

EXTENDED FOSTER CARE

Judicial Concerns for NonMinor Dependents

- 1. Know the date of dependent or ward's 18th birthday**
- 2. Know the law**
- 3. Follow the required findings and orders at each hearing**
- 4. Although you may become frustrated with a youth, remember that you cannot ground him or her or restrict cell phone or iPad use.**
- 5. Make sure ALL the reports provide ALL the required information**
- 6. NEVER lose sight of the goals of the legislation; i.e. permanence and lifelong connections**
- 7. Make sure the NMD is present at every hearing in person or by phone, absent unusual circumstances**
- 8. Conduct the hearings informally, but always bearing in mind that the NMD is now an ADULT!**
- 9. Know the community and the services that may be available**

- 10. Remember that these are the youth the system took responsible for raising and preparing, and the job isn't over.**
- 11. Acknowledge that this is a tough job for social workers and probation officers whose training rarely included dealing with this population at this point in the youth's lives.**
- 12. Remember why everyone said don't take that Juvenile Court assignment and why you're glad you did anyway.**