

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **My Thoughts for the Judge**

- The judge is really interested in what you have to say.
- This will help you give your opinion to the judge and talk about things that matter to you.
- You will need to hand-in your report to your guardian *ad litem* **14 days before your hearing**. That will allow your guardian *ad litem* a chance to read your report before they give it to the court.
- You can complete this report even if you won't be at your hearing. Your guardian *ad litem* will make sure the judge gets it. That way, the judge will still know your thoughts and opinions.
- If you are going to be at your hearing you can also use this report to help you as you talk to the judge.
- The court experience may seem like a lot of information to handle, or may be an anxious process. You may have concerns about going to court, whether it is seeing someone you don't want to see or hearing something you are not ready to hear. The goal of this is to help you think about the important parts of your life before you get to court so that it isn't so overwhelming during court. If it would be easier on you, you can even read straight from your report.
- Your opinion and this report are also very important in helping you influence what happens in court. This doesn't guarantee that you will get what you want, but it helps the judge to understand what your thoughts are on the issue.
- Please remember this report will be shared with all the attorneys involved in the hearing, including parents' attorneys and family members' attorneys. The attorneys can tell the people they represent what the report says, but they are not to give them a copy. **If you are nervous about putting something in your report, please talk to your guardian *ad litem*, caseworker, or CASA.**

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### My Thoughts for the Judge

This is your opportunity to share information with the court. Your opinion counts! This may be presented to the court to help the judge understand more about how you feel.

#### **Family and Permanent Connections:**

1. Are you able to visit with your parents, brothers and sisters or other relatives? If you are, how do the visits go?

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	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>I don't know</b>
If you don't see them, do you want to?			

2. Is there anyone in particular you would like to see- family or friend? Please tell us who they are and where they live, if you know.

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3. Who do you spend most of your time with?

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	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>I don't know</b>
Do you feel comfortable with these friends or adults?			

4. How important are these people in your life?

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**Your Needs and Concerns:**

1. Is there anything that you need?

(Clothes, glasses, special equipment for activities, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Are there any concerns or issues you are dealing with at this time?

(School, family, friends, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Education:**

<b>Where do you go to school?</b>	
<b>What grade are you in?</b>	
<b>What is your favorite subject?</b>	
<b>Do you have a favorite teacher?</b>	
<b>Do you like school?</b>	
<b>What do you want to do after school (college, trade school, etc.)?</b>	

1. How are you doing in school? How are your grades?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What are your education plans for the next 6 months? Do you need anything to help you in school?

(Tutor, mentor, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Health:**

1. Do you have any specific medical or dental needs right now?

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	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>I don't know</b>
Have you been to the doctor in the last 6 months?			
Have you been to the dentist in the last year?			

**Life Plans/Career/Work:**

1. What kinds of work are you interested in doing as you get older?

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2. What are two things you would like to learn before you start living on your own?

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3. What are some things you would like to do or accomplish in your lifetime?

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	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Are you currently working?		
Do you need help finding a job?		

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**Hobbies:**

1. What do you enjoy doing in your free time? Do you have any hobbies?

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2. Are you involved in any extra-curricular activities? What are they?

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**Court:**

1. If you chose not to go to court, what was your reason?

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2. What concerns do you have about going to court?

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3. What else do you want the judge to know about you, your life, and what you want?

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4. What else do you want the judge to understand about you?

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Is there anything you would like to tell the judge that you are not comfortable saying in open court?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>