

**TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING 'GOOD-BYE VISITS'**

PURPOSE

A 'good-bye visit' is held between the child and his/her birth family after the termination of parental rights.

Prior to the Good-bye Visit

A. Worker meets with the child to:

- a. Let the child know that the visit can be ended if he/she feels it is becoming unsafe;
- b. Describe where the visit will take place and the general order of the visit;
- c. Set up a support plan for the child for after the visit with caregiver.

B. Worker meets with the parents (and others attending the visit) to:

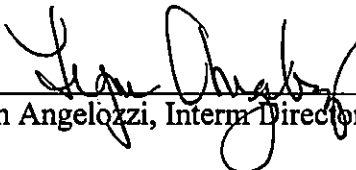
- a. Let the parent know they are able to write a letter to their child or bring photo albums or other items child may want;
- b. Describe where the visit will take place and the general order of the visit;
- c. Help the parent(s) identify support systems for themselves, including transportation to the visit, counseling after the visit, etc.;
- d. Decide on the 'rules' everyone will follow during the visit.
- e. Ask the parent's permission to video tape the visit and take pictures so that both the child and parent have copies.

C. The Rules and General Order of the Good-bye Visit

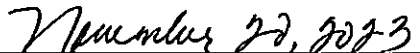
- a. A letter is sent to the parent(s) scheduling the good-bye visit. The parent is scheduled to arrive early. If he/she does not come, the visit is **not** rescheduled.
- b. Good-bye visits must be scheduled and take place no later than two weeks after the date the agency receives a judgment entry granting permanent custody. Exceptions to this time frame should only be granted by the supervisor responsible for the case in extenuating circumstances and the visit should take place as close to the two-week period as possible. The failure of a case manager to planfully schedule the good-bye visit within the outlined parameters is not an extenuating circumstance to justify a deviation from the two-week requirement.
- c. TCJFS is always the site for a good-bye visit. Any exception must be prior approved by the supervisor.
- d. A good-bye visit should last 30 to 60 minutes, no longer. Caseworker must be present for visit.

D. After the Visit

- a. All videotapes are reviewed by the worker or Family Service Aide prior to being given to the child or parent.



Lynn Angelozzi, Intern Director



Effective Date