

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

3-819.

(a) (1) Unless a CINA petition under this subtitle is dismissed, the court shall hold a separate disposition hearing after an adjudicatory hearing to determine whether the child is a CINA.

(2) The disposition hearing shall be held on the same day as the adjudicatory hearing unless on its own motion or motion of a party, the court finds that there is good cause to delay the disposition hearing to a later day.

(3) If the court delays a disposition hearing, it shall be held no later than 30 days after the conclusion of the adjudicatory hearing unless good cause is shown.

(b) In making a disposition on a CINA petition under this subtitle, the court shall:

(1) Find that the child is not in need of assistance and, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, dismiss the case; or

(2) Find that the child is in need of assistance and:

(i) Not change the child's custody status; or

(ii) Commit the child to the custody of:

1. A parent, relative, or other individual on terms the court considers appropriate; or

2. A local department, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or both, on terms that the court considers appropriate, including designation of the type of facility where the child is to be placed.

(B-1) (1) IF THE COURT FINDS THAT A CHILD IS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE AND COMMITS THE CHILD TO THE CUSTODY OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT, THE COURT MAY NOTIFY THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, THE SUPERVISOR OF PUPIL PERSONNEL, OR ANY OTHER OFFICIAL DESIGNATED BY THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF THE FACT THAT THE CHILD HAS BEEN FOUND TO BE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE AND HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO THE CUSTODY OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

(2) THE NOTICE MAY NOT INCLUDE ANY ORDER OR PLEADING RELATED TO THE CHILD IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE CASE.

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(d) (1) In making a disposition on a petition under this subtitle, the court may:

(i) Place the child on probation or under supervision in his own home or in the custody or under the guardianship of a relative or other fit person, upon terms the court deems appropriate, including community detention;