



In the Court of Common Pleas  
Lucas County, Ohio  
Juvenile Division

Case # \_\_\_\_\_

## YOUTH'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND JUVENILE COURT HEARINGS

- You have the opportunity to talk to the Judge.
- You will go to the courthouse to talk to the Judge. Other people, like your social worker, your parents, your relatives, your foster parents, and your CASA or attorney guardian ad litem also talk to the Judge.
- During court, you will be given the opportunity to tell the Judge about you and your feelings. You may tell the Judge where you want to live and who you want to live with. You may tell the Judge about other things that are important in your life, such as visiting with family, school and counseling.
- The Judge is the person who makes the final decision about the plan for where you are going to live.
- Because you are ten (10) years old or older, you may decide for yourself whether you want to go to court. Please check one of the boxes below to indicate whether you DO or DO NOT want to attend court. Then sign your name on the line at the bottom of this page and give this paper to your guardian ad litem.
- Even if you sign below that you do not wish to attend court, you are allowed to change your mind and go to court.

### YOUTH: Read and Check One of the Options Below, then Sign and Date

My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I have read, or have had someone read to me, the above statement about my opportunity to attend my court hearings. I understand that at least once a year, the Judge will decide the plan for where I am going to live. I understand that because I am ten (10) years of age or older, I can decide whether I want to go to court. I also understand that even if I decide not to attend court, I can change my mind and decide that I want to go to court.

**Yes, I wish to attend Court**

**No, I do not wish to attend Court.**

Youth's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

-----

**FOR THE CASA/GAL ONLY:** As the child's GAL, I have counseled the child in the last 60 days about the opportunity to attend court and talk to the Judge. Within one week before the hearing, I will both verify with the child and notify the caseworker that the child's decision to attend the court hearing has not changed.

CASA/GAL's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

CASA/GAL Name PRINTED: \_\_\_\_\_