

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR,
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN THE INTEREST OF:

DIV: 3/7

[NAME OF CHILD(REN)]

CASE: DP

A Minor child.
_____ /

MOTION TO ALLOW ASSISTANCE OF THERAPY ANIMAL

COMES NOW, the Mother/Father/State/GAL, and requests this Court enter an Order allowing the use of a therapy animal, pursuant to Florida Statute 92.55(4), and in support thereof alleges:

1. This case is set for a Trial/Evidentiary Hearing/Motion Hearing on [date].
2. The testimony of [name], a child under the age of 16, [or who has an intellectual disability], is indispensable to the resolution of the issues before this Court.
3. Pursuant to Florida Statute 92.55(4):

The court may set any other conditions it finds just and appropriate when taking the testimony of a child, including the use of a service or therapy animal that has been evaluated and registered according to national standards, in any proceeding involving a sexual offense. When deciding whether to permit a child to testify with the assistance of a registered service or therapy animal, the court shall consider the age of the child, the interests of the child, the rights of the parties to the litigation, and any other relevant factor that would facilitate the testimony by the child.

4. The use of a Therapy Animal would facilitate the testimony of the child because [the child is a victim of child/sexual abuse; the child has never testified in a courtroom; the therapy animal would help the child feel safe].
5. The Mother's Attorney, [name], has consulted with his/her client, and the mother does/does not object to the entry of such an Order.
6. The Father's Attorney, [name], has consulted with his/her client, and the father does/does not object to the entry of such an Order.
7. The Guardian ad Litem, [name], does/does not object to the entry of such an Order.
8. The attorney for the State of Florida does/does not object to the entry of such an Order.

WHEREFORE, the Mother/Father/State/GAL respectfully requests this Court enter an Order allowing the use of a Therapy Animal to facilitate the testimony of the child, [name].

[Attorney Name]

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was sent this _____ day of _____, 2014 to:

[Attorney Name]

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ORDER TO ALLOW ASSISTANCE OF THERAPY ANIMAL

THIS MATTER came before the Court for consideration of the Mother's/Father's/
State's/GAL's Motion to Allow Assistance of Therapy Animal. Having reviewed the Motion,
and being otherwise duly advised of the premises, it is hereby

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that:

_____ The Motion is GRANTED. The use of a Therapy Animal shall be permitted to
facilitate the testimony of the child, [name], at the Trial/Evidentiary Hearing/
Motion Hearing currently set for _____, 2014.

_____ The Motion is DENIED.

DONE AND ORDERED, in Chambers, at Orlando, Orange County, Florida, this _____ day of
_____, 2014.

[Judge's Name]
Circuit Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was sent this _____
day of _____, 2014 to:

Judicial Assistant