



Judge David Gibson Jr

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Due to recent interest regarding public/press access to the courtroom, I will be making a series of posts here with the goal of informing the public about court processes in Juvenile Dependency matters (also referred to as abuse/neglect) cases.

The most common hearings held in this case type are Preliminary Protective Hearings (PPH), Adjudicatory Hearings (trial), Dispositional Hearings (R&D), semi-annual (6 month review) and annual Review Hearings (permanency review), and Termination of Parental Rights proceedings (TPR). There may also be Status Checks or other Evidentiary hearings as needed.

For ease of reference, though some exceptions may be made based on specific findings by the court, hearings in these matters must be open to the public EXCEPT for the PPH, Adjudicatory, and TPR hearings.

There are statutory rules prohibiting public release of reports and case files connected to all of these hearings which impose civil and criminal penalties for such a release of information and any members of the press or public should familiarize themselves with these prohibitions contained in NRS 432b.069 and 432b.280.

Department L's public and media policy is that the public/media may attend all hearings deemed public by statute, absent specific court findings to the contrary as allowed by statute. The media may record such proceedings by audio/visual means so long as the identity of any child who is the subject of the proceedings is kept confidential.