

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**JUDICIAL BRANCH**  
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us>

Court Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE MATTER OF: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
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IN THE MATTER OF: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE MATTER OF: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

**RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY IN AN ABUSE OR NEGLECT CASE**  
**REQUEST FOR COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY OR**  
**WAIVER OF RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_,  
Name Address  
being the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, a minor  
Relationship Child(ren)'s Name(s)

child(ren), have been notified to appear before the court to answer to a petition alleging that my child(ren) have been abused and/or neglected pursuant to the New Hampshire Child Protection Act (RSA 169-C).

I have been advised of my right to be represented by an attorney at every point in the case and at every court hearing.

I have been advised that if I do not think that I can afford to pay an attorney that I may apply to the court for a court-appointed attorney to represent my interests. To apply for a court-appointed attorney, I understand that I must complete a **Financial Affidavit** form and this **Right to an Attorney** form and submit both to the court listed on the front of the petition for review. If I financially qualify to have an attorney represent me, I understand that the court will appoint one.

If an attorney is appointed to represent me, I understand that I may be asked to pay back some or all of the court-appointed attorney's fees. This will be based upon my ability to pay as determined by the court.

I understand that the processing of this case involves important legal, procedural and constitutional matters, including the examination of witnesses, offering of testimony and presentation of evidence. I further understand that if the court makes a finding of "TRUE" that my child(ren) have been abused and/or neglected, the finding may be the basis at a future time for a petition to terminate my parental rights. If my parental rights are terminated, I understand that I will no longer have any legal rights, privileges, duties or obligations regarding the child(ren).

I understand that even if I waive my right at this time to hire an attorney or to apply for a court-appointed attorney, I may at any time during the course of this case exercise my right to either hire an attorney or apply for a court-appointed one.

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**RIGHT TO ATTORNEY – ABUSE & NEGLECT**

Please check **one** (1) of the **three** (3) boxes below and sign and date the form.

- 1.  I will hire an attorney to represent me.
- 2.  I do not think that I can afford to hire an attorney and would like to apply for a court-appointed attorney. My completed **Financial Affidavit** form is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Parent

**WAIVER OF RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY**

- 3.  I do not want an attorney to represent me and waive my right at this time to hire an attorney or apply for a court-appointed attorney.

By signing below, I understand that even though I have waived my right at this time to have an attorney represent me, I understand that I may at any time during the course of this case exercise my right to either hire an attorney or apply for a court-appointed attorney.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Parent

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The above named parent has waived her/his right to an attorney.

I have reviewed the content of this form with the parent and have determined that s/he understands the right to either hire an attorney or apply to have a court-appointed attorney represent her/him.

**Recommended:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Marital Master

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Marital Master

**So Ordered:**

I hereby certify that I have read the recommendation(s) and agree that, to the extent the marital master/judicial referee/hearing officer has made factual findings, she/he has applied the correct legal standard to the facts determined by the marital master/judicial referee/hearing officer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Judge