



**Superior Court of California  
County of Trinity  
Family Court Services**

**Child Custody Recommending Counseling: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW**

1. Child Custody Recommending Counselors assist parents in matters relating to child custody and visitation.
2. The Bench Officer/Judge makes all legal orders regarding custody.
3. The goal of Child Custody Recommending Counseling is to assist parents to agree on a parenting plan that is in the best interest of their child/ren.
4. If the parties do not agree on a parenting plan, the CCRC will submit a report with recommendations regarding the custody and visitation issues involving the child/ren to the court. The CCRC may disclose information about the parties as necessary.
5. You may pick up your copy of the recommendation report at the Clerk's office prior to your court date, unless other arrangements are made.
6. A CCRC generally does not have private discussions with parents or their attorneys on matters related to custody and visitation unless separate appointments have been scheduled. *Certain statutory exceptions apply.*
7. Separate appointments will be scheduled when there are sworn allegations, or a history of domestic violence, or when there is a restraining order/criminal protection order in place.
8. The amount of time a CCRC can give to each family is limited.
9. The CCRC may conduct a meeting if only one parent attends and the information provided by that parent will be sent to court. The CCRC will inform the court if a parent fails to attend an appointment.
10. Privacy and the CCRC process: While reasonable efforts are made to keep your contact information private, the CCRC must disclose information about your case if there is an allegation or suspicion of child abuse or neglect or if there is a belief that someone may hurt him/herself or others.
11. Children are not to be brought to the CCRC session. *A CCRC or a judge will determine whether children are to be interviewed.*
12. A CCRC does not investigate crimes or allegations of child abuse. These issues will be referred to the Sheriff's department and/or Child Welfare Services.
13. Only attorneys can give legal advice, including advice about enforcement of court orders.
14. It is the responsibility of the parties to advise the court and the CCRC program of any changes in addresses or phone numbers.