



**CIRCUIT COURT FOR QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

200 N Commerce Street  
Centreville, Maryland 21617  
Main: 410-758-1773

**Case Number: C-17-FM-**  
**Other Reference Numbers:**

**PLAINTIFF VS. DEFENDANT**

**ORDER APPOINTING COUNSEL FOR MINOR CHILDREN**

**UPON CONSIDERATION** of the best interests of the children in this matter, it is this day, by the Circuit Court for Queen Anne's County, hereby, **ORDERED**:

1. NAME, Esquire, is appointed to represent the minor children, NAME, born DATE, before the Court in this matter as set forth below.

NAME, Esquire  
FIRM NAME  
ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE ZIP  
(AREA CODE) PHONE

2. **Nagle v. Hooks Attorney.** The attorney is hereby appointed to represent the interests of the minor childRen for the purpose of determining whether the patient/psychologist privilege should be waived or asserted on behalf of the minor children, pursuant to *Nagle v. Hooks*, 296 Md. 123, 460 A.2d 49 (1983).
3. **Attorney for Children.** The attorney is hereby appointed to serve as an:
  - A. **Advocate** for the minor children if the children possess considered judgment regarding the issues before the Court. As advocate, the attorney is charged with advancing the child(ren)'s desires and wishes in the matter before the court.
  - B. **Best Interest** for the minor children if the children does not possess considered judgment regarding the issues before the Court. As a best interest attorney, the attorney shall seek to advance a position which he or she believes to be in the children's best interest.
4. Any attorney appointed under any capacity in this Order is entitled to have access to any and all privileged information regarding the children, without the necessity of a signed release, including: medical, dental, social services, psychiatric/psychological, drug and alcohol treatment, law enforcement and educational records.
5. The parties shall fully cooperate with the attorney appointed herein in the performance of the duties instructed by this Court.
6. **On or before DATE**, each party, or counsel, shall provide to the attorney appointed herein copies of all pleadings and papers filed in the above action and any correspondence between the parties or counsel for the parties.

7. ***On or before DATE***, each party is to provide the attorney appointed herein the names and known addresses and telephone numbers of any and all mental health providers who have evaluated or treated the children and anyone else with whom the children may have a privilege pursuant to any statute.
8. The attorney appointed herein shall not have *ex parte* communications with the Court. In addition, the attorney-client privilege shall be respected at all times. As such, the attorney appointed herein may not speak to represented parties without the prior permission of their respective attorneys, and attorneys for the parties may not speak with the children without the prior permission of the attorney appointed herein.
9. Absent further order of this Court, the attorney appointed herein shall not be required to participate in any appeal in this matter, and this appointment will terminate upon conclusion of trial.
10. PARTY and PARTY are hereby directed to pay the appointed attorney for deposit into the attorney's trust account the sum of **\$0.00 each** *on or before DATE*, as an initial contribution toward the attorney's fees in performing these services.
11. The attorney shall not provide services with a value in excess of **\$0.00** without first reporting same to the Court. The attorney shall not charge a fee which exceeds **\$0.00** per hour. A final allocation of fees will be determined by the Court at the hearing on the merits of the case, or upon motion of children's counsel.
12. The Clerk will send copies of this Order to:
  - Attorney appointed herein
  - Parties
  - Counsel for the parties
  - Family Services Coordinator

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Lynn Knight, Judge  
Circuit Court for Queen Anne's County