

PERMANENCY HEARING ORDER
PERMANENT RELATIVE PLACEMENT WITH
(Check which one is applicable):
Transfer of Custody to the Relative
DHR Retaining Custody

Court Case Number _____

IN THE JUVENILE OR FAMILY COURT OF _____ COUNTY, ALABAMA
(Name of County)

In the Matter of _____, a child

Child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

On _____ (date), a permanency hearing was held by the above court.

APPEARANCES

Note: Check which parties and/or attorneys and/or others were present at the hearing:

Mother	Guardian ad litem
Father	Department of Human Resources (Department) Caseworker
*Child	Department Attorney
Mother's Attorney	**Paternal Grandmother Grandfather
Father's Attorney	**Maternal Other Relatives: _____ (specify)
**Maternal Grandmother	**Paternal Other Relatives: _____ (specify)
Grandfather	**Foster Parents: _____ (specify)
**Others (specify): _____	

* **Federal law and state law (Section 12-15-315(a), Ala.Code 1975) requires age-appropriate consultation with the child at each permanency hearing regarding the permanency plan and/or any transition plan to independent living. I have ensured this consultation with the child was given.**

** **If one or more of these persons who are caring for the child under the responsibility of the Department are not present, I have ensured that they have received notice of this hearing.**

THE COURT FINDS THAT [CHECK WHICH BOXES ARE APPLICABLE] :

1. Efforts made by the Department, following placement of the above-named child into foster care, were were not reasonable to finalize the existing permanency plan of _____ for the above-named child, as follows:

After reviewing the attached written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, and/or after obtaining input from the foster parents, preadoptive parents, or relative caregivers of the child, I incorporate into this Order the Department's description of its efforts to reunify the family and, if applicable, to arrange and to finalize a new permanent home described in the court report;

After reviewing the attached written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, and/or after obtaining input from the foster parents, preadoptive parents, or relative caregivers of the child, I modify the Department's description of its efforts to reunify the family and, if applicable, to arrange and to finalize a new permanent home described in the court report; as follows:

2. It will not be safe to return the child home because:
After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's explanation in its court report why returning home would be dangerous or harmful to the child or is otherwise impractical;
After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's explanation in its court report why returning home would be dangerous or harmful to the child or is otherwise impractical, as follows:

3. Termination of parental rights is not in the best interests of the child because:
After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's explanation in its court report why termination of parental rights would not benefit the child;
After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's explanation in its court report why termination of parental rights would not benefit the child, as follows:

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4. It is not in the best interests of the child to permanently place the child with an individual or couple serving as permanent custodians or permanent guardians because:

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's explanation in its court report why it is not in the child's best interests to permanently place the child with an individual or couple serving as either permanent custodians or permanent guardians;

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's explanation in its court report why it is not in the child's best interests to permanently place the child with an individual or couple serving as either permanent custodians or permanent guardians as follows:

5. The relatives who are foster parents are fully capable of and committed to permanently caring for the child because:

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's explanation in its court report why the related foster parents are fully capable of and committed to permanently caring for the child;

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's explanation in its court report why the foster parents are fully capable of and committed to permanently caring for the child, as follows:

6. The child will be safe from further harm by the child's parents because:

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's explanation in its court report why the child will be safe from further harm by the child's parents;

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's description in its court report as to why the child will be safe from further harm by the child's parents, as follows:

7. The Department has fully counseled the relatives concerning available financial assistance and the availability of more permanent and legal secure placement options, as follows:

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's explanation in its court report as to available financial assistance and the availability of more permanent and legal secure placement options;

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's explanation in its court report as to available financial assistance and the availability of more permanent and legal secure placement options, as follows:

8. *If the child is placed in a home in a different state than the home of the child's parents, the placement continues to be appropriate and in the child's best interests for the following reasons [Note: If the child is placed in the same state as one or both of the child's parents, leave this space blank]:*

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's explanation in its court report why it is necessary to place the child in a different state;

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's explanation in its court report why it is necessary to place the child in a different state, as follows:

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9. *If the child is 14 years of age or older, as long as the Department continues supervision, the following services are needed to assist the child in making the transition to successful adulthood (Note: If the child is less than 14 years of age or if independent living services are not provided, leave this space blank):*

After reviewing the attached Department's written report dated _____, p._____, and based on the testimony of the parties, and after consulting with the child, in an age-appropriate manner, regarding the transition plan to independent living, I incorporate into this Order the Department's statement in its court report concerning the services the child needs to transition to successful adulthood;

After reviewing the attached Department's written report dated _____, p._____, and based on the testimony of the parties, and after consulting with the child, in an age-appropriate manner, regarding the transition plan to independent living, I modify the Department's statement in its court report concerning the services the child needs to transition to successful adulthood, as follows:

[Note: The phrase "as long as the Department continues supervision" only applies to the option of "Permanent Relative Placement with Transfer of Custody to the Relative." If the other option is used, please mark out this phrase in number 9 above].

10. At this hearing, I have considered both in-state and out-of-state placement options for the child.

11. The Department has included information concerning age or developmentally appropriate activities for the child in its written court report dated _____, p. _____.

THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS THAT [CHECK WHICH BOXES ARE APPLICABLE]:

1. The child shall remain in the custody of the Department and be placed in related foster care on a permanent basis with his or her relatives, _____, on a permanent basis. (names of relatives)

2. The Department shall implement the following plan to ensure the stability of the foster placement:

After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I incorporate into this Order the Department's proposed plan in the court report; After reviewing the attached Department's written court report dated _____, p. _____, and based on the testimony of the parties, I modify the Department's proposed plan in the court report, as follows:

Other: _____

3. The next hearing in this case shall be a review hearing and shall take place at _____ [a.m.] [p.m.] on _____ (date) in _____ (location of hearing).

4. Custody shall be transferred to _____ (names of relatives) with the clear expectation that they will raise the child to the age of majority.

5. This case is closed to further review from this Court.

SIGNED this _____ Date

_____ Judge