FAMILY DIVISION SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

ORDER

It appears that foster parents and other substitute care providers to children in protective custody are persons with "a direct interest in the [child's] case" under NRS 432B.430.

It further appears that the best interest of these children is served by foster parents' and substitute care providers' participation in court hearings held under NRS 432B.

It therefore is ORDERED that:

IN THE MATTER OF RELEASE OF COURT

REPORTS TO FOSTER PARENTS AND

FOSTER PARENTS' ATTENDANCE AT

NRS 432B HEARINGS.

- (1) Foster parents and substitute care providers of children in protective custody under NRS 432B, unless otherwise ordered:
- (A) may attend and participate in all court proceedings under NRS 432B concerning the child in their care, except a protective custody hearing pursuant to NRS 432B.470 and an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to NRS 432B.530;
- (B) shall receive a copy of any case plan and case recommendations regarding the child in their care submitted to the Court by a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), Washoe County Child Protective Services, or the Nevada Division of Child and Family Services;
- (C) shall be notified by the agency with legal custody of the child of the date, time, and place of court proceedings under NRS Chapter 432B regarding the child at least 20 days before any regularly scheduled hearing. Notice shall be given as far in advance as possible of any emergency hearing or hearing set on shortened time. Notice may be oral or written. If

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a child's physical placement is changed within 20 days of any hearing, the agency with custody of the child shall notify the new foster parent or substitute care provider of the time and place of the hearing at the time of placement. Notice regarding a child in a group home or institutional care shall be given to the director or his/her designee.

- (2) If the placement of a child has changed one or more times within 60 days of a court proceeding, each foster parent or substitute care provider to the child within that 60 day period shall be treated as a foster parent or substitute care provider to the child for purposes of receiving notices of hearing. Orders issued at or after a hearing shall be provided to current substitute care provider or foster parent.
- (3) No court proceeding under NRS 432B shall be continued due to the unavailability of a foster parent or substitute care provider.
- (4) A foster parent or substitute care giver may, but is not required to, submit a written report to the court in connection with any proceeding under NRS 432B. Any such report shall be delivered to the Juvenile Court at least 10 days before any regularly scheduled hearing and as far ahead as possible of any emergency hearing or hearing set on shortened time. A copy of this report shall be made available by the court to all parties to the proceeding.
- (5) Foster parents and substitute care givers shall keep fully confidential all information released to them pursuant to this order.
- (6) A party to a proceeding under NRS 432B may ask the court, upon a showing of good cause, to order that a foster parent or substitute care giver not receive part or all of any written report, or be excluded from part or all of a court hearing.
- (7) No foster parent or substitute care provider becomes a party to a NRS 432B action by virtue of this order.

(8) The effective date of this order is August 1, 1995.

Dated: May 26, 1995

SCOTT JORDAN DISTRICT JUDGE

CHARLES M. McGEE DISTRICT JUDGE