

Executive Summary

A Painless Guide to Drafting a Powerful Petition

Course Description

The Painless Guide to Drafting a Powerful Petition starts with an overview of the legislative intent of Dependency and WIC 300 a-j, creating an understanding of the grounds for jurisdiction. It covers what issues are petitionable and what issues are not. Then the class will look at the mechanics of drafting an effective and powerful petition, including characteristics of a good petition and required content. The training focuses on what to include and the specific format needed to meet the needs of a child and family within the legal system. It will also look at local formatting requirements. The course utilizes PowerPoint lecture, case vignettes, small group interaction, and scenarios to help participants integrate the information.

Target Audience

This training is appropriate for new workers and seasoned workers alike. In addition, people that support petition drafters can also benefit from the class.

Outcome Objectives

1. Explain what is required for each of the WIC 300 a-j subsections and given a case scenario, to recognize which subsections should be filed
2. Recognize the situations that can and cannot be addressed in a petition that affect the lives of children and families.
3. Identify why the petition is the most important document in the life of the case
4. Given a case example, the trainee will be able to use factual written language in petition format that will be used by the legal system.

Ways that Supervisors can support the Transfer of Learning from the classroom to the job...

BEFORE the training

1. Supervisors should ask the worker to explore the types of petitions that are filed on their cases
2. Supervisors should ask the trainee to make a list of questions during the training to discuss with the supervisor upon return. Inform the trainee the supervisor expects at least 3 questions.

AFTER the training

1. Supervisors should ask the trainee to discuss WIC 300 a-j and their understanding of them
2. Supervisors should ask the trainee to present the written list of 3 or more questions to the supervisor and then proceed to answer the questions or assign a more experienced worker to answer the questions.