



SOCIAL STUDY SOLUTIONS

**INFORMED CONSENT & RETAINER AGREEMENT
FOR CHILD CUSTODY EVALUATION**

By signing this form, I am stating that I have read and understand the purpose of the evaluation. I understand that an evaluation report will be completed in the best interest of my/the child/children and will only be shared with the court and its officers upon its completion in an effort to promote resolution of conflicts between the parents and/or for families going through an adoption. Though confidentiality cannot be promised, especially when contested custody cases do not settle upon completion of the report, it is hoped that the report in its full form will not be shared directly with the families in order to protect the child/children in this case and in an effort to do no further damage to the family and/or parental relationships. Rather, it is hoped that the observations, evaluations, and recommendations outlined by the evaluator will help promote forward movement of the current situation.

Fees for Evaluation

Base fee for a child custody evaluation \$2,500.00 per party. All paperwork that requires a signature and/or notary along with fees in total (as assigned) are due before an appointment will be reserved. This fee covers commute time to your home (within 50 miles from the office), 3 hours of interview time, a 30-minute final client phone conference, some collateral source contact, review of reference letters, and some other review of other requested documentation for both parties. **Extra fees apply to those parties residing out of the DFW Metroplex, time spent in your home in an excess of 3 hours, excessive paperwork, as well as for those requiring EXPEDITED services that are NOT included in the above total.** Those submitting content in excess of what could be held in a 1/2 inch binder will be charged additional fees to review, as well as those requiring additional status type reports or home visits. In the event that extra fees occur, I will inform you of other charges and the card on file will be charged. **Fees of \$350 an hour will be assessed for extra work performed.** Please note, **EXCESSIVE FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

EXAMPLE ONLY

Settlement Prior to Conclusion or Early Termination

If at any time during the course of the evaluation, either the child in custody or the child's display or the parent(s) mutually agree, with the court's consent to early termination of the evaluation, it will be discontinued, and court documentation with a Judge's signature will be needed to cease such order for an evaluation. **Fees of \$350 an hour will be assessed for work performed and refunds will be processed due at the end of the month following receipt of a written statement from the court that the evaluation has been cancelled.** If even in such cases, should either the requesting party or the evaluator, no refunds will be available.

Your Specific Fees will be designated by your court order.

Fees for Appearances and Depositions

I also understand that the above fee does not include court appearances and/or depositions. If either party wishes for me to testify on behalf of their case, I understand that the evaluator requires 10 business days' notice to plan accordingly. **The fee for such service \$2,000 for a full day.** Fees are to be obtained 10 days before the requested appearance date and both parties are expected to partake in paying half of such fees or are to split fees in the same manner that fees were assigned for the evaluation by the ordering Judge. Full fees, however, will be due to the requesting party or the party whose attorney has issued a subpoena for the appearance if there is an argument as to who is responsible to pay for such appearance, and such fees can later be worked out through the court. Should full fees of \$2,000 not be received before an appearance, I understand that regardless of the issuance of a subpoena the evaluator may choose to appear telephonically or not at all. At least 3-business days' notice is also required to cancel and/or reschedule a court appointment or to relinquish the need for an expert at a court hearing or deposition without being charged. **Fees of \$350 an hour will be assessed for work performed** with regard to preparation of a court appearance, even if it is later cancelled.

Consent

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have received and read the informational letter directing me on how to proceed with my child custody or adoption evaluation. I have also read and understand that Jessica L. Rogers, MA, LPC is an independent evaluator with Social Study Solutions and that this contract is only with her, and not any other individual. I authorize Jessica L. Rogers to complete the evaluation and provide recommendations to the court and agree to the rules, fees, and guidelines set forth above.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Notary: _____

Date: _____