

Court-Appointed Co-parenting Disclosure

I am Tiffany Capps, LPC-S, NCC, and I am the mental health professional that has been appointed by the court system to conduct your co-parenting counseling. I am a Nationally Certified Counselor and have been treating children, adolescents, and their families as a Licensed Professional Counselor with the LPC Board of Examiners for the state of Louisiana since 2011.

The purpose of co-parenting counseling is to determine most effective communication plan to serve psychological best interest of the child or children in this family. Best interest factors considered in are listed in Civil Code article 134 and child abuse will be considered as defined by Children's Code Article 603(2). If it is suspected that child abuse has occurred, I am required by law to report those suspicions to Office of Child and Family Services to determine if an investigation is necessary. Investigating child abuse and neglect is not within the scope of these sessions, but if either is suspected or reported, it will be reported to the appropriate local authorities for further investigation.

During these sessions, I will conduct clinical interviews with all caregivers and possibly with the child or children for whom custody is being considered. Upon gathering information during the interviews it is revealed that other professionals or stakeholders in the child's life may contribute information that is relevant to the treatment plan for counseling, I may request permission from you to interview those parties, as well.

At times, standardized and informal psychological instruments will be used for evaluation of the child's reported symptoms. These instruments provide a non-biased look at the lived experience of the child on a day to day basis. Other informal clinical evaluation activities may be used with children and parents to gather data about relationships.

In most therapeutic situations, confidentiality is paramount to ensure trust and enhance the therapeutic process. The nature of the co-parenting process limits confidentiality as the results of these sessions may be reported to the court, attorneys, and parents involved in this case. The intended use of this information is not to establish therapeutic rapport, but to evaluate the nature of the situation in question and to determine the child's psychological best interest.

The court order usually specifies the financial responsibilities of these counseling sessions. The fees are as follows:

Individual clinical interviews (per hour)	\$200
Records review (per minute)	\$2.50
Consultations with attorneys or other professionals (per minute)	\$2.50
Written evaluation	\$200 per hour
No show fee	\$200

*Report will be released after the written evaluation fee is paid in full.

In general, the timeframe of these co-parenting sessions will depend on the needs of each family. You can count on a minimum of six sessions per parent over the next three months.

Please complete and sign the following consent forms to provide permission for me to speak with your attorney or any other professional that you believe might have information that is pertinent to these co-parenting sessions:

I, _____, consent for Tiffany Capps, LPC-S, NCC to conduct the co-parenting sessions deemed necessary by the court. This means that she may interview myself, my spouse, any children for this evaluation.

In addition, I believe that the following professionals may have additional information that may be useful in this evaluation and I sign my permission for Tiffany Capps, LPC-S, NCC to contact these parties and use their information for this evaluation.

<u>Name / relationship</u>	<u>Phone number</u>

Parent signature

Date