PARENT / LEGAL GUARDIAN NOTICE

NOTICE OF LIMITED NONCONSENT

Request for Written Child Protection Information | SOUTH CAROLINA

Date: [Date] Parent / guardian: [Full legal name]

Mailing address: [Street, city, state, ZIP] Email / phone (optional): [Contact]

To: South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS), Child Protective Services

Re: [Child initials / investigation reference]

To the assigned child protection worker and supervisor:

I understand DSS is authorized to investigate suspected child abuse and neglect. I request that rights notices and any consent requests be placed in writing.

LIMITED CONSENT DECISIONS

I do not give blanket advance consent to voluntary adult interviews, consensual nonemergency home entry or search, optional adult testing or evaluations, blanket release of my private records, or voluntary services or safety plans. Please explain each request and its legal basis separately so I can decide after reviewing it and, if needed, consulting counsel. This statement does not override a court order, independently authorized child interview, lawful investigation or emergency intervention.

STATE-SPECIFIC RIGHTS, EXCEPTIONS, AND DEADLINES

- S.C. Code § 63-7-920 allows a lawful investigation and qualifying child interviews and investigative access. Some child trauma photographs and medically indicated examinations also may occur without parental permission under § 63-7-380. This letter does not stop such lawful actions.
- For an indicated finding eligible under §§ 63-7-1410 and 63-7-1430, the identified person generally must notify DSS IN WRITING of intent to appeal WITHIN 30 DAYS after RECEIPT of the certified-mail case-decision notice.
- When family court already determines responsibility, the administrative route may be unavailable; a pending relevant family-court case can stay it. AFTER a final DSS administrative decision, § 63-7-1440 generally requires a SEPARATE judicial-review petition in FAMILY COURT WITHIN 30 DAYS after the final decision, with a copy served on DSS.

PLEASE PROVIDE IN WRITING

- Written investigative rights information and status, the assigned worker/supervisor business contacts, case number and permissible allegation summary.
- The authority and purpose for any requested child interview, home access, testing, records releases or voluntary plan.
- The certified-mail indicated-finding notice, its delivery date, instructions for the 30-day administrative appeal, and, if applicable, the separate 30-day family-court judicial-review procedure.

Please include this notice in the case file and confirm receipt. I request routine nonurgent correspondence in writing. For urgent child-safety concerns, please contact me promptly through an appropriate available method.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed name: _____

LEGAL REFERENCES: S.C. Code §§ 63-7-380, 63-7-920, 63-7-1410, 63-7-1420, 63-7-1430, 63-7-1440.

LIMITATION / LEGAL REVIEW HOLD: These administrative and judicial deadlines apply to eligible indicated cases; do not assume every DSS action is appealable this way. Working draft, not attorney-certified.

IMPORTANT - NO APPEAL FILED: This notice does not file an appeal, hearing request, grievance, or court petition; it does not pause any deadline. Follow the case-specific notice and filing instructions.