

IF A JUVENILE COURT DESIGNATES AN INDIVIDUAL AS A CHILD'S GUARDIAN, THE JUVENILE COURT:

(1) MAY RETAIN JURISDICTION UNTIL THE CHILD ATTAINS 18 YEARS OF AGE; OR

(2) ON FINDING FURTHER REVIEW UNNECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE CHILD'S HEALTH AND WELFARE, MAY TERMINATE THE CASE BEFORE THE CHILD ATTAINS 18 YEARS OF AGE.

(C) ADOPTION ORDER.

AN ORDER FOR ADOPTION OF A CHILD TERMINATES THE CHILD'S GUARDIANSHIP CASE.

(D) CLOSING CASE.

ON TERMINATION OF A GUARDIANSHIP CASE, A JUVENILE COURT SHALL CLOSE THE CASE.

COMMITTEE NOTE: This section is substituted for former FL § 5-319(i), which referred only to jurisdiction in equity courts.

Defined terms: "Child" § 5-301

"Guardianship" § 5-301

"Juvenile court" § 1-101

"Local department" § 1-101

5-329. RESERVED.

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PART III. ADOPTION WITHOUT PRIOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.

5-331. PETITION.

(A) AUTHORIZED.

BEFORE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AS TO A CHILD, A PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF THE CHILD MAY BE FILED ONLY AS PROVIDED IN THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) PETITIONER.

(1) WITH THE CONSENT OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT WITH CUSTODY OF A CHILD, ANY ADULT MAY PETITION A JUVENILE COURT UNDER THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE TO ADOPT THE CHILD.

(2) IF A PETITIONER UNDER THIS SECTION IS MARRIED, THE PETITIONER'S SPOUSE SHALL JOIN IN THE PETITION UNLESS THE SPOUSE: