

**NOTICE: THIS DOCUMENT
DOES NOT CONTAIN SENSITIVE DATE**

CAUSE NO.

IN THE INTEREST OF

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF

BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

224th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

ORDER FOR COURT ORDERED COUNSELING
“NEW WAYS FOR FAMILIES”

On this day, the Court finds that there is good cause shown for appointment of a counselor to provide such counselling as noted herein, and that such an appointment is in the best interest of the child(ren) in this cause. The Court finds that all parties have knowledge of this order; and each party has the ability to comply with its terms.

This Order is made based upon good cause shown, and the court hereby makes the following Findings and Orders: The mother and father have a history of conflict in resolving an issue of possession of or access to the child and; and the father has a history of improper methods of disciplining the children.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

I. INDIVIDUAL PARENT COUNSELING

1. Mother and father shall each participate in no less than six (6) counseling sessions of 45-60 minutes with a licensed mental health professional with the New Ways for Families program at the Institute for Couple & Family Enhancement. Each parent will be assigned a separate Individual Parent Counselor trained in the New Ways method within seven (7) days. When the six (6) sessions have been completed and the Parent Workbook has been completed, each parent shall provide a copy of their counselor’s signed Verification of Completion to the court and the opposing party/attorney.

2. Each parent shall pay for his or her own Individual Parent Counseling.

3. The Individual Parent Counseling described above shall be Confidential. The Individual Parent Counselor shall never submit any letter, declaration or document (other than

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the Verification of Completion of the Individual Parent Counseling) to the court, nor testify in court, subject to rare exceptions by law. Said Counselor shall not communicate with any other professional involved in the case, except by written agreement of both parties after each has attended at least 4 sessions.

4. The counseling described above shall be completed by: **September 15, 2020**.

II. PARENT-CHILD COUNSELING

1. Mother and father shall each participate in three (3) parent-child counseling sessions with their children of 45-90 minutes each with a shared licensed mental health professional associated with the New Ways for Families program at the Institute for Couple & Family Enhancement.

2. The parents shall alternate Parent-Child Counseling Sessions approximately each week. Both parents shall complete Session #1, before either parent attends Session #2. Both parents shall complete Session #2, before either parent attends Session #3. When the three (3) sessions have been completed and the Parent-Child Workbook has been completed by each parent, he or she shall provide a copy of their Parent-Child Counselor's signed Verification of Completion to the court and to the opposing party/attorney.

3. Each parent shall pay for his or her own Parent-Child Counseling sessions.

4. The Parent-Child Counseling described above shall be Non-Confidential, subject to state laws. The counselor may discuss the case with the Attorney of Record for each party, Minor's Counsel, and/or a jointly selected Mediator. The Parent-Child Counselor may be called to testify, describe observations, and produce counseling records, if called as a witness by either party or the court, subject to the court's discretion. The counselor shall not submit a written report or recommendations. The counselor shall not serve as an expert in the case.

5. The counseling described above shall be completed by: **December 15, 2020**.

III. DOCUMENTS FOR COUNSELORS

1. Each parent shall complete and timely return in accordance with instructions all the required questionnaires and declarations provided to them by the New Ways for Families program at the Institute for Couple & Family Enhancement.

IV. PARENT INSTRUCTIONS

1. The parents shall no later than July 28, 2020 by 5 p.m. contact the New Ways for Families coordinator to obtain further instructions and to answer any questions:

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IT IS SO ORDERED on this 27th day of JULY, 2020.

Judge of the 438th Judicial District Court