

Children in Court

The Children in Court Unit primarily handles four types of dockets:

FC – *Child Placement Review* – this docket type involves children placed outside their homes through the Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P). These cases are reviewed on a regular basis by volunteer boards and the family court until the child is returned home or another permanent living arrangement has been provided.

FN – *Child Abuse/Neglect* – this docket contains cases concerning children where a complaint has been filed by DCP&P to assume custody, care, and/or supervision of the child or children to protect the children from harm.

FG – *Guardianship* - this docket is for cases where Termination of Parental Rights is being pursued by DCP&P, and DCP&P is filing for guardianship of the child/children.

FL – *Kinship Legal Guardianship* – this docket involves applications for Kinship Legal Guardianship (KLG) status for caregivers with whom a child has been residing for at least 12 continuous months. Upon showing clear and convincing evidence that the parent is and will be “incapacitated” for the foreseeable future and it is in the child’s best interest, KLG status will be granted. KLG terminates once the child turns 18, or is no longer in a secondary education program, or if KLG is no longer in the child’s best interest.