

ARTICLE TEN SETTLEMENTS

Margaret A. Burt 2012

NOTE: Each respondent may settle their case or go to a fact finding as they wish. Different respondent's cases may be settled in different ways.

WITHDRAW – DSS asks to withdraw the petition and the petition is dismissed without any adjudication

ADMISSION – The respondent admits to the allegations in the petition and makes statements describing having done what is alleged and the court then adjudicates the child(ren) to be neglected or abused or both

PARTIAL ADMISSION – The respondent admits to some but not all of the allegations in the petition and the other allegations are dismissed, on the allegations admitted, the court adjudicates the child(ren) as abused or neglected or both

CONSENT or STIP to ADJUDICATION – The respondent consents to the court adjudicating abuse or neglect but does not specifically admit the acts alleged and the court adjudicates the child(ren) as abused or neglected

SUSPENDED JUDGMENT – The court adjudicates abuse or neglect with the respondents' consent or sometimes by admission but allows a process by which the adjudication could be voided if the respondent completes the required dispositional terms. No placement out of the home can occur with a suspended judgment.

ADJOURNMENT IN CONTEMPLATION OF DISMISSAL (and ACD or ACOD) – All parties agree to a dispositional order without an adjudication of abuse or neglect. If the respondent completes the required dispositional terms the petition is dismissed. No placement out of the home can occur with an "ACD" settlement.