

Advocacy Review (AR) Template Introduction

Welcome to the updated AR template for the 12th Circuit!

Why are AR meetings important? AR meetings are extremely important for a couple of reasons. The meetings allow the GAL to update the attorney with all the information the GAL has accumulated, give the attorney an opportunity to explain any legal issues to the GAL, help identify areas where follow-up is needed.

Why did we change the AR form? We changed the AR form so that it more closely follows the JR report!

It seems that this is more work than the old AR form. Yes, but when you are finished with this AR form your JR report will be almost complete!

Why is this important? Because our reports are a very important part of our advocacy. Everything we do culminates with our report to the Court. The better our report, the better our advocacy!

Directions: Fill out the AR form for your case. To put the name of the case in the header, simply double-click the top of the page. When finished, click on the body of the page. Fill out everything you can on the front page and then answer the questions that follow. You will see that the questions follow the format of your JR report. When you are finished with your AR meeting you will have most of the information you will need for your JR report!

TIP: Always begin with the oldest child and then follow from oldest to youngest.

Here is some standard language used in the final JR report. You can work this into your AR:

Case plan section: The wording on your JR report should be the same or substantially similar to this example:

The current case plan goal is adoption, with a goal date of March 15, 2017. It is in ___'s best interest for the Court to continue this goal and the Department take whatever legal steps necessary to effectuate this goal as soon as possible.

Other section: This section should always start with the following sentence (except for children who are already TPR'd):

The Guardian ad Litem's recommendations are based on the parents' compliance and other best interest factors.