

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

ORDER

Acting in accordance with Article V, Sections 1 and 5 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and the inherent power of this Court, and in consideration of the mandates of the Louisiana Children's Code and implementation of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA) in Louisiana Courts,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

Part J of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Louisiana is hereby supplemented and amended to read as follows:

**RULE XXXIII. SPECIAL RULES FOR CHILD ABUSE AND
NEGLECT CASES**

PART II. Continuances

Section 1. Purpose.

This rule is intended to ensure that all judges exercising juvenile jurisdiction comply with the requirements of the Louisiana Children's Code regarding continuances and delays in child abuse and neglect cases, as defined in Part I, Section 2 of this Rule, specifically including the following time-sensitive case events:

Ch.C. Art. 624 Continued custody hearing

Ch.C. Art. 646 Appearance to answer

- Ch.C. Art. 659 Adjudication hearing
- Ch.C. Art. 666 Adjudication order
- Ch.C. Art. 678 Disposition hearing
- Ch.C. Art. 692 Case review hearing
- Ch.C. Art. 702 Permanency hearing
- Ch.C. Art. 1025.1 Appearance to answer (Termination of Parental Rights)
- Ch.C. Art. 1031 Termination of Parental Rights hearing
- Ch.C. Art. 1032 Continuances

Section 2. Non-compliance reports.

In the event that a continuance is granted or a delay is permitted that exceeds the maximum allowable statutory timeframe, the judge granting such continuance or permitting such delay shall report the non-compliance to the Court, through the Judicial Administrator. A copy of any order in which a continuance or delay exceeds the maximum legal time period, together with an explanation of the reasons for the delay, shall be submitted within ten days of the court's decision to grant the continuance or to permit the delay.

This order shall become effective September 1, 2002, and shall remain in full force and effect thereafter, until amended through future orders of this Court.

New Orleans, Louisiana this ____ day of _____, 2002.

FOR THE COURT:

Pascal F. Calogero, Jr., Chief Justice