

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Sacramento Dependency Representation

RFP# CFCC-201001-RB

January 14, 2011

The following are the answers to questions received via e-mail:

- Question #1.* Has Sacramento County been part of the DRAFT in the past, or is this the first year?
Answer #1. The Sacramento court joined DRAFT in 2007.
- Question #2.* Is the public defender's office currently involved in representing parents or children for the "first" parent or child?
Answer #2. The Public Defender's office does not currently represent any parties in dependency proceedings in the Sacramento court.
- Question #3.* Currently, how are new petitions given to the court and distributed to the attorneys?
Answer #3. New petitions are hand delivered to the court by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). At the same time, DHHS places copies of the petitions in designated mailboxes (located at the court) for the various attorney groups.
- Question #4.* Are detention hearings heard every day in all five courts?
Answer #4. Yes.
- Question #5.* How are the petitions currently distributed between the five departments?
Answer #5. New petitions are assigned in an automatic rotation to the five court departments. Any petition filed that has an active or prior history is assigned to its original home court department.

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- Question #6.* Is it possible for the Human Services to send the petition and detention reports electronically by email to us 1-2 days prior to the detention hearing?
- Answer #6.* The department notes that it is possible to electronically send the petition the day before the detention hearing, as that is the current practice now with Sacramento Child Advocates. It is not possible to send the report at this time.
- Question #7.* Do the Human Services case carrying social workers come to every court appearance?
- Answer #7.* A department social worker is present in court for every non-contested matter, but the case carrying social worker is not.
- Question #8.* Will the court be able to provide the case number, name of each party and the name of the current attorney and next court date in a print out form as well as in an electronic form, e.g., Excel spreadsheet or other format?
- Answer #8.* The AOC will be able to provide this information based on JCATS reporting.
- Question #9.* Will the JCATS reporting requirements be the same as they are in current contracts, i.e. every month reporting of open and closed cases, and one quarter a year capturing the time for each case?
- Answer #9.* Attachment C, Section 10.6 of the RFP specifies that “The Service provider will be required to use the JCATS calendaring function to track court hearings.” This is a new requirement.
- Question #10.* It was stated at the bidders’ conference that the proposed allocation (budget) is consistent with the current level of funding for appointed counsel. However, the RFP provides a range of funding for each Lot. What is the actual annual AOC funding for Children’s Representation (Lot 1) in Sacramento County?
- Answer #10.* The current annual funding for children’s representation in the Sacramento court is \$2,622,241.
- Question #11.* What portion of current funding is allocated to Sacramento Child Advocates and what portion for conflict representation?

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Answer #11. The contract with Sacramento Child Advocates includes representation of all children; the cost of conflicts representation is not separately reported.

Question #12. Will the current conflict panel have the option of keeping their cases or will all of the conflict cases (currently at 659) be transferred to the contractor?

Answer #12. Please see Attachment C, Section 7 of the RFP, which states that it is the intent of the court to transfer all dependency cases to the new providers, with the exception of those cases where the court determines that such a transfer would jeopardize competent representation. This section applies to all cases, regardless of current representation.

[END OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS]