

Family In Need of Services (FINS)

Notice to Petitioner (Parents/Guardians)

All parent/guardians seeking to file a FINS Petition with the Court must provide and agree to the following:

- FINS Petitions can be filed for a juvenile who is habitually and without justification absent from school while subject to compulsory school attendance, habitually disobedient to the reasonable and lawful commands of his or her parent, guardian, or custodian (excluding delinquent offenses), and/or has absented himself or herself from the juvenile's home without sufficient cause, permission, or justification.
- Parent/Guardian shall provide any available documentation to support claims made in the FINS Petition. Example: A copy of a Police Report filed on a juvenile that has runaway.
- All FINS Petitions will be reviewed by a supervisor to determine if it meets the criteria for a FINS case.
- Completed FINS Petition including the name of the Petitioner (not just the entity name), demographic information of juvenile and parent, and reason for filing the FINS Petition.
- FINS Petitions cannot be filed for custody cases.
- FINS Petitions cannot be filed for behavior that constitutes delinquent offenses. Any such cases will be referred to the respective City Attorney's Office or the Prosecutor's Office.
- FINS Petitions cannot be filed for school behavior.
- Parent/Guardian must provide an explanation of what the desired outcome of the case is.
- Any parent/guardian that files a FINS Petition understands that the Court has the discretion to order any services it deems appropriate for the juvenile and/or parent/guardian and that they will be required to attend, participate, and complete any services ordered. Such services include but are not limited to parenting classes for the parent/guardian, counseling for the juvenile and/or parent, anger management classes, life skills classes, etc.
- Failure to attend said services can result in the Court closing the FINS case at the Court's discretion.
- No juvenile will be detained for violating household chores or tasks. There will be no FINS Show Causes or Reviews set to address complaints filed for these behaviors.
- The Court may impose fines and fees in the amount of \$60 for Supervision Fees, \$50 for Drug Testing Fees, and \$35 for Court Costs for opening a FINS case.

