

*****IMPORTANT*****

At this time, due to Orders from the Tennessee Supreme Court relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the preferred method for appearing in Court is via video conferencing rather than in person. If a hearing is necessary on your case, you may be able to participate in the hearing via video conferencing *if* you provide a valid e-mail address and/or cell phone number for yourself below *and if* you download the free “Zoom” video conferencing app onto your computer, tablet, or mobile device.

If you are filing this, please provide the Court with:

a valid e-mail address: _____

a valid cell phone number: _____

This information will be kept confidential and will not be released to anyone except the Court so that the Court can video conference you if and when the need for a hearing arises.

Please download the free “Zoom” app on your computer, tablet, or mobile device prior to your hearing date and be prepared to answer (i.e., to click the link on the text or e-mail) should the Court send you an e-mail or text seeking a video conference on the date and time your case is set to be heard.

If you’re not able or are unsure how to do this, in-person court appearances are still being allowed on a limited basis. Just go to www.campbellcountycourts.com for more information on how to appear in Court. *Thank you.*

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CAMPBELL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| _____ |) | |
| _____ |) | |
| _____ |) | |
| _____ |) | |
| Petitioner(s), |) | |
| v. |) | No. _____ |
| _____ |) | |
| _____ |) | |
| _____ |) | |
| Respondent(s). |) | |

IN THE MATTER OF:

| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| _____ | DOB: _____ |
| _____ | DOB: _____ |
| _____ | DOB: _____ |

CHILD(REN) UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE

DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT PETITION AND
REQUEST FOR EX PARTE ORDER

Petitioner(s), _____, asks this Court to find the above-named child(ren) dependent and neglected, and to award temporary legal custody of the children to _____. This petition is brought upon the following facts.

I. JURISDICTION & VENUE

This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 37-1-103. Venue is appropriate in this Court pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 37-1-111(a) and/or (c) because the children are residents of or are currently present in this county.

II. PARTIES

1. The mother of the child(ren) is _____
whose full address and telephone number are:

_____.

2. The father of the child _____ is
_____ whose full address and telephone number are:

_____.

3. The father of the child _____ is
_____ whose full address and telephone number are:

_____.

4. The Petitioner (the person asking for custody) is _____ whose full address and telephone number are:

_____.

5. The person who has the child(ren) currently in their physical possession is:

III. DEPENDENCY & NEGLECT

1. The above-named child(ren) are dependent and neglected within the meaning of Tenn. Code Ann. § 37-1-102(b)(12) because _____

[Attach additional pages if necessary]

IV. CUSTODY

- 1. Based on the facts stated above, the children are subject to an immediate threat to the extent that delay for a hearing would be likely to result in severe or irreparable harm.
- 2. There is no less drastic alternative to removal from home that will reasonably protect the children’s health and safety pending a preliminary hearing.

V. BEST INTEREST

It is in the best interest of the children and the public that this proceeding be brought. It is contrary to the welfare of the children to remain in the home of the parents, and the children should be removed from that home and placed in the temporary legal custody of Petitioner(s) for the reasons stated above. The Petitioner(s) can provide an appropriate home for the child(ren) and are appropriate to provide a safe, suitable home for the children because: _____

[Attach additional pages if necessary]

PETITIONER PRAYS:

1. That upon the filing of this Petition, the Court enter an immediate protective custody order taking the above-named children into the protective jurisdiction of this Court and awarding the temporary care and custody of the children to Petitioner(s).

2. That Respondents be served with a copy of this petition, the protective custody order, and a summons to appear and answer.

3. That a Guardian ad Litem be appointed for the children, to be compensated pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 37-1-150 and applicable rules.

4. That the Court consider the need to appoint counsel for the children's parents, who may be incompetent or indigent or as may otherwise be required by law, with compensation to be paid pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 37-1-150 and applicable rules.

5. That the Court hold a preliminary hearing no later than three (3) days excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, but no longer than eighty-four (84) hours after the children's removal to determine whether there is probable cause to believe the child(ren) are dependent and neglected, are subject to an immediate threat to their health or safety, or whether the children may be removed from the jurisdiction; and, whether there is a less drastic alternative to removal of custody from the parent, guardian or custodian pending the final adjudication of this matter.

6. That at a final hearing of this matter, the Court find that the above-named children are dependent and neglected within the meaning of the law; that it is contrary to the children's best interest to remain in home; that reasonable efforts were made to prevent removal of the children or that reasonable efforts were not required, and that there is no less drastic alternative to removal.

7. That based on the findings above, the Court award temporary legal custody of the children to Petitioner(s), with the authority to consent to ordinary or necessary medical, surgical, hospital, educational, institutional, psychiatric or psychological care, subject to further orders of this Court.

8. That the Court inquire into the ability of each parent to pay support and the cost of medical care for the children and enter an order accordingly.

9. That the Court grant any other general relief necessary.

Petitioner

STATE OF TENNESSEE
COUNTY OF CAMPBELL

I, _____, being duly sworn according to law, under penalty of perjury, state that the facts set out in the petition above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Petitioner:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the ____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

My Commission expires: _____