLY PRODUCED TICKETS

A. Authorization

The use and filing of a traffic citation that is produced by computer or electronic means is hereby authorized by the Madison County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division. The ticket produced by computer or other electronic means shall conform in all substantive respects to the Ohio Uniform Traffic Citation.

B. Issuance

If a ticket is issued at the scene of an alleged offense, the issuing officer shall serve the defendant with the defendant's paper copy of the ticket as required by Ohio Traffic Rule 3(E). A law enforcement officer who files a ticket electronically shall be considered to have certified the ticket and shall have the same rights, responsibilities, and liabilities as with all other tickets issued pursuant to the Ohio Traffic Rules.

15 Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Cases

The procedures set forth in the statutes and Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedure with respect

to actions involving abuse, neglect or dependency are mandatory and will be followed by this Court. Those cases shall be guided by the Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedures and the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedures where applicable.

Any case filed by an individual alleging a child to be a dependent, neglected or abused child shall be served upon the Madison County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division, which shall make an independent investigation of the facts alleged in the complaint.

16 Parentage Actions

- A. Prior to the filing of a parentage action in the Juvenile Court, the Plaintiff is required to request an administrative determination from the Child Support Enforcement Agency of the County in which the child, guardian, or legal custodian of the child resides as required by RC 3111.22.
- B. In all actions involving paternity, the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure shall apply.
- C. A denial of the existence of parent-child relationship must be made by a written answer to the complaint which conforms to the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure.
- D. In any case where there has been proper service upon the defendant and no answer has been filed pursuant to the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court, upon the request of the complaining party, shall set the matter for hearing upon a motion for default judgment at the Court's earliest convenience.
- E. In all cases where the service has been proper and an answer has been filed, the Court shall set the matter for a pretrial conference at the Court's earliest convenience.

17 Change of Residential Custodian, Visitation and Support Cases

In all actions involving custody, visitation and support, each party seeking such relief shall file with the Court the documents required by law, the Confidential Disclosure of Personal Identifiers, and the IV-D application for child support services. In such actions this Court adopts and incorporates the provisions of Madison County Local Rule of Visitation which is attached hereto as Appendix C. Those Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure which by their nature would be appropriate to proceedings in this Court in actions involving custody, visitation or support shall also apply to such proceedings.

18 Criminal Cases Involving Adults

In all actions involving criminal charges against adults in the Juvenile Court, the Rules of

Criminal Procedures shall apply.

At the conclusion of a criminal case involving an adult defendant, the Court shall prepare a list of all adult sentences and shall include as information on that list the names and addresses of an adult defendant the charge which the defendant admits or is found guilty and the sentence on that charge. The Clerk of Court may furnish this information to the public media as soon as practicable after sentencing in a case.

19 Contempt Cases

- A. All actions for contempt, whether involving the failure of payment of support or for any other reason, shall be set for hearing by the Court immediately upon the filing of the complaint or motion; said hearing shall be set within a reasonable time from the filing of the same and an order setting the matter for hearing shall be served upon the defendant together with a summons and a copy of the initial pleading alleging contempt.
- B. Any person filing a contempt action shall file therewith an affidavit which shall set forth the claimed reasons for the contempt and if the claim is a failure of payment of support, the affidavit shall include the amount of delinquency claimed. In the event the claim is for failure to pay medical expenses, the affidavit shall include the amount of such medical expenses. The party against whom the contempt action has been filed shall be served with a copy of the affidavit along with the motion for an order of contempt.

20 Contempt Arrests

When a party is taken into custody pursuant to an order of the Court, other than upon execution of sentence, he shall be brought before the Court on the next regular court day or as soon thereafter as possible.

If a party is released on bond, he shall appear at the office of the Clerk of the Juvenile Court by 9:00 a.m. on the next court day following his release so that the Clerk can set for hearing the action in contempt on a date where he will be present to answer the charges.

Continuances of contempt hearings will only be granted upon a request in writing made by counsel of either party.

21 Indigent Public Defender (ORC 120.36)

Any person who is a defendant in a criminal case or a party in an eligible juvenile case who requests or is provided a county public defender shall be assessed a fee of \$25 at the disposition of such case, unless waived by the Court.

Any party who has been provided a county public defender or private counsel and whose case is dismissed prior to the adjudicatory hearing or prior to the disposition hearing shall be assessed a fee of \$25, unless waived by the Court.

Any person who for financial reasons is unable to pay the \$25 fee, may file with the Court a written application to waive or reduce the fee supported by a statement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

21(A) Application for Indigent Counsel Fees

It is the sole responsibility of appointed counsel to file an application for indigent counsel fees in a timely and appropriate manner. All applications shall have all documents required by the State of Ohio Public Defender's Office, the Madison County Commissioners, and/or the Madison County Auditor. This includes, but is not limited to, all entries, affidavits, and motions for extraordinary fees and court orders pertinent thereto which are required to be filed. It is the responsibility of the attorney to collect all documents in a timely manner to file the application.

All applications shall be made within thirty (30) days from the date of the dispositional entry. This will enable Court staff to have adequate time to review the application for accuracy and to submit said application to the Auditor's Office before the forty-five (45) day deadline or to contact the attorney to make corrections for resubmission. The Court will not reject filing made after the deadline set forth in this rule. However the attorney shall assume all risk of rejection by the county or state due to untimeliness. The Court shall not seek nor assist any form of appeal due to rejection for untimeliness or any other reason set forth by the county or state.

22 Attorney Registration Number

Every attorney shall include his or her registration number issued by the Supreme Court of Ohio on all documents filed in this Court and which bears his or her signature.

23 Court Appointed Counsel and Compensation

The Juvenile Court is a division of the Common Pleas Court. It was established to provide for the care, protection, and mental and physical development of children, to remove the consequences of criminal behavior and the taint of criminality from children committing delinquent acts to substitute a program of supervision, care and rehabilitation. Attorneys representing parties in Juvenile Court must be aware of the basic purposes and philosophies of the Court, familiar with Chapter 2151 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Juvenile Rules of Procedure. Competent legal services provided in Juvenile Court must conform to the special rules, laws and purposes of the Juvenile Court.

Indigent parties in Juvenile Court may include: a child charged with delinquency or

unruliness and their parent/guardian; a child who is allegedly abused and their parent/guardian; the parent/guardian of an allegedly neglected or dependent child; parents in a permanent custody action; juveniles and adults charged with contempt; minors seeking consent to marry; and minors seeking a judicial bypass. Appointed attorneys representing such indigent individuals shall be compensated at the rates established by the Madison County Commissioners.

24 Alleged Delinquent, Unruly Children and Juvenile Traffic Offenders

Counsel shall be appointed to represent all delinquent and unruly children upon request and qualification. Counsel shall be appointed to represent all juvenile traffic offenders when the disposition includes a possibility of a placement in detention upon request and qualification.

Compensation shall be paid to court-appointed counsel and court-appointed guardians-ad-litem who are also attorneys at the rates established by the Madison County Commissioners. Attorneys shall submit their application for fees and expenses on Form OPD-1026R provided by Office of the Ohio Public Defender no later than 90 days after the conclusion of a case. Any request for attorney fees as a result of a conflict with the Madison County Public Defender's office submitted after 90 days of the conclusion of a case shall have the current Ohio State Public Defender's reimbursement rate deducted from the requested fees.

Any attorney who wishes to practice in Juvenile Court but does not believe he/she is competent in all cases shall notify the Court and said attorney will be appointed to only those cases that he/she is competent.

The Juvenile Court shall maintain a list of attorneys who have agreed to be appointed in juvenile matters. Any attorney who desires to be added to the list shall make a written request to the Judge of the Juvenile Court who will then review the request to determine the qualifications of the applicant and if additional training is necessary. When it is necessary to appoint a court-appointed counsel, the Juvenile Court shall call the attorneys in order so that the list will be completely exhausted before the attorney is called again. Attorneys on the list serve at the pleasure of the Judge and may be removed for any reason without notice.

25 Court Appointed Guardians-Ad-Litem

Alleged abused, neglected or dependent children

Any child who appears in the Juvenile Court, especially those who are alleged to be abused, neglected or dependent, may have a guardian-ad-litem appointed for them. If a guardian-ad-litem is appointed and requests an attorney, the Court shall appoint an attorney to represent the guardian-ad-litem. The Court may appoint an attorney as guardian-ad-litem who shall be compensated at the same rate as appointed counsel. A guardian-ad-litem who is not an attorney shall be compensated at the rate of \$25.00 per hour plus reasonable and necessary expenses.

In abused, neglected and dependency cases where there are multiple children in the same

family, only one attorney will be appointed as guardian-ad-litem or attorney for the guardian-ad-litem unless a conflict exists.

Custody and visitation cases

Any party requesting a guardian-ad-litem in a custody and visitation case shall deposit with the appointed guardian-ad-litem the amount of \$2000.00. Once received, the guardian-ad-litem shall then proceed with his/her investigation. All requests for a guardian-ad-litem shall be made in writing within 90 days of the filing of the original Complaint or Motion. Failure to make written application within this time shall be a waiver of the right to have a guardian-ad-litem appointed. The Court may at its discretion appoint a guardian-ad-litem outside this time but only in what it deems special circumstances. The Court reserves the right to allocate the costs between the parties at the conclusion of a case.

26 Guardians-Ad-Litem

The Juvenile Division of the Court of Common Pleas, Madison County, Ohio adopts Rule 48 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio with the following exception:

Sup. R. 48G(6) Conduct, or cause to be conducted, a criminal and civil background check and investigation of information relevant to the applicant's fitness to serve as a guardian ad litem and updated every five years.

27 Appointment of Interpreters

The Juvenile Division of the Court of Common Pleas, Madison County, Ohio adopts Rules 80 – 88 (effective January 1, 2013) of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio.

Qualified, private individuals who are appointed as interpreters will be reimbursed at a rate of \$25.00 per hour for in-court services and \$20.00 per hour for out-of-court services.

28 Security Plan

Pursuant to a Supreme Court of Ohio resolution dated July 26, 1995, the Madison County Juvenile Court has determined the entire Security Plan shall be maintained as confidential and not a matter of public record.

29 Recording of Proceedings

The Court will make an audio and/or video recording of the proceedings as the record of the Court. Parties who desire to have a stenographic record of the proceedings must make their own arrangements for a court reporter at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled hearing. The costs of the stenographic record shall be paid by the requesting party unless

otherwise ordered by the Court. The original electronic recording of the proceedings will not be made available to the parties. Arrangements must be made with the Court to have proceedings copied at a cost of ten dollars (\$10.00) per hearing, or transcribed by a stenographer approved by the Court at the expense of the party making the request.

All electronically recorded proceedings will be maintained by the Court for two (2) years from the date of the hearing. Any interested person desiring to preserve the record beyond that period must make arrangements to have the record transcribed.

30 Service of Process

Pursuant to Rule 16 of the rules of Juvenile Procedure, the Court hereby adopts the following Rule for service by Publication. Service by Publication may be made in any manner set forth in Juvenile Rule 16. Service by Publication may be made by posting and regular mail. If service by publication was made by posting and mail, an Affidavit shall be filed by the party or parties' attorney requesting service pursuant to Juvenile Rule 16. The Notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place or in the hall outside of the Juvenile Clerk's office in the bottom floor of the Madison County Courthouse.

The Notice shall be posted at the required location for seven (7) consecutive days prior to the date of the hearing, and the Clerk shall cause the summons and accompanying pleadings to be mailed by ordinary mail, address correction requested, to the last known address of the party to be served, also pursuant to Juvenile Rule 16.

Service of process by certified mail, return receipt requested, pursuant to Civil Rules 4.1, 4.3 and 4.5 may be perfected through a "Track and Confirm" verification by the United States Postal Service. Said verification shall be made part of the record.

31 Court Records Management and Retention

Pursuant to the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio, the Court hereby adopts Rules 26, 26.01 and 26.03 with the following exception:

Delinquency records. Delinquency records shall be retained until the child attains the age of 21 years or two years after the final order of the Juvenile Division or one year after the issuance of an audit report by the auditor of the State, whichever is later.

32 Case Management Plan

Purpose. The purpose of this rule is to ensure the readiness of all cases in the Juvenile Division of the Common Pleas Court for pretrial and trial.

- A. All actions in the Juvenile Court except traffic actions.
- (1) A pretrial conference shall be conducted in all actions where the issues are contested prior to being scheduled for trial.
 - (2) Notice of the pretrial conference shall be given to all counsel of record by mail and/or telephone by the Court not less than seven (7) days prior to the conference. Any application for a continuance of the conference shall be in writing and filed with the Court in a timely manner. In the event that the pretrial conference results in a change of plea in a juvenile matter, thereby eliminating the need for an adjudicatory hearing or a trial, the Court shall immediately be notified and take the change of plea on the date of the pretrial conference and then schedule the dispositional hearing, if requested, to a later date. If the action involves contested issues which result in a consent order, the Court shall be immediately notified and shall direct one of the parties or counsel to prepare the consent judgment entry to be circulated and filed with the Court no later than fourteen (14) days following the pretrial conference.
 - (3) In the event there is no change of plea or a consent judgment entry, the following decisions shall be made at the pretrial conference and all counsel attending must have authority to enter into a binding pretrial order.
 - a. A definite discovery schedule shall be agreed upon by all parties for the completion of all discovery.
 - b. A definite date for exchange of expert witness reports shall be determined.
 - c. A definite date for filing of all motions, which date shall not be later than seven (7) days before the final pretrial.
 - d. The date for a final pretrial, if necessary, shall be set by the Court and shall be held approximately one (1) week prior to trial.
 - e. The Court will rule on all pretrial motions.
 - f. Briefs on any legal issues shall be submitted.
 - g. Proposed jury instructions (if applicable) shall be submitted.
 - h. Proposed jury interrogatories (if applicable) shall be submitted.
 - i. Clients shall be present.
 - j. No motion shall be heard after the final pretrial without leave of Court

and without good cause being shown.

- k. The trial date shall not be changed nor shall the trial be continued without the order of the Court and after showing of good cause.

B. Traffic Actions:

- (1) In all traffic actions where the defendant admits the offense as charged or is found guilty of the offense as charged, the matter shall immediately proceed to disposition unless the defendant requests a continuance for dispositional hearing.
- (2) In all traffic actions where the defendant denies the charge in the complaint, the Court, at its discretion, may immediately assign said action for hearing or for pretrial conference. Any request for a pretrial conference shall be made in writing seven (7) days prior to the hearing date.

C. Parentage Actions:

- (1) At the initial pretrial conference, if the parties have not consented to genetic testing, the Court may order genetic testing.
- (2) In the event that the parties have requested an administrative determination of parentage from the Child Support Enforcement Agency and the parties sign a IV-D application, the State shall pay for the genetic testing. If a parentage complaint is filed in Court and the CSEA is a party to the case, the Court may assess the costs of genetic testing to one or both parties. In the event that genetic testing has been completed and a party requests retesting, then the costs of the second genetic test shall be assessed to the requested party.
- (3) After the results of the genetic tests are known and if the results do not exclude the defendant as the father of the child, the plaintiff shall immediately notify the Court that a second pretrial conference is necessary and the Court shall set the pretrial at its earliest convenience.
- (4) In the event that the results of the genetic tests exclude the defendant as the father, the plaintiff shall immediately notify the Court of the results of the genetic tests and the Court will dismiss the complaint unless the complaint is amended within thirty (30) days after the results of the genetic tests are known to the plaintiff.

D. Post-decree motions brought within two years of the previous entry will be met with disfavor. The Court will consider the allocation of all costs including attorney fees to the non-prevailing party in such instances.

33 Jury Management Plan

The Madison County Juvenile Court adopts the current jury management plan of the Madison County Common Pleas Court, General Division, and incorporates said plan herein by reference as if fully rewritten.

34 Exceptions to the Rules

Upon application, and for good cause shown, the Juvenile Court may grant exceptions to these rules.

35 Transcripts

The compensation of reporters for making transcripts shall be set by order of the Court and shall be paid forthwith to the reporter by the party for whose benefit the same is made.

Every transcript filed in this Court shall bear the name, address and telephone number of the court reporter making the same.

A reporter shall not be required to prepare a transcript until satisfactory arrangements for payment have been concluded.

Written transcripts are to be originals or certified copies. To facilitate scanning for electronic recording, transcripts are to be single sided on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper with each sheet containing only one page of a transcript. The transcript must be bound in a report folder. Staples may not be used to bind a transcript.

The court reporter be, and she/he is hereby authorized and directed to erase all recordings used to support transcript and Court proceedings after the lapse of thirty days.

36 Competency Proceedings

(A) General Purpose

The purpose of these rules is to expedite the proceedings under section 2152.51 to 2152.59 of the Revised Code, to ensure that proper notice of competency hearings is provided to the appropriate persons, and to ensure that any proceedings on any underlying complaint are stayed pending the determinations under these sections.

(B) Expedited Hearings

Juvenile competency proceedings shall be scheduled and heard on an expedited basis. Hearings in juvenile competency proceedings shall be held in strict compliance with applicable deadlines as established by statute or by this rule.

(C) Notice

Upon the conclusion of each hearing, the Court shall provide written notice to the prosecuting attorney, the child's attorney, the child's guardian ad litem, and the child's parents, guardian, or custodian of the date, time and place of the next scheduled hearing. Mailed notice shall not be required for any party or other individual designated in this rule to whom notice of the next hearing was provided in writing upon conclusion of the immediately preceding hearing.

(D) Stay of Proceedings

Upon the filing of a motion for a determination regarding a child's competency or the court's own motion, the court shall stay all delinquency proceedings pending a determination of competency. If, upon a determination of competency, the court determines that the child is not competent but could likely attain competency, the court order staying the delinquency proceedings shall remain in effect until such time as the child attains competency or the proceeding is dismissed.

37 Public Access to Proceedings

HEARING CLOSURE

- A. Hearings involving Adult Criminal cases, Parentage and Child Support cases, Serious Youthful Offender proceedings initiated under R.C. §2152.13 and private-party custody disputes shall be open to the public unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Closure will be considered by the Court only upon written motion of a party.
- B. Hearings held pursuant to Revised Code Section 2151.85 and Superintendence Rule 23 and 23.1 shall be closed pursuant to Superintendence Rule 23(D).
- C. All other hearings before the Court are neither presumed to be open nor presumed to be closed (*St. ex rel. Plain Dealer Publishing Co. v. Geauga Cty. Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division* (2000), 90 Ohio St.3d 79). Closure will be considered on a case-by-case basis on the Court's own motion or upon motion of a party based on 1) whether there exists a reasonable and substantial basis for believing that public access could harm the child or endanger the fairness of the adjudication, 2) whether the potential for harm outweighs the benefits of public access and 3) whether there are no reasonable alternatives to closure (*State ex. Rel. Plain Dealer Publishing Co. v. Floyd* (2006), 111 Ohio St.3d 56).
- D. The right of a victim to attend a hearing pursuant to Revised Code Section 2930.09, and the right of a parent, relative or prospective adoptive parent to attend a hearing pursuant to Revised Code Section 2151.424 shall be preserved.

MEDIA ACCESS

In accordance with Rule 12 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio, the Court shall permit the broadcasting or recording by electronic means and the taking of photographs in court proceedings to which public access has been permitted pursuant to Local Rule 37 above. Broadcasting or recording by electronic means and the taking of photographs in court proceedings shall be governed by Superintendence Rule 12 and by this Rule.

- A. **Applicant** – Media requests for permission to broadcast, televise, record, or photograph proceedings in the Juvenile Court shall be made in writing to the Judge as far in advance as reasonably practicable, but in no event less than twenty-four hours prior to the courtroom session, unless permitted by the Judge for good cause shown. Media Request forms may be obtained from the Chief Deputy Clerk. If the hearing for which the request is filed is continued for more than 30 days a new request must be submitted.
- B. **Procedure** – Upon receipt of a media request, the Clerk shall immediately inform the attorneys for the parties of the receipt of a media request by such means as are appropriate under the circumstances, (mail, telephone, facsimile, in person) in order to give the attorneys an opportunity to be heard, if possible, prior to the Judge deciding a media request.
- C. **Order** – Superintendence Rule 12, and this local rule govern the Judge’s granting of a media request. If the request is approved, the Judge shall prepare and sign a journal entry setting forth the conditions of the media broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing the proceedings.
- D. **Pooling** – Arrangements shall be made between or among media for “pooling” equipment and personnel authorized by this rule to cover the court sessions. Such arrangements are to be made outside the courtroom and without imposing on the Trial Judge or court personnel to mediate any dispute as to the appropriate media “pool” representative or equipment authorized to cover a particular session.
- E. **Equipment** – Not more than one portable camera (television, video-tape or movie), operated by not more than one person, shall be permitted without authorization of the Trial Judge.

Not more than one still photographer, utilizing not more than two still cameras of professional quality with not more than two lenses for each camera, shall be permitted without authorization of the Trial Judge.

Not more than one audio system for radio broadcast purposes shall be permitted without authorization of the Trial Judge.

If audio arrangements cannot be reasonably made in advance, the Trial Judge may permit one audio portable tape recorder at the bench which will be activated prior to commencement of the courtroom session.

Audio portable tape recorders may not be used by the news media without prior permission of the Trial Judge.

Only professional quality telephonic, photographic and audio equipment which does not produce distracting sound or light shall be employed to cover courtroom sessions. No motor-driven still cameras shall be permitted.

No artificial lighting device other than that normally used in the courtroom shall be employed. However, if the normal lighting in the courtroom can be improved without becoming obtrusive, the Trial Judge may permit modification.

Audio pickup by microphone for all media purposes shall be accomplished from existing audio systems present in the courtroom. If no technically suitable audio system exists in the courtroom, media microphones and related wiring essential for all media purposes shall be unobtrusively located in places designated by the Trial Judge or Magistrate, in advance of any session.

- F. Location of Equipment and Personnel** – The television, broadcast and still camera operators shall position themselves in a location in the courtroom, either standing or sitting, and shall assume a fixed position within that area. Having established themselves in a shooting position, they shall act so as not to call attention to themselves through further movement. Sudden moves, pans, tilts or zooms by television or still camera operators are prohibited. Operators shall not be permitted to move about in order to obtain photographs or broadcasts of courtroom sessions, except to leave or enter the courtroom.

Television cameras, microphones and taping equipment shall not be placed in, moved during, or removed from the courtroom except prior to commencement or after adjournment of the session or during a recess. Neither television film magazines, rolls or lenses, still camera film, nor audio portable tape cassettes shall be changed within a courtroom except during recess.

Proper courtroom decorum shall be maintained by all media pool participants, including proper attire, in a manner that reflects positively upon the journalistic profession.

- G. Witness/Victim Permission** – The Judge or Court Personnel shall inform victims and witnesses of their right to object to being filmed, or videotaped, recorded, or photographed. Each shall indicate in writing or orally, whether or not they object. Upon objection, the media are prohibited from employing any means to record the victim or witness.

- H. Specific Prohibitions** – No broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing will be permitted:

- 1) In Judge's chambers or the jury deliberation rooms;
- 2) Of witnesses or victims without prior consent of the witness or victim;
- 3) Of jurors or prospective jurors;

- 4) Of bench conferences, of conversation or conferences between an Attorney and his client, or of jury deliberations;
- 5) Of any document or exhibit, before or after such document is admitted into evidence, except those which are clearly visible to spectators, e.g. maps, charts, blackboards, etc.
- 6) Actions of reporters and photographers in the Courtroom shall not be disruptive or distracting. Movement by still photographers during the testimony of a witness shall be kept to a minimum.

38 Local Child Restraint Rule

- A. There is hereby created a presumption that physical restraint shall not be utilized unless the Judge or Magistrate before whom the child is appearing makes an individualized determination on the record that there is no less restrictive alternative to the use of physical restraint and that the physical restraint of the child is necessary because of either of the following:
 - 1) The child represents a current and significant threat to the safety of the child's self or other person's in the courtroom.
 - 2) There is a significant risk the child will flee the courtroom.
- B. The Judge and/or Magistrate shall permit any party, as defined in Juv.R. 2(Y), to be heard on the issue of whether the use of physical restraint is necessary for that particular child at that particular proceeding.
- C. If physical restraint is found necessary by the Judge or Magistrate, said restraint shall be the least restrictive necessary to meet the risk requiring the restraint and in a manner which does not unnecessarily restrict the movement of the child's hands.

39 Special Projects Fund

- A. For the efficient operation of the Juvenile Division of the Court of Common Pleas, a Special Projects Fund is hereby created. In January of 2016 the operating budget of this division was reduced by the County Commissioners. Such a reduction will adversely affect the administration of justice and limit the Court in its ability to perform necessary functions.
- B. A SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND for the Juvenile Division shall be established by the Madison County Auditor to serve as a depository for funds collected. A fee of \$100.00 per Custody/Parenting Time/Support/Paternity action shall be collected from the cost deposit upon filing and deposited in the Juvenile Division Special Projects Fund monthly. It shall be drawn upon by court order for the payment of projects deemed necessary and that fall within the descriptions set forth hereafter.

- C. The Court, in the exercise of discretion, may utilize the fund to pay for necessary court functions, pay reasonable salaries, fund special programs and services to augment community control sanctions, acquire equipment, and rehabilitate and maintain facilities. The Court reserves jurisdiction to utilize said funds to augment line items in the Court's annual budget. Any funds dedicated to a line item but not expended at the end of any calendar year shall be returned to the special projects fund on or before December 31 of each calendar year.
- D. The special projects fund shall not be considered as anticipated revenue by the Madison County Budget Commission for the following year. The Court reserves jurisdiction to modify this rule by journal entry if exigent circumstances dictate.

40. Prohibition of Parenting Coordinators

The Madison County Juvenile Court hereby prohibits the use of parenting coordinators in all cases in accordance with Ohio Rule of Superintendence 16.61.

41. Reporting to Law Enforcement & Compliance Plan

- A. The Court has a duty to ensure complete, accurate, and timely submission of information into the state's computerized criminal history repository at the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), the Ohio Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS), and other law enforcement databases.
- B. The Court, in collaboration with the clerk of court, law enforcement agencies, and any other applicable justice system partners, will develop a Reporting to Law Enforcement & Compliance Plan.
- C. The Reporting to Law Enforcement & Compliance Plan will identify procedures and timelines for:
 - 1. Obtaining and reporting fingerprints as prescribed by the Revised Code and Supreme Court of Ohio rules, including R.C. 109.57(A)(2), 109.60(A), 2151.311, 2151.313, and 2152.71(A)(2);
 - 2. Reporting information regarding protection orders as prescribed by the Revised Code and Supreme Court rules, including R.C. 2151.34 and 3113.31 and Sup.R. 10(A);
 - 3. Reporting information to the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Bureau of Motor Vehicles as prescribed by R.C. 4510.03, 4513.37, and 5502.10 and Supreme Court rules;

4. Maintaining complete and accurate records in accordance with 18 U.S.C. 922(g), the Revised Code, including R.C. 2923.13, and Supreme Court rules in the event of an audit by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, or state or local auditors; and
 5. Reporting sealed and expunged records to BCI, LEADS, and other law enforcement databases pursuant to the Revised Code, including R.C. Ch. 2151 and R.C. 2930.171 and 3113.31.
- D. The Court will review the Reporting to Law Enforcement & Compliance Plan every three (3) years from its adoption date.

42. Cell Phone/Recording Ban

No member of the public shall have a cell phone or any recording device on in the courtroom or offices of the Juvenile Court. Any violation of the Rule may result in the permanent and immediate forfeiture of the device to the Court. Such violation may also result in a contempt of court finding subjecting the violator to fines, costs, and jail sentence of up to 30 days for a first-time offense. The Court may grant permission for cell phone use on a case by case basis for evidentiary or administrative matters in the Courtroom or offices.

APPENDIX A

Required Deposits for Filing in the
Madison County Juvenile Court

Filing complaints alleging juveniles to be unruly	\$ 50.00
Filing complaints alleging juveniles to be delinquent.....	\$ 50.00
Filing complaints for parentage, support, custody or visitation.....	\$ 200.00
Reopen any case	\$ 200.00
Filing a motion for contempt..... (must be paid even if case is currently open)	\$ 100.00
Filing all completed pleadings for change of custody for school purposes only (no orders for visitation or support).....	\$ 100.00
Filing an appeal	\$ 225.00

The Clerk may demand an additional security deposit in any amount up to \$150.00 if the initial deposit is sufficient to cover costs already incurred.

All other fees as provided by law.

**Any remaining deposit in the amount of \$5.00 or less will not be refunded; said remaining amount shall be paid into the Madison County General Fund.

APPENDIX B

Amended Juvenile Court Bond Schedule

Speed 1-20 Miles Over Limit (out-of-state defendant)..... \$ 50.00

Speed 21 or More Miles Over Limit and Reckless
Operation (out-of-state defendant)..... \$ 75.00

DUI (out-of-state defendant)..... \$250.00

Seat Belt Violation (out-of-state defendant)..... \$ 25.00

Any Other Traffic Offense (out-of-state defendant)..... \$ 50.00

If any out-of-state juvenile defendant is unable to post bond pursuant to this schedule, his or her driver's license shall be deposited with the Court, to be returned upon appearance in court.

Charge of delinquency (out-of-state defendant)

Minor misdemeanor.....\$ 50.00

Misdemeanor of 1st or 2nd degree.....\$100.00

Misdemeanor of third or fourth degree..... \$ 75.00

Contempt for Court Costs.....Amount of Court
Costs or \$500.00,
whichever is lesser.

Other Contempt Actions..... \$500.00

Contributing..... \$1,000.00

APPENDIX C

IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, OHIO JUVENILE DIVISION

LOCAL RULE OF VISITATION

MADISON COUNTY VISITATION SCHEDULE

- (A) **PARENTS' BIRTHDAYS, MOTHER'S/FATHER'S DAY.** The children shall be with the appropriate parent on these days from 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. or, if a school day from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
- (B) **CHILD/REN'S BIRTHDAYS.**
- (1) Companionship shall be exercised on the child/ren's birthdays from 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. or, if the birthday falls upon a school day, from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. If this schedule affects more than one child, all the children shall attend each birthday companionship. If there is one child, the child and the nonresidential parent shall exercise this birthday companionship in odd-numbered years. The child and the residential parent shall exercise this birthday companionship in even-numbered years.
 - (2) If there is more than one child, the children and the nonresidential parent shall exercise this birthday companionship upon the birthdays of the first and other odd-numbered children in odd-numbered years, and upon the birthdays of the second and other even-numbered children in even-numbered years. The children and the residential parent shall exercise this birthday companionship upon the reverse birthdays of the children.
- (C) **CHRISTMAS.** In odd-numbered years the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship from 7:00 P.M. on the last day of school (or, if none of the children attend school, from 7:00 P.M., 16 December) to Noon, 25 December; and the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise companionship from Noon, 25 December to 7:00 P.M., 1 January. In even numbered years this companionship shall be reversed.
- (D) **SPRING BREAK.** In odd-numbered years the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship from 7:00 P.M. on the last day of school before Spring Break to 7:00 P.M. the day before school reconvenes. In even-numbered years, the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise this Spring Break Companionship.
- (1) If Good Friday-Easter Weekend does not occur during the child/ren's Spring Break, then in even-numbered years the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship from 7:00 P.M. the Thursday before Good Friday to 7:00 P.M.,

Easter. In odd-numbered years the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise this Good Friday-Easter Weekend companionship.

- (2) If the child is not or none of the children are attending school, then the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship from 7:00 P.M. the Thursday before Good Friday to 7:00 P.M. the following Friday in odd-numbered years. In even-numbered years the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise this companionship.

(E) OTHER HOLIDAYS.

- (1) **MEMORIAL DAY.** In odd-numbered years the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship from 7:00 P.M. the Friday preceding Memorial Day to 7:00 P.M., Memorial Day. The child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise this companionship in even numbered years.

- (2) **INDEPENDENCE DAY.** In even-numbered years the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise Independence Day companionship. In odd-numbered years the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise this companionship. If Independence Day falls upon a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, then this companionship shall be from 7:00 P.M. Independence Day Eve to 7:00 P.M., Independence Day. If Independence Day falls upon a Friday or Saturday, then this companionship shall be from 7:00 P.M. the preceding Thursday to 7:00 P.M. Sunday. If Independence Day falls upon Sunday or Monday, then this companionship shall be from 7:00 P.M. the preceding Friday to 7:00 P.M. Monday.

- (3) **LABOR DAY.** In odd-numbered years the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship from 7:00 P.M. the Friday preceding Labor Day to 7:00 P.M., Labor Day. In even-numbered years the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise this companionship.

- (4) **THANKSGIVING.** In even-numbered years the child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship from 7:00 P.M. the Wednesday preceding Thanksgiving to 7:00 P.M., Sunday. In odd-numbered years the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise this companionship.

- (F) SUMMER.** The child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship for six consecutive weeks during the Summer Vacation of the school district in which the children reside. This companionship shall commence on a Friday at 7:00 P.M. and end on the sixth following Friday at 7:00 P.M. In odd-numbered years the nonresidential parent shall choose the commencement date of summer visitation and notify in writing the residential parent, and, if one or more of the child/ren can read, the child/ren at least sixty days before this commencement date. In even-numbered years the residential parent shall choose the commencement date of summer visitation and notify in writing the nonresidential parent and, if one or more of the child/ren can read, the children at least sixty days before the commencement date of summer visitation. During this

summer companionship the children and the residential parent shall exercise weekend companionship as described below.

(G) **WEEKENDS.** The child/ren and the nonresidential parent shall exercise companionship on alternate weekends 7:00 P.M., Friday to 7:00 P.M., Sunday commencing the second Friday following journalization of any order or decree of which this schedule is a part. During the child/ren and nonresidential parent's summer companionship the child/ren and the residential parent shall exercise a like weekend companionship beginning the second Friday and the fourth Friday following the commencement of summer companionship.

(H) **OTHER COMPANIONSHIP.** By agreement, the parents may arrange other and additional companionship, especially to account for days of special significance to the child/ren and one of the parents: for example, family reunions.

(I) **If a conflict between two or more of the preceding companionship provisions occurs, then the first listed shall be exercised.**

(J) **CANCELLATION, MAKE UP.**

(1) If the nonresidential parent must cancel a companionship period, he or she shall notify the residential parent and the child/ren as soon as possible. The nonresidential parent shall cancel companionship only for an emergency such as a change in his or her work schedule or an illness in his or her household. The nonresidential parent shall not cancel companionship because he or she does not feel like exercising it.

(2) An illness or injury sufficiently serious to keep the child/ren in bed through the companionship period shall be the only reason the residential parent may cancel companionship. If the residential parent must cancel a companionship period, he or she shall notify the nonresidential parent as soon as possible. The nonresidential parent may, at his or her election, spend up to one hour beginning at the usual commencement time of the companionship period with the ill or injured child. The child/ren who are not ill or injured shall exercise companionship with the nonresidential parent. The parent who cancels a companionship period shall explain it to the child/ren. The canceled companionship period shall be made up within sixty days at the nonresidential parent's option.

(K) **PICK UP AND RETURN.** The residential parent shall have the child/ren physically and emotionally ready to go at the commencement of each companionship period. The nonresidential parent shall pick up the child/ren on time or within one-half hour or forfeit that companionship period. The nonresidential parent shall not return the child/ren from companionship early without prior notice and consent of the residential parent, and shall only do so in the event an emergency arises. The residential parent shall pick-up the child/ren at the conclusion of the companionship period. If the parent is unavailable to pick-up the child/ren, an adult well known to the child/ren may do so. Only licensed drivers may transport the child/ren. No person transporting the child/ren may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

(L) **CLOTHING.** The residential parent shall send sufficient appropriate clothing with the child/ren each companionship period. The nonresidential parent shall return all such clothing when returning the child/ren. At the conclusion of any companionship period which lasts more than three days (72 hours) the parent returning the child/ren shall return the child/ren's clothing cleaned and folded or hangered ready to be put away. For the purpose of this clothing provision the nonresidential parent is deemed to be the residential parent during Summer Companionship.

(M) **COMMUNICATION.** All mail from one parent to the child/ren shall be confidential and shall not be opened or read by the other parent without the child/ren's prior voluntary consent. Neither parent shall impede reasonable telephone communication between the child/ren and the other parent.

(N) **CHILD/REN'S RECORDS AND ACTIVITIES.** The nonresidential parent shall have access to the child/ren at all times, to all the child/ren's activities, and to all records related to the child/ren on the same terms and conditions as the residential parent. OHIO LAW REQUIRES THIS ACCESS.

(1) This provision is made a part of this Order pursuant to Sections 3109.051(H)(1) and 3109.051(I) and 3109.051(J)(1) and 5104.001(C)(3)(a) of the Ohio Revised Code. The Keeper of any record related to the child/ren is hereby put on notice that failure to comply with this order is contempt of court pursuant to Section 3109.051(H)(2). Any school which sponsors a student activity in which the child/ren participate is hereby put on notice that failure to comply with this Order is in contempt of court pursuant to Section 3109.052(J)(2).

(2) By separate notice, record holders, schools, day care centers and health care providers may be put on notice with regard to this provision of this Order.

(O) **LOVE AND RESPECT, NO CRITICISM.** Each parent shall encourage the child/ren to love, respect, and obey the other parent. Neither parent shall criticize the other parent before the child/ren nor permit the children to associate with any person who criticizes the other parent.

(P) **ADDRESS, TELEPHONE.** Each parent shall provide the other parent a current residence address and mailing address, if different, and telephone number. Each parent shall immediately notify the other of any change in this information. The residential parent shall file with the court a notice of his or her intent to relocate with the child/ren to a new residence and provide the complete address of that new residence at least thirty days in advance of such move. The Court shall notify the non-residential parent and the CSEA of the intended move.