

RULES FOR LOUISIANA DISTRICT COURTS

TITLE V

Fifth Judicial District Court

Parishes of Franklin, Richland and West Carroll

Chapter: 41

Chapter Title: Court Organization and Sessions

Appendix 22

Rule No: 41.1

Court Administration: Duty
Judges: Mediation

Informal FINS Process

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 726, et seq., of the Louisiana Children's Code, this Court hereby implements the following procedure for the Families In Need of Services (FINS) Section of the Juvenile Division of the Court, and authorizes and directs the appointment of an FINS Intake Officer pursuant to the provisions of Louisiana Children's Code Article 732.

The FINS Intake Officer shall be designated the "FINS Coordinator" and shall be appointed by majority vote of the Judges of the Courts within the Fifth Judicial District having juvenile jurisdiction. Upon appointment, the FINS Coordinator shall possess and exercise the authority and perform the duties as established and set forth in the applicable provisions of the Children's Code, as they presently exist, or as they may be, from time to time, supplemented or amended in the future.

The authority and duties of the FINS Coordinator shall be the duties specified in La.Ch.C. Article 732. Additionally, the FINS Coordinator is authorized by the Court to file, at his discretion, complaints under Articles 731 and 733, and to determine on behalf of the Court whether a mandatory conference pursuant to Article 743 is inappropriate in each case. The Court may by majority vote, from time to time, modify the duties of the FINS Coordinator.

In order to facilitate the staffing, funding and daily operation of the FINS Section, the Court does hereby transfer to the Office of the District Attorney for the Fifth Judicial District, subject to further orders of this Court, the operation and management of the FINS Section of the Juvenile Division of this Court. The Court and the Office of the District Attorney shall enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement specifying the terms of the operation and management of the FINS Section.
