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IT'S A GOOD OPTION FOR *AT-RISK YOUTH* and *CHINS PETITIONS*

BENEFITS of Mediation:

- Meet with a highly skilled professional mediator
- Reduces time spent in court
- Option to keep your legal petition in place while the court monitors your mediated agreements
- Potential for better results/outcomes
- Your family will make the final decisions for your family, not a Judge
- Still have access to all the benefits of court case management referrals and resources without court hearings
- It's FREE!

To **schedule mediation or for questions about mediation and other benefits** contact the At-Risk Youth Case manager:

Seattle At-Risk Youth Case Manager:

Karen Chapman

karen.chapman@kingcounty.gov

206-477-4946

Kent Maleng Regional Justice Center At-Risk Youth Case Manager:

Amy Andree

amy.andree@kingcounty.gov

206-477-2759

At-Risk Youth Petition Filing Instructions

Filing Instructions

Parents may file petitions with Superior Court to ask for assistance with children who are running away, using drugs or alcohol, or are generally out of the control of their parents and are a danger either to themselves or others. The petition may be obtained here or in person at the Superior Court Clerk's Office (Clark Children & Family Justice Center 1211 E. Alder Street, Seattle) or (Maleng Regional Justice Center, 401 4th Ave N., Kent). **Parents must contact Family Reconciliation Services (FRS) for an At-Risk Youth petition Family Assessment that must be filed along with the petition paperwork.**

Steps for filing:

Step 1:
Contact Family Reconciliation Services (FRS) for an ARY petition Family Assessment: 1-800-609-8764. Select the option for child abuse neglect and tell the intake worker you are calling for an ARY petition Family Assessment.

Step 2:
File your completed petition paperwork and the FRS family assessment with the Clerk's Office. You will be given a date and time for the fact-finding hearing. The Clerk's Office will provide you with two completed copies of the filed petition paperwork. If you need an **interpreter** for your court hearing please inform the Clerk when filing your petition.
Note: Clerk's Office is closed for lunch from 12:15 – 1:15 M-F.

Step 3:
The parent must ensure the youth is properly served with one of the copies of the completed petition packet **no less than one week before the court date.** The server must be at least 18 years old and a nonparty to the case. The server must complete the Declaration of Service included in the petition packet which you must bring to the Fact-Finding hearing to verify service.

Step 4:
Attend the Fact-Finding Hearing with your child. The judicial officer will decide whether your child is, according to the law, an at-risk youth. If the petition is granted the court will order your child, and possibly you, to take some action.

If you have questions about filing a petition or prefiling case management support services, contact the case manager assigned to your child's school district:

Karen Chapman: 206-477-4946 or karen.chapman@kingcounty.gov:
Seattle, Vashon, Bellevue, Issaquah, Lake Washington, Mercer Island, Northshore, Riverview, Shoreline, Skykomish, & Snoqualmie school districts

Amy Andree: 206-477-2759 or amy.andree@kingcounty.gov:
Kent, Renton, Tukwila, Tahoma, Highline, Federal Way, Auburn & Enumclaw school districts

Types of At-Risk Youth Hearings:

Fact-Finding Hearing:

The first hearing for ARY petitions. The judicial officer will decide whether your child is, according to the law, an at-risk youth. At your hearing, the judicial officer will hear from you and your child about your case. You should be prepared to explain why you would like this petition to be granted, what behaviors your child has been engaging in (including dates and times when the youth left the home without permission). **It is helpful to come prepared to address your child's curfew, school attendance and grades, services you have tried in the past, and services you would like to try, and what you would like the court to include in the order.** Your child will have an attorney at this hearing. This attorney will be representing your child's wishes, which may not be the same as your wishes. There is no cost to a family for the child's attorney. If the petition is granted the court will order your child, and possibly you, to take some action.

Review Hearing:
Two review hearings will automatically be set at the Fact-Finding hearing if the court grants the ARY petition. At the review hearings, the judicial officer will hear from you and your child about the progress being made on what the court has ordered. Changes may be made to the court order based on what the judicial officer hears during the hearing. **There would be no consequences for non-compliance unless a parent filed a motion for contempt.**

Contempt Hearing:
If you believe that your child is not obeying the court order, and you would like the court to take action, you must file a motion for a contempt hearing; the case manager will assist you with this filing. At the contempt hearing, the judicial officer will decide whether the child has violated the court order. If the youth is found to be in noncompliance, the court may impose consequences to address the violation. The petitioner can speak with the case manager to explore a potential consequence request.

ARY FAQs:

Does my youth qualify?
An at-risk youth is defined by statute as a child under the age of 18 who meets at least one of the following three requirements:

1. Is absent from home for at least 72 consecutive hours without parental consent; OR
2. Is beyond parental control such that his/her behavior endangers the health, safety, or welfare of the child or any other person; OR
3. Has a substance abuse problem for which there are no pending criminal charges relating to substance abuse.

Who can file a petition?
Only the parent of the child may file the ARY petition. "Parent" is defined as the person(s) having legal right to custody of the child and includes custodian or guardian.

Are there any costs?
There is no cost to file a petition, to obtain the FRS Family Assessment, nor for the child's assigned attorney. The parent **shall be** financially responsible for costs related to the court-ordered plan (counseling, drug/alcohol evaluations/treatment, mental health evaluations, etc.).

Are there attorneys involved?
The child is automatically assigned a court-appointed attorney for all hearings at no cost to the family. Under the ARY statute, a parent is not entitled to a court-appointed attorney, regardless of financial need. A parent always has the right to obtain an attorney at their own expense.

Are interpreters available if someone does not speak English?
Yes, if a party needs an interpreter for this case, tell the Clerk's Office staff at the time of filing the petition. King County Superior Court will pay for all interpreter services.

What if I am unable to serve my child no less than a week before the ARY fact-finding date?
Contact the case manager for options.

What kinds of things can the Court order?
See "Relief Requested" in the ARY petition (page 4, section II) for list of what can be court ordered. Some examples include school attendance, curfew, participate in behavioral health evaluations and services.

What kinds of things can the Court NOT order?

- Inpatient placement in treatment facilities
- Taking medications
- Out of home placement

What happens if a party does not follow the court order?
A contempt motion may be filed by a parent or a child. If the court makes a finding of contempt at a ***contempt hearing***, the court may impose coercive sanctions, such as research papers or community service hours, or other interventions to address behaviors. A parent will be assisted by the case manager in processing the contempt motion to set a contempt hearing.

What should we do if our situation is urgent/crisis and we cannot wait for a court date?

IMMINENT DANGER: **CALL "911"**
Crisis: **King County 24 Hour Crisis-Line: 1-866-4CRISIS OR "988"**

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

CASE ASSIGNMENT DESIGNATION and CASE INFORMATION COVER SHEET

Juvenile and Mental Health

CASE NUMBER: _____

CASE CAPTION: In Re _____

☐ Seattle area, defined as

All of King County except for the areas included in the Kent Case Assignment Area

☐ Kent area, defined as

All of the areas of King County using the following postal zip codes: 98001, 98002, 98003, 98010, 98022, 98023, 98025, 98031, 98032, 98038, 98042, 98047, 98048, 98051, 98054, 98055, 98056, 98057, 98058, 98059, 98092, 98146, 98148, 98158, 98166, 98168, 98188, 98198

Please mark one of the boxes below:

☐ Mental Illness Family (MIF)- Seattle Only

☐ At Risk Youth (ARY)

☐ Child in Need of Services (CHINS)

☐ Dependency (DEP)

☐ Developmental Disability (DDP)

☐ Extended Foster Care – Dependency (EFC)

☐ Guardianship Foster Children (GFC)

☐ Reinstatement of Parental Rights (RPR)

☐ Termination of Parental Rights (TER)

☐ Truancy (TRU)

I certify that this case meets the case assignment criteria, described in King County LJuCR 3.2(c)

_____ _____

Signature of person/Attorney starting the case Date

_____

WSBA Number

REV 11.18.2026

IMPORTANT-PLEASE READ!

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT ARY PETITIONS

It is important that you fill out everything requested on the petition. Make sure you check <u>all</u> boxes that are requested, and appropriate for you and your child.

Please pay special attention to the following sections:

<u>1.4 Other Juvenile Court matters</u>
Please check all boxes that apply to your child, including whether or not your child is involved in an active dependency case. A ***"Dependency"*** means that the State of Washington (through DSHS, CPS, or the Prosecuting or Attorney General's Office)
has filed a court action to remove this child from his/her parents.

<u>1.8 Alternatives to court have been attempted…..</u>
You must list things you have tried to do to help your child prior to requesting court intervention.

<u>1.10 The allegation that the child is an At Risk Youth is based on the following facts:</u> Please write down why you think your child meets the legal criteria for being an At Risk Youth under **RCW 13.32A.031(1)**, as defined in section 1.5 of the petition.

<u>On the last page:</u>

<u>II. RELIEF REQUESTED</u>
Please mark all boxes that are appropriate for the relief (actions) that you are requesting from the Court. The judicial officer will take these into consideration for any orders that result from this petition. If you would like the court to order something that isn't listed, please write it down in the last box.

<u>III. CERTIFICATION</u>
Parties filing this petition must sign and date it before filing it with the Clerk's office.

INFORMATION FORM FOR ARY/CHINS PARTIES

Required by 7.105.115

Information will be entered into a database available only to the courts. Information is required only for those individuals/parties that will be attending future court hearings.

Youth:

First Name: _____
Middle Name: _____
Last Name: _____
Address: Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip Code: _____
Home/Cell Telephone: _____
Work Phone: _____
Sex: _____ Race: _____ Hair Color: _____ Eye Color: _____
Date of Birth: _____

Parent 1/Legal Guardian (LGN) 1: Relationship to Youth: _____

Relationship to other Parent/LGN: _____

First Name: _____
Middle Name: _____
Last Name: _____
Address: Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip Code: _____
Home/Cell Telephone: _____
Work Phone: _____
Sex: _____ Race: _____ Hair Color: _____ Eye Color: _____
Date of Birth: _____

Parent 2/Legal Guardian (LGN) 2: Relationship to Youth: _____

Relationship to other

Parent/LGN:_____ First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Address: Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Home/Cell Telephone:_____ Work Phone: _____

Sex:_____ Race: _____Hair Color:_____ Eye Color: _____

Date of Birth:_____

Superior Court of Washington
County of King

In the Interest of:

_____

DOB_____

Petition for At-Risk Youth

I. BASIS

I represent to the court the following:

1.1 Petitioner(s) is/are:

- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Guardian of the above-named child
- ☐ Custodian of the above-named child
- ☐ Legal Custodial Parent
- ☐ Legal Custodial Parent

1.2 Information about the child:

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

Legal Address: _____

_____

Phone Number: _____

1.3 Information about Parent #1:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Information about Parent #2:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Marital status of parents: _____

Information about the legal custodian or guardian

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

1.4 Other active Juvenile Court matters:

☐ The child is not the subject of a dependency proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW.

☐ A Child In Need of Services (CHINS) petition involving this child is active.

☐ A Truancy petition involving this child is active.

☐ An offender (criminal) matter involving this child is active.

1.5 The child is an at-risk youth, as defined in RCW 13.32A.031(1), in that the child:

☐ a. Has been absent from the home for more than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours without parental consent: or

☐ b Is beyond parental control such that the child's behavior endangers the health, safety, and welfare of the child or another person; or

☐ c. Has a substance abuse problem and there are no pending criminal charges related to the substance abuse.

1.6 ☐ The petitioner has the right to legal custody of the child.

1.7 ☐ **Court intervention and supervision are necessary to assist the petitioner in maintaining the care, custody, and control of the child.**

1.8 ☐ **Alternatives to court intervention have been attempted and include the following:**_____

_____

1.9 ☐ **A family assessment has been completed by Family Reconciliation Services (FRS) and verification thereof is attached to this petition.**

☐ **FRS was unable to complete the family assessment within two working days of the petitioner's request.**

1.10 ☐ **The allegation that the child is an At-Risk Youth is based on the following facts:**

II. RELIEF REQUESTED

The petitioner(s) request(s) that the following recommendations, pursuant to 13.32A.196 be considered by the Court for inclusion in the dispositional order to assist in maintaining the care, custody, and control of the child.

☒ Regularly attend school with no unexcused absences, tardies, or skipped classes.

☐ Obtain a ☐ drug and alcohol evaluation ☐ psychiatric ☐ psychological ☐ mental health evaluation. Follow treatment recommendations. (Does not include inpatient treatment.)

☐ Enroll in, participate, and attend ☐ family counseling ☐ individual counseling ☐ anger management counseling ☐ Youth to parent/family violence counseling and attend all scheduled appointments unless excused by the counselor.

☒ Do not use nor possess non-prescribed drugs, alcohol nor tobacco.

☐ Obey curfew of _____ PM Sunday - Thursday and _____ PM Friday and Saturday. Have parents/guardians permission regarding whereabouts, hours and activities, at all times and provide telephone number and/or address at which youth can be reached at all times.

☒ Reside with ☐ parent or ☐ approved placement and follow home rules.

☐ Have no contact with _____.

☐ Do not allow others in home without parental permission.

☐ Do not be ☐ physically or ☐ verbally abusive ☐ or cause any property damage.

☐ Submit to random urinalysis (UA) ☐ as needed for evaluation or treatment ☐ upon parent's request.

☐ Pursue employment opportunities.

☐ Either party may request a _____ minute "cooling off" period from an argument. During that time the parties will not discuss the issue with each other. The youth shall not leave the premises during the break and the parties shall resume discussing the issues at the end of the break.

☐ Other conditions of supervision:

_____

_____

_____

III. CERTIFICATION

I/We certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the above information is true and correct.

Signed this ____day of _____, 20__, at _____, Washington

_____ _____

Print Name of Petitioner Signature of Petitioner

_____ _____

Print Name of Petitioner Signature of Petitioner

Superior Court of Washington
County of King

In the Interest of:	**NOTICE AND ORDER TO APPEAR FOR HEARING ON AT-RISK YOUTH PETITION**
_____	
DOB _____	

STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

Name of Child: _____

Present Address: _____

. _____

Phone Number: _____

☐ Whereabouts unknown

I. NOTICE AND ORDER TO APPEAR FOR HEARING

1.1 You are notified that an **At-Risk Youth** petition, a copy of which is attached, was filed with this court

1.2 **YOU ARE DIRECTED TO APPEAR AT A HEARING TO BE HELD**:

On_____ **at** _____ **a.m. / p.m.,**

At King County Superior Court, Juvenile Division,

☐ Clark Children &Family Justice Center
1211 E. Alder Street, Courtroom 1A
Seattle, WA 98122

☐ Maleng Regional Justice Center
401 4th Ave North, Courtroom 1F
Kent, WA 98032

And show cause why the relief requested in the At-Risk Youth Petition should not be granted.

FAILURE TO APPEAR IN COURT IN RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE AND ORDER TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST

1.3 The purpose of the hearing is to hear and consider evidence on the petition, and decide whether the petition should be granted.

1.4 If you do not appear THE COURT MAY ENTER AN ORDER IN YOUR ABSENCE finding the above-named child to be an at-risk youth in need of Court supervision

1.5 It is the petitioner's responsibility to have the above-named person served by someone other than the petitioner who is over the age of eighteen, and to provide proof of such service at the hearing.

II. ADVICE OF RIGHTS AND CONSEQUENCES

2.1 A lawyer will be appointed for the child. The Department of Public Defense (DPD) shall appoint counsel within 72 hours of receipt of this petition and shall notify the court at least one court day prior to the hearing if DPD deems it is unable to comply with this court order.

2.2 The parent (legal custodian or guardian of the child) has a right to be represented by a lawyer at the parent's own expense. The parent is not entitled to a court appointed attorney.

2.3 All parties have the right to present evidence at the fact-finding hearing.

2.4 Parties are advised that if the Court approved the petition, the Court will enter an order requiring the child to reside in the home of his/her parent or an out-of-home placement approved by the parent. The Court may also enter orders requiring the child to meet certain conditions of supervision, including participation in services, and requiring the parent(s) to participate in services.

2.5 The parent(s) will not be relieved of financial responsibility for the child. In addition, the parents are financially responsible for all costs related to the court ordered plan. This may include outpatient drug and alcohol treatment, and/or mental health/psychiatric/psychological evaluations and treatment. If the Court approves an out-of-home placement, the Court will inquire into the ability of the parents to contribute to the child's support. However, payments shall not be required of a parent who has both opposed the placement and continuously sought reconciliation with, and return of, the child.

2.6 The petition must be filed in the county where the parent resides.

2.7 If a Child In Need of Services (CHINS) petition has also been filed regarding the above-named child, the child and the parent have the right to request a hearing to review the current placement pending the hearing set in paragraph 1.2.

Dated: _____ _____

JUDGE/COMMISSIONER

☐ Petitioner(s) waive(s) right to a hearing within 10 days of filing this petition because the child is currently living at home or in placement.

_____ _____

Signature of Petitioner Signature of Petitioner

☐ Petitioner(s) waive(s) right to a hearing within 5 calendar days of filing this petition because the child's whereabouts are currently unknown

_____ _____

Signature of Petitioner Signature of Petitioner

FAILURE TO APPEAR IN COURT IN RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE AND ORDER TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST, OR MAY RESULT IN AN ORDER BEING ENTERED APPROVING THE PETITION AND PLACING THE CHILD IN AN OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT.

IF THE PETITIONER FAILS TO APPEAR FOR ANY COURT HEARING, THE COURT MAY DISMISS THE CASE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE.

Superior Court of Washington
County of King

In the Interest of:

_____

DOB _____

No.

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

_____ **declares as follows:**
(Print name of server)

On _____ **, I served** _____ **with the following:**
(Date)

☐ At-Risk Youth (ARY) PETITION and NOTICE and order to show cause for hearing filed on _____ .
(Date)

☐ Child In Need of Services (CHINS) PETITION and NOTICE and order to show cause for hearing filed on
_____ .
(Date)

☐ Motion and order to show cause regarding CONTEMPT for violation of an ARY/CHINS order filed on
_____ .
(Date)

☐ ARY/CHINS motion for CONTINUANCE and order of the court filed on _____ .
(Date)

☐ Other _____ filed on _____ .
(Title of Documents) (Date)

Note: **This document properly signed constitutes proof of service. The petitioning party or moving party shall retain this document and present it to the court on the date of said hearing. The use of a paid process server is not required. The server must be a nonparty who is over the age of eighteen.**

I am NOT a party of record in this matter, I am over the age of 18, and state that I served the aforementioned documents by:

☐ delivering to and leaving with him/her personally in King County, Washington a copy of said documents;

I DECLARE under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this _____day of_____, 20___, in _____ , Washington.

_____ _____

Signature of Server Print Name of Server

Note: **This document properly signed constitutes proof of service. The petitioning party or moving party shall retain this document and present it to the court on the date of said hearing. The use of a paid process server is not required. The server must be a nonparty who is over the age of eighteen.**