

COMMISSION ON CUSTODY, DIVORCE AND CHILDREN

PUBLIC HEARING FACT SHEET

Welcome. Thank you for participating in this public hearing. The Commission on Custody, Divorce and Children is pleased to receive your comments regarding the problems and issues confronting children involved in the divorce and custody determination process.

The Commission on Custody, Divorce and Children was established by Governor John G. Rowland by Executive Order No. 22 on December 5, 2001. Its purpose is to study the issues of divorce, custody and children in Connecticut and make recommendations on how the State can improve the system. The Executive Order requires that particular emphasis be placed on the following areas:

- How the judiciary, family services and other state agencies can work together more effectively;
- How the state can maximize the collaboration of state agencies and the academic and private communities with expertise in the areas of divorce, custody and children;
- The approaches that need to be emphasized and more effectively used as the state interfaces with children of divorce;
- The major successes and challenges of the family court system from both the national and Connecticut perspectives; and
- The perspective of the advocacy community as to what is in the best interest of children of divorce.

Governor Rowland appointed the following individuals to the Commission: Judge Anne C. Dranginis (Co-Chair), Mr. Thomas C. Foley (Co-Chair), Dr. Jerry Brodlie, Ms. Rebecca Calabrese, Ms. Phyllis Cummings-Texeria, Mr. Pat D'Angelo, Ms. Jill Davies, Mr. Eugene Falco, Mr. Stephen Grant, Judge Herbert Gruendel, Dr. Sidney Horowitz, Dr. Nancy Humphreys, Dr. Marsha Kline-Pruett, Judge C. Ian McLachlan, Judge Lynda B. Munro, Dr. Kenneth S. Robson, Mr. Robert Tompkins, and Ms. Christine M. Whitehead.

These individuals will hear your testimony today, which should consist of no more than five (5) minutes of oral presentation. Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted to the staff person at the registration table.