

EXAMPLE

Appointment of Counsel Checklist for CHIPS Cases  
*Joni B. v. State*, 202 Wis. 2d 1, 549 N.W.2d 411 (1996)

**1) Did the parent request an attorney?**

☐ Yes - If yes, then answer questions below

☐ No

**2) Self-Representation Competency. Does parent appear to have capacity to represent themselves?**

☐ Yes

☐ No - If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Does the parent understand the legal rights as explained to him/her?**

☐ Yes

☐ No - If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Specific Circumstances:

**4) Is there a criminal investigation for the same allegations?** If yes, answer additional questions:

- Is the case currently still being investigated? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have charges been filed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the parent the suspect or a witness? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Has a statement been made to law enforcement about the investigation? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Does the parent have an attorney in the criminal case? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**5) Does this case rely on information from a medical professional?**

☐ Yes - If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No

**6) Does this case rely on any expert opinions?**

☐ Yes - If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No

**7) If the answer to question #5 or #6 is yes, does either parent have a background in that area of expertise?**

☐ Yes - If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No

**8) Are there any other complexities of the case that would warrant additional legal assistance to the parent?**

☐ Yes - If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No

**9) Is the child placed out of the parent's home?**

☐ Yes - If yes, where is the child placed? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
☐ No

**10) Is this the first CHIPS case in which this parent has been a party?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**11) Has the parent had an attorney in any other legal proceeding?**

☐ Yes

☐ No