

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN JUVENILE COURT

COUNTY OF _____

_____ JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE INTEREST OF _____, DOB _____, A CHILD.

_____)

_____)

PETITIONER(S),)

vs.)

_____)

_____ (*child*))

_____ (*mother*))

_____ (*father*))

_____)

RESPONDENTS.)

Case No. _____

SUMMONS
(Hearing Scheduled)

THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENTS:

1. The Petitioner has started a case in Juvenile Court asking the Court to appoint a Guardian for the child listed above. A copy of the Petition for Guardianship is served with this Summons.

2. A Juvenile Court hearing is scheduled:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Before the Honorable _____, Judicial Court

Judge/ Referee. You MUST appear at the hearing.

The child is required to appear at the hearing.

The child is **not** required to appear at the hearing.

3. At the hearing, the Juvenile Court will decide if court appointment of a guardian for the child is in the child's best interest.

4. You MUST be present at the hearing and prepared to participate and present evidence of what you want. You may ask questions of the Petitioner's witnesses and call your own witnesses.

5. If you DO NOT appear at the hearing, or if you DO NOT have a good reason why you cannot do so, the Juvenile Court may:

- Appoint a guardian for the child without hearing your side (also called a default judgment);
- Make other orders related to the child without hearing your side; and
- Make orders against you that the Court believes are appropriate.

RIGHT TO HEARING BEFORE JUDGE

6. If a Judicial Referee will hear this Petition, you are entitled to have the Petition heard by a Judge of the Juvenile Court, instead of a Referee, by filing a written request for a Judge with the Clerk of this Court within seven (7) days after receiving this Summons.

RIGHT TO COUNSEL

7. A biological or legally adoptive parent has the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing and throughout this proceeding; if you wish to be represented by counsel and are indigent, legal counsel will be appointed for you. Contact the Juvenile Court, phone (701)_____, to request an application for indigent defense services.

FAMILY LAW MEDIATION PROGRAM

8. Any party to a guardianship proceeding may request a referral to family mediation. The Family Law Mediation Program provides up to 6 hours of combined pre-mediation orientation and mediation at no cost to the parties to attempt to resolve any disputes. The requests shall be made during the initial appearance phase of the juvenile guardianship proceeding. A judge or referee may also order the matter into the Family Law Mediation Program at any time.

Dated _____.

 Judge / Judicial Referee