

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF _____ COUNTY, TENNESSEE

STATE OF TENNESSEE)
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN’S SERVICES)
Petitioner) Case # _____
IN THE MATTER OF:)
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, DOB XXXXXXXX)
Children Under 18 Years of Age)

JOINT MOTION TO FIND LACK OF REASONABLE EFFORTS

Comes now _____, Guardian ad litem and _____, Attorney
for Respondent, _____ and state the following:

1. On the 20th of August, 2023, the above child was removed from the custody of the parents and placed at _____.
2. A Clinical Interview and Alcohol & Drug Assessment was completed by Dr. _____ on 08/27/23. Dr. _____ found that the minor child had been using crystal methamphetamine intravenously and snorting it. The child was diagnosed with crystal methamphetamine use disorder, moderate, Cannabis use disorder, Mild, ADHD, along with a parent-child relational problem.
3. The Guardian ad Litem and Attorney for Respondent met with DCS and the Foster Care Review Board on 10/19/2023, and both expressed their concerns to the Foster Care Review Board that the child’s needs were not being met.
4. On the same day, after confronting the child’s placement in a CFTM on 10/19/2023, it was discovered that the child has only received group counseling for his A/D problem and is not received individual A/D therapy. Further, the minor child is not receiving his individual counseling with Health Connect and has only had one

meeting with them in the last two months. Additionally, the child is not receiving the required family therapy with his mother which was recommended. Phone calls were limited between the mother and child due to the child being absent from class due to sickness. The child has been failing one of his favorite classes even though he took honors classes prior to coming into custody.

5. This lack of reasonable efforts by DCS in placing the child in a facility that is not meeting his needs denies him alcohol and drug treatment, mental health treatment, the meeting of his educational needs, and the family support to re-unify with the minor child.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, PETITIONERS REQUESTS

1 For the reasons stated above, that this Court find that the State of Tennessee, Department of Children’s Services (DCS) has failed to make reasonable efforts on this matter;

2 That this come before the court on the 29th day of November, 2023 for a hearing on this motion;

3 That the child be placed in the least restrictive environment to meet his needs,

4 Any and all just and proper relief.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Mother

Guardian ad litem

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

We, _____ **and** _____ hereby certify that we have this _____ day of November, 2023, hand-delivered, e-mailed and/or deposited in the U.S. Mail, with sufficient postage thereon, a copy of the foregoing Motion addressed to the following:

Assistant General Counsel
Department of Children's Services

Father of Child
