



Children's Commission.

Attorney Resource Letter:

For Attorneys Handling Child Protective Services Cases

February 3, 2017

Reminder of Hands-on Trial Skills Training Opportunity; Deadline to Apply is Sunday 2/5/16

The Children's Commission will host a hands-on Trial Skills Training for less experienced attorneys handling CPS cases in Texas who want to improve their litigation skills. The course will be taught in San Marcos, Texas on May 8-10th, 2017. Space is limited to 21 attorneys who represent DFPS, parents, and/or children on CPS dockets. There is no fee to register. Additional information and the application can be found on the Children's Commission's website at this link: <http://texaschildrenscommission.gov/training/attorney-education/trial-skills-training.aspx>

The application deadline is midnight on this Sunday, February 5th, 2017. For questions or additional information, please contact us at children@txcourts.gov.

New Resources for Parent and Parent Advocates: The Family Helpline and Spanish Version of the Children's Commission's Parent Resource Guide

On January 31, 2017, the Texas Legal Services Center (TLSC) launched The Family Helpline to assist parents with CPS legal issues. The Family Helpline is staffed by experienced attorneys who will refer to pertinent portions of the Children's Commission's Parent Resource Guide while offering callers live support in a one-on-one exchange. TLSC will employ attorneys with CPS case experience who will offer callers legal information and education, but not offer legal advice or establish an attorney-client relationship with the caller. The CPS process will be explained to callers in concrete, easy to understand, and compassionate language. Parents will be given referrals to local resources that benefit children, families, and the community at large.

The Family Helpline Hours are Monday - Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; the phone number is: 844-888-6565.

Additionally, the Children's Commission is excited to announce that a Spanish language version of the Parent Resource Guide is now available on Lawbox and as a pdf on our website. Just like the English version, the Lawbox Spanish language Parent Resource Guide is mobile friendly and searchable. Both the English and Spanish versions are designed to help educate parents about the CPS process, their role and responsibilities, and the responsibilities and duties owed to them by others. Both versions are available at the following links:

<http://parentresourceguide.texaschildrenscommission.gov/espanol>

<http://texaschildrenscommission.gov/media/1149/Final-Online-PDF.pdf>

Please feel free to share this announcement and these links with attorneys, parents, caregivers, CASA volunteers, and anyone else who might benefit from this resource.



Follow us on Twitter [@TXChildrensComm](https://twitter.com/TXChildrensComm)

To join this list or unsubscribe, please link [here](#).

Information provided by the Children's Commission should not be read as a commentary by the Supreme Court of Texas or any other court. The Children's Commission website is not equipped to facilitate dialogue or conversation about matters related to the information in this communique. For more information about the Children's Commission, please visit our website at texaschildrenscommission.gov