

JUVENILE COURT, CITY & COUNTY OF DENVER, STATE OF COLORADO 520 W. COLFAX, Room 125, Denver, CO 80204	
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2022-02	^ COURT USE ONLY ^
<p align="center"><b>ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DENVER JUVENILE COURT CLERK’S OFFICE TO ASSIGN RPC AND GAL’S TO D&amp;N CASES PRIOR TO FIRST HEARING</b></p>	

**WHEREAS**, in dependency and neglect cases it is important to move the case along as quickly as statute and court operations allow to best provide for the children and families involved in those actions. Denver Juvenile Court presides over all dependency and neglect cases that are filed into the city and county of Denver; and

**WHEREAS**, routinely, Guardian ad Litem’s (“GAL”) or Respondent Parent Counsel (“RPC”) are assigned to parties in these cases, provided the clients qualify for counsel pursuant to the matters in their case and their financial means; and

**WHEREAS**, Denver Juvenile Court has completed the process of moving all of its court filings from physical paper files to an online filing system, meaning all records in Denver Juvenile Court cases are available to parties and counsel via the e-filing system; and

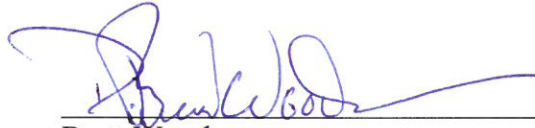
**WHEREAS**, RPC may be appointed to those individuals who qualify for RPC prior to the first hearing in a dependency and neglect action for good cause pursuant to statute. § 19-3-202(1) C.R.S. A GAL may also be appointed prior to the first hearing, “upon the filing of a petition” in a dependency and neglect matter for good cause pursuant to statute. § 19-3-203(1) C.R.S; and

**WHEREAS**, to provide for the best representation possible for children and families involved in dependency and neglect actions in the timeliest manner, Denver Juvenile Court finds good cause and will assign a GAL and/or RPC to parties prior to the first hearing. In doing so, GAL and RPC will be able to access the online case filing to review the case file, contact their clients, and be able to better represent their clients more quickly than if they were assigned to the case at the first hearing.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED**, Denver Juvenile Court Clerk staff may assign a GAL or RPC to clients in a Dependency and Neglect case, provided those clients qualify for counsel, prior to the first hearing pursuant to §19-3-202(1) and §19-3-203(1) C.R.S.

BY THE COURT:

8-11-22



Brett Woods

Presiding Judge, Denver Juvenile Court