



Fwd: Potential Media Coverage



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From: **Don Binnicker** <Don.Binnicker@casatc.org>

Date: Thu, Dec 19, 2019, 12:20 PM

Subject: Potential Media Coverage

To: 

To all of our outstanding CASA volunteer advocates:

First, and as always, I want to thank each and every one of you for the excellent work you do for our children every day. They are blessed to have such wonderful and caring advocates to help make their lives better.

Secondly, I wanted to make you aware that several media outlets have approached CASA of Tarrant County with regards to tips these outlets have received related to CASA volunteers not being appointed by the 323rd Judicial District Court.

As you may be aware, the number of CASA appointments from the 323rd Court has dropped significantly this year, which poses a risk of severely limiting our ability to serve abused and neglected children in Tarrant County. As a result of these inquiries, I have spoken with several media representatives regarding the slowdown in appointments and how this can negatively impact the delivery of CASA's mission. As a result of these conversations, it is very likely that in the next coming days, you will see or hear news stories related to this situation and CASA's general relationship with the 323rd Court.

As these stories are published, it's also likely that there may be responses from community members who wish to express opinions regarding this matter. As this plays out, please remember that as a CASA volunteer, you have agreed to abide by the social media guidelines of our organization. If you are approached by anyone regarding these news articles, I ask that you please direct them to speak with me personally, rather than engaging any discussions with them yourself. In the interest of maintaining our professionalism, we definitely want to avoid engaging in public confrontations in community blogs, Facebook, or any other types of media. If you receive emails, phone contacts or any other communications, please forward them to me. Likewise, if you have any questions about this matter, please contact me.

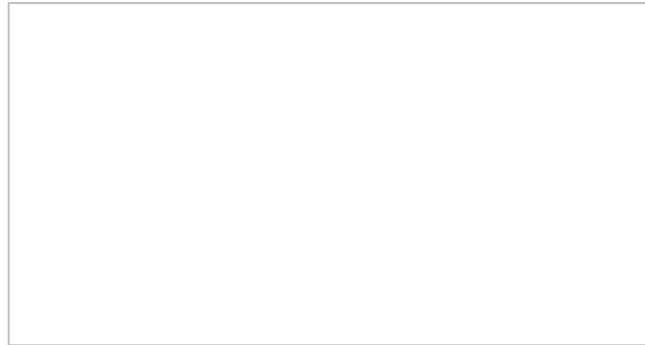
It is unfortunate, and indeed unprecedented, for us to find ourselves dealing with this situation with the 323rd Court. As you probably already know, we have historically enjoyed a positive partnership with the family court system. I am confident, however (as is our Board of Directors), that we will ultimately resolve this matter favorably and in the best interests for the foster children of our county. In the meanwhile, the advocacy of CASA will continue as usual. We are proud of our continued support we have earned from the other courts, the community, and our stakeholders in our efforts to advocate for the most vulnerable children in our community.

Thanks,

Don

Don G. Binnicker
Chief Executive Officer | CASA of Tarrant County

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6 attachments

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