

Case Name

Case Number JD

# FORM 1: NOTICE TO PARENT IN DEPENDENCY ACTION

You are a party in a dependency case. If the Court determines that your child is dependent, then the Court will make decisions about the care and custody of your child until you demonstrate that you are able to do so. Except as otherwise provided by law, court hearings relating to dependent children are open to the public. You may request that the hearings be closed, and the Court may order them closed for good cause. If you cannot be reunited with your child within legal time frames, the Court may terminate your parental rights and your child may be adopted, or the Court may appoint a permanent guardian for your child. As a parent or Indian custodian in a dependency case, your legal rights include:

1. The right to counsel, including court-appointed counsel if you are indigent;
2. The right to trial by the Court on the allegations in the dependency petition;
3. The right to cross-examine witnesses who are called to testify against you; and
4. The right to use the process of the court to compel the attendance of witnesses.

As part of this case, there will be additional court hearings. You are required to attend all court hearings. If you cannot attend a court hearing, you must prove to the Court that you had good cause for not attending. If you fail to attend the Pre-trial Conference, Settlement Conference, or Dependency Adjudication Hearing without good cause, the Court may determine that you have waived your legal rights and admitted the allegations in the dependency petition. The Court may go forward with the Dependency Adjudication Hearing in your absence and may rule that your child is dependent based on the record and evidence presented. You must also actively participate in reunification services if they are offered to you. Substantially neglecting or willfully refusing to remedy the circumstances that cause your child to be in an out-of-home placement, including refusing to participate in reunification services, will be grounds for terminating your parental rights to your child. If you do not participate in reunification services or fail to attend further proceedings without good cause, the Court may terminate your parental rights or appoint a permanent guardian for your child. The Court will presume that you understand the contents of this notice unless you tell the Court at today's hearing that you do not understand this notice.

**Next Hearing:**

**Date & Time**

**Judicial Officer**

Initial Dependency Hearing

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Mediation

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Pre-Trial Conference

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\_\_\_\_\_

Dependency Adjudication Hrg

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Disposition Hearing

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Review Hearing

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\_\_\_\_\_

Permanency Hearing

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**Hearing Location:**

**Courtroom:**

**My signature confirms that I have received a copy of this document on this date.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**