

COMMITTEE NOTE: Subsections (a) through (d) of this section are renumbered as subsections (c) through (f), to allow addition of new subsections (a) and (b). As to corresponding provisions in consent documents, see revised § 5-3B-21(a)(5).

Defined terms: "Include" § 1-101
 "Parent" § 5-3B-01
 "Prospective adoptee" § 5-3B-01

5-3B-16.

(A) Before ruling on [an] A CONSENSUAL adoption petition UNDER § 5-3B-20(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE, a court may order any investigation that the court considers necessary.

(B) BEFORE RULING ON A NONCONSENSUAL ADOPTION PETITION UNDER §§ 5-3B-20(2) AND 5-3B-22 OF THIS SUBTITLE, A COURT SHALL ORDER AN APPROPRIATE AGENCY TO INVESTIGATE AND SUBMIT A REPORT THAT INCLUDES SUMMARIES OF:

(1) THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S EMOTIONAL TIES WITH AND FEELINGS TOWARD THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S PARENTS, THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S SIBLINGS, AND OTHERS WHO MAY AFFECT THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S BEST INTERESTS SIGNIFICANTLY; AND

(2) THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S ADJUSTMENT TO:

- (I) COMMUNITY;
- (II) HOME; AND
- (III) SCHOOL.

COMMITTEE NOTE: This section is amended to renumber the provisions as subsection (a), to amend the provisions to limit their application to consensual adoptions, and to add a new subsection (b), which is derived from former FL § 5-312(c)(2)(ii)1 and 2.

The word "order" is substituted for the former word "request", as more consistent with the duty to consider the report. See proposed FL § 5-3B-22.

Defined terms: "Include" § 1-101
 "Parent" § 5-3B-01
 "Prospective adoptee" § 5-3B-01

5-3B-19. CONSIDERATIONS.

(A) IN GENERAL.

IN RULING ON A PETITION FOR A PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S ADOPTION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, A COURT SHALL CONSIDER:

(1) ALL FACTORS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S BEST INTERESTS; AND