



89-2-99044

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
Governor Tate Reeves
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES
Commissioner Andrea A. Sanders

September 20, 2023

FILED

SEP 20 2023

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT
COURT OF APPEALS

Justice Josiah D. Coleman
Supreme Court of Mississippi
Post Office Box 117
Jackson, MS 39205

Dear Justice Coleman:

MDCPS appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Petition to Create Rules for Collaborative Law shared with our agency via correspondence dated August 23, 2023.

Our concern is that the collaborative law rules might be construed to create an "end run" around youth court proceedings.

We request that the committee consider adding to the definition of "collaborative matter" that it does not include open youth court proceedings or matters which relate to open youth court proceedings. Also, please consider adding to Rule 7 that an emergency order may not involve or relate to a matter before the youth court or within the exclusive jurisdiction of the youth court.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Vicki Lowery, General Counsel

cc: Clerk of the Appellate Courts
Hon. David M. Ishee
Hon. T. Kenneth Griffis
Emmylou Roberts
Gabe Goze
Commissioner Andrea Sanders

MOTION#

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attachment