

# Judicial Information Systems

## Trial Court System 2012 Supplemental Release

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## Voluntary Foster Care Services Effective: 4/1/2012

### Help Desk Phone:

**888-339-1547**

#### **Option 4:**

TCS Help Desk  
(Software questions)

#### **Option 5:**

Operations  
(Hardware)

### Help Desk Fax:

**517-373-7451**

### Help Desk E-mail:

**tcshelpdesk  
@courts.mi.gov**

### JIS Website:

[www.courts.mi.gov/jis](http://www.courts.mi.gov/jis)  
(click on Court  
Systems to find TCS  
link)

The Release summarizes fixes, software and form changes that have been applied to your Trial Court System.

**IMPORTANT:** Please forward or copy and distribute this announcement to all staff.

## Future Enhancements

\* Please note that due to the Next Generation Project commitments, TCS enhancements will be limited to fixes, form changes, and legislative changes. Please contact JIS if you have any questions.

# VF ~ Voluntary Foster Care Services

## MCL 400.645 through MCL 400.663

Public Act 225 of 2011 became effective April 1, 2012 to coincide with the Department of Human Services' new program to provide continuing voluntary foster care for youth between the ages of 18 and 21. Having this new court rule in place will enable Michigan to receive federal Title IV-E funding for that program. Court Rule - **MCR 3.616**.

Links: [Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care Act](#)  
[SCAO Administrative Memo 2012-05](#)

Process as follows:

- VF ~ Created upon filing of an Exparte Petition Regarding Voluntary Foster Care Agreement
  - CSI/Case initiation: Case Type ~ VF
  - Party entry ~ IN THE MATTER OF: screen
  - Search for/select the Juvenile's Name(Party type: HDR 1)
  - Next Party add ~ Youth's Parents or Legal Custodian (if parental rights have not been terminated).
  - Next Party add ~ Youth's foster parent or parents.
  - Event add ~ **PVF** - Exparte Petition Regarding Voluntary Foster Care Agreement assign to header party.
  
- DHS shall serve the petition on the youth; the Court that had jurisdiction pursuant to MCL 712A.2(b) during the neglect/abuse proceeding, if different than the court in which the petition is filed; and the foster parent or parents, if any.
  
- The Court shall review the petition, report, and voluntary foster care agreement filed and then make a determination whether continuing in voluntary foster care is in the best interest of the youth.
  
- The Court shall issue an order that includes its determination and individualized findings that support its determination within 21 days of the filing of the petition.
  
- Disposition will be entered upon entry of the Order Regarding Voluntary Foster Care Agreement:
  - Order entered exparte:
    - Event **OVF** - Order Regarding Voluntary Foster Care Agreement with Dsp: GTD (or DEN) and Pty: HDR 1.
  - Order entered after a hearing:
    - Event **OVFH** - Order Regarding VFCA After Hearing with DSP: GTD (or DEN) and Pty: HDR 1.

- The Court shall serve the order on: DHS, the youth, the court that had jurisdiction pursuant to MCL 712A.2(b), if different than the court in which the petition is filed; and the foster parent or parents, if any.

**Circuit Court Caseload is programmed and will be available for reporting in January 2013 for case year 2012.**

## **VF Forms**

Two new forms will be available on the SCAO website for this new case type. These forms will not be available through the TCS system. They are:

CCFD20, Exparte Petition Regarding Voluntary Foster Care Agreement.  
CCFD21, Order Regarding Voluntary Foster Care Agreement.