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Parental Psychological Evaluation in Oklahoma Child Welfare Matters

Effective parental psychological evaluations in child welfare cases require considerable effort on the part of both the child welfare worker and the psychologist. In order to provide useful information the psychologist must learn in advance what the worker and/or court wants to discover about the parent to be evaluated. Then family, behavioral, emotional and child welfare history along with psychological testing and observations can be integrated in order to answer questions and provide relevant information.

Please follow the guidelines listed below when requesting a Parental Psychological Evaluation in an Oklahoma Child Welfare matter. **Before the first appointment** with any parent to be evaluated the following information must be submitted to my office:

1. Clarify who will be responsible for the fee. My fee for conducting child welfare parental psychological evaluations is \$750 per person. If the court, county or DHS is responsible for the fee, the voucher must be submitted to my office before the parent evaluation is scheduled.
2. Provide a specific, written description of why the evaluation has been requested and what questions should be answered in the evaluation report.
3. Provide relevant background information since clients are reluctant (or simply unable) to provide background data. The District Attorney Report, Service Plan and Family Strengths and Needs Assessment are particularly useful.
4. The worker should consider scheduling an informational interview with me to provide additional information and insights about the matter.