

(III) DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE PERMANENCY PLAN;

(IV) MAKE A SPECIFIC FACTUAL FINDING ON WHETHER REASONABLE EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO FINALIZE THE CHILD'S PERMANENCY PLAN AND DOCUMENT THE FINDING;

(V) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, CHANGE THE CHILD'S PERMANENCY PLAN IF A CHANGE WOULD BE IN THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS;

(VI) PROJECT A REASONABLE DATE BY WHICH THE PERMANENCY PLAN WILL BE FINALIZED;

(VII) ENTER ANY ORDER THAT THE JUVENILE COURT FINDS APPROPRIATE TO IMPLEMENT THE PERMANENCY PLAN; AND

(VIII) TAKE ALL OTHER ACTION THAT THE JUVENILE COURT CONSIDERS TO BE IN THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS, INCLUDING ANY ORDER ALLOWED UNDER § 5-324(B)(1)(II) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(9) A JUVENILE COURT MAY APPROVE A PERMANENCY PLAN OTHER THAN ADOPTION OF A CHILD ONLY IF THE JUVENILE COURT FINDS THAT, FOR A COMPELLING REASON, ADOPTION IS NOT IN THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS.

(10) (I) AT A GUARDIANSHIP REVIEW HEARING HELD 1 YEAR OR MORE AFTER A JUVENILE COURT ENTERS AN ORDER FOR GUARDIANSHIP OF A CHILD, THE JUVENILE COURT MAY DESIGNATE AN INDIVIDUAL GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD IF:

1. THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT CERTIFIES THE CHILD'S SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENT WITH THE INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OR ITS AGENT FOR AT LEAST 180 DAYS OR A SHORTER PERIOD ALLOWED BY THE JUVENILE COURT ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT;

2. THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT FILES A REPORT BY A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS, AS TO THE SUITABILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO BE THE CHILD'S GUARDIAN; AND

3. THE JUVENILE COURT MAKES A SPECIFIC FINDING THAT:

A. FOR A COMPELLING REASON, ADOPTION IS NOT IN THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS; AND

B. CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP BY THE INDIVIDUAL IS IN THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS AND IS THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE ALTERNATIVE AVAILABLE.

(II) DESIGNATION OF A GUARDIAN UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH TERMINATES THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT'S LEGAL OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE CHILD.