

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF _____ COUNTY, TENNESSEE

IN THE MATTER OF:

A child under eighteen years of age

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Docket Number: _____

Charge(s): _____

Felony/Misdemeanor Charge (s) and Tennessee Code
Citation (s):

**ORDER FOR OUTPATIENT EVALUATION OF A CHILD
UNDER T.C.A. §37-1-128(e)(1)
AND NON-CUSTODIAL ASSESSMENT BY
THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

This cause was heard on the ____ day of _____, 20___. It appeared to the court that: (1) there is reason to believe that the child has a mental illness and/or mental retardation; (2) that it would be in the best interests of the child to undergo an evaluation to determine his or her mental status to assist the court in disposition of this case; and (3) to have a thorough and complete assessment, it is necessary to involve both a mental health care provider and the Department of Children's Services (DCS).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The child submit to an outpatient mental evaluation at _____
_____ Mental Health Center on the date and time specified
by the Center, but no later than _____.
2. The Youth Services Officer (YSO) shall contact the mental health agency and arrange for an appointment for evaluation and, if necessary, ensure that the child is transported to the agency for the examination. The YSO shall deliver a certified copy of this order with the petition to the appropriate individual at the agency. The YSO may also send facsimile copies of the same documents.
3. The representative of the Department of Children's Services shall facilitate the gathering of information needed to accomplish a thorough assessment.
4. The examining professional shall conduct an evaluation and forward a written report to the court within 30 days addressing the following:
 - a. Whether the child has a mental illness or mental retardation;
 - b. Whether the child is subject to voluntary admission or involuntary commitment;
 - c. The type of care, training and treatment required to address any mental illness or mental retardation found;

- d. Any resources available to provide such services including but not limited to those provided by DCS.
 - e. Specific forensic issues
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f. Other

5. If the professional attempting to perform the evaluation for mental illness or developmental disability determines that the evaluation can not be performed on an outpatient basis, the court may order the child placed in a hospital or treatment resource as defined by T.C.A. §33-1-101, for the purposes of evaluation and for treatment necessary to the evaluation, for not more than thirty (30) days.

6. The mental health provider and DCS shall share any information or data on the child without a consent for release of information, including any information or data obtained from sources other than those referenced in this order. The mental health center and DCS are authorized to provide such information to any other provider recommended to the court as necessary for additional services to the child.

7. The Department of Children's Services shall immediately proceed with a non-custodial assessment to determine the need for TennCare benefits and services provided by or accessed through the Department and shall report its findings to the Court and the mental health center within 15 days from date of this order. DCS or the provider shall urge the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian to apply for TennCare benefits on behalf of the child. The representative of the Department of Children's Services shall meet with the family of the child as soon as possible to assist in the application for TennCare benefits. In the event the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian refuses or is in any way unavailable to apply for TennCare benefits, DCS is authorized by this court order to apply for TennCare benefits on behalf of the child.

8. The mental health center shall request services from TennCare, private insurance carrier or other potential payer as soon as possible after determination of any further treatment, care, training or other services recommended by the Court.

9. If an evaluation is requested for a misdemeanor charge then the cost of the evaluation is the responsibility of the county in which the charges originated.

ENTERED this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Approved for Entry:

Defense Counsel
Address
Phone Number

JUDGE/MAGISTRATE of Juvenile
Court

District Attorney General
Address
Phone Number