

Families in Transition Quarterly Report

Third Quarter 2009

District Court of Tulsa County

Report by: Nicole Kirkland
Family Court Case Coordinator

Families in Transition

Quarterly Report

Third Quarter 2009

Parenting Plan Conference

1. Family Court Case Coordinator (FCCC):
 - a. Verified services with the Department of Human Services (DHS) on all cases scheduled for the Parenting Plan Conference docket;
 - b. Case data submitted to the DHS – Child Support Enforcement offices each week:

Total cases verified by DHS:

1st Quarter: 453

2nd Quarter: 534

3rd Quarter: 554

Total: 1,541

Of the cases verified, total disclaimers signed and filed by the Family Court Case Coordinator (family did not have services with DHS):

1st Quarter: 295

2nd Quarter: 367

3rd Quarter: 352

Total: 1,014

Of the cases verified, total cases sent to DHS for review/signage (family had services with DHS):

1st Quarter: 158

2nd Quarter: 167

3rd Quarter: 203

Total: 528

2. Family Resource Coordinator:
 - a. Provided community resources to all litigants;
 - b. Distributed the Parenting Plan Conference Survey to all litigants. Results on page 6;
 - c. Achieved temporary order agreements through mediation with self-represented litigants from the Parenting Plan Conference:

Temporary orders mediated:

3rd Quarter: 47 cases

Temporary order agreements from mediation:

3rd Quarter: 46 cases (98%)

This resulted in 98% of self-represented litigants coming to financial and visitation agreements.

Agreed-To Docket

Family Resource Coordinator:

1. Saved the Family Court Judges time by helping review and sort self-represented litigant paperwork prior to seeing the Judge:

Self-represented cases that agree:

3rd Quarter: 398

Self-represented cases processed to the Judge:

3rd Quarter: 314 (78%)

This resulted in preventing 22% of the self-represented litigants from seeing the Judge with incorrect or missing paperwork.

2. Distributed the Family Court Survey to all self-represented litigants with minor children only. Results on page 7.

High Conflict Cases

Family Court Case Coordinator

1. Assisted the Family Court Judges by providing high conflict divorce services to litigants. These services helped reduce conflict for 17 families, which included 37 children. The FCCC helped reduce conflict by providing the litigants with information and resources and facilitating communication amongst the parties. As a result, 94% of these families had less involvement with the court.

Case Data:

- Court ordered: 17
- Kept out of court since referred to FCCC: 16 (94%)
- Total number of children impacted: 37

- Mediations (temporary orders and visitation schedules): 8
- Agreements from mediation: 8 (100%)
- **Temporary Order Agreements filed after working with FCCC: 6**

- Temporary Order Hearings since referred to FCCC: 1
- Trials since referred to FCCC: 0
- Cases closed (final decree filed): 2
- Cases dropped (parties reconciled): 2

Data Tracking

Family Court Case Coordinator compiled accessible data from The Oklahoma State Courts Network (OSCN) and the Parenting Plan Conference Survey to show current outcomes and possible process improvements for the Families in Transition program:

Divorce with Minor Children filed:

1st Quarter: 411

2nd Quarter: 429

3rd Quarter: 394

Total: 1234

Self-Represented Litigants with Minor Children (Parenting Plan Conference Survey):

1st Quarter: 36.35%

2nd Quarter: 37.95%

3rd Quarter: 32.93%

Total: 35.74%

Divorce without Minor Children filed:

1st Quarter: 462

2nd Quarter: 427

3rd Quarter: 394

Total: 1283

Decree of Dissolution of Marriage filed:

1st Quarter: 701

2nd Quarter: 862

3rd Quarter: 809

Total: 2372

Protective Orders filed:

1st Quarter: 1466

2nd Quarter: 1776

3rd Quarter: 1322

Total: 3472

Pending Cases by Judge:

FD Docket A:

2nd Quarter: 2060 3rd Quarter: 2025

FD Docket B:

2nd Quarter: 1401 3rd Quarter: 1403

FD Docket C:

2nd Quarter: 1176 3rd Quarter: 1261

FD Docket D:

2nd Quarter: 1103 3rd Quarter: 1154

FD Docket E:

2nd Quarter: 1315 3rd Quarter: 1284

Total: 7055

Total: 7127

Temporary Order Agreements filed:

1st Quarter: 153

2nd Quarter: 189

3rd Quarter: 178

Total: 520

Motions to Modify filed:

1st Quarter: 247

2nd Quarter: 264

3rd Quarter: 241

Total: 752

Upcoming Quality Improvement Activities	Status
Uniform procedures and instructions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise Families in Transition procedures; 2. Revise Local Court Rules. 	Uniform procedures and instructions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In progress by the members of the QAP panel; 2. In progress by the members of the QAP panel.
Surveys: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pass out the Family Court Survey to litigants represented by an attorney; 2. Create a Family Court Survey for litigants without children. 	Surveys: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will start implementing fourth quarter; 2. Family Court Case Coordinator will create fourth quarter.
Resources for Judges: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update all resources and add specific information regarding drug testing and prices. 	Resources for Judges: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family Resource Coordinator and Family Court Case Coordinator updated resources. Resources will be updated on a continuous basis;
High Conflict Cases: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a Likert Scale for client pre/post data that will track the levels of conflict, communication, and co-parenting; 2. Create a client evaluation to track the case coordination process. 	High Conflict Cases: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family Court Case Coordinator is accumulating case data and tracking the levels of conflict, communication, and co-parenting; 2. Family Court Case Coordinator is currently using information gathered verbally by litigants and attorneys to make continuous improvements to the case coordination process.

Parenting Plan Conference

2009 Survey Totals - Quarterly

3rd Quarter

	Yes	No	N/A	Blank
1. I received a Families in Transition packet at the beginning of my divorce process.	459 61.94%	199 26.86%	69 9.31%	14 1.89%
2. The instructions I received in the Families in Transition packet were useful.	446 60.05%	10 1.35%	271 36.57%	15 2.02%
3. The Judge did a good job of reminding us to keep conflict away from our children.	732 98.79%	2 0.27%	2 0.27%	5 0.67%
4. Did the DVD show how children are affected when parents do not work together?	730 98.52%	5 0.67%	3 0.40%	3 0.40%
5. The Family Resource Coordinator was beneficial.	711 95.95%	0 0.00%	24 3.24%	6 0.81%
6. I learned about community resources that are available to help me.	718 96.90%	8 1.08%	11 1.48%	5 0.54%
7. I am willing to work with my co-parent to develop a plan for parenting our children.	706 95.28%	10 1.35%	17 2.29%	8 1.08%
8. I am willing to agree to a Temporary Order.	670 90.42%	13 1.75%	40 5.40%	18 2.43%
9. I am represented by an attorney.	497 67.07%	234 31.58%	6 0.81%	4 0.54%
10. My relationship with my co-parent may improve because of the information I learned at the PPC.	601 81.11%	62 8.37%	55 7.42%	23 3.10%
11. I plan to use the information I received today to help my children.	731 98.65%	1 0.13%	5 0.67%	4 0.54%

Gender:	Age:	Race:
Male: 47.23% Female: 51.42%	18 and under: 1.62% 19 to 35: 57.89% 36 to 64: 38.87% 65 and up: 0.13%	African American: 8.10% Asian: 1.48% Hispanic: 4.99% Native American: 8.50% White: 70.31% Other: 4.99%

Total Surveys: 741
Total Litigants Surveyed: 1264
Percent Complete: 58.62%

Family Court Survey

*Agreed-To Docket
Self-Represented Litigants with Minor Children Only*

2009 Survey Totals - Quarterly

3rd Quarter

	Yes	No	N/A	Blank
1. During the PPC, the Judge clearly described the divorce procedure.	50 94.34%	1 1.89%	2 3.77%	0 0.00%
2. The Families in Transition process was helpful.	51 96.23%	0 0.00%	2 3.77%	0 0.00%
3. The Families in Transition process helped in making the divorce process easier for our children.	46 86.79%	2 3.77%	4 7.55%	1 1.89%
4. We participated in mediation.	16 30.19%	37 69.81%	0 0.00%	0 0.00%
5. The mediation process was helpful.	13 81.25%	3 18.75%		
6. We participated in a custody evaluation.	13 24.53%	38 71.70%	2 3.77%	0 0.00%
7. The custody evaluation was helpful.	13 100.00%	0 0.00%		
8. We participated in the process of Parent Coordination.	19 35.85%	33 62.26%	1 1.89%	0 0.00%
9. The process of Parent Coordination was helpful.	19 100.00%	0 0.00%		
10. We were able to resolve most of our parenting problems on our own.	44 83.02%	6 11.32%	3 5.66%	0 0.00%
11. I was treated with respect by the courthouse staff.	52 98.11%	1 1.89%	0 0.00%	0 0.00%
12. Did anyone help you prepare legal documents during this process?	41 77.34%	12 22.64%	0 0.00%	0 0.00%

Total Surveys: 53