



THERAPEUTIC SUPERVISED VISITATION IS NO LONGER A COURT-ORDERED SERVICE©

THERAPEUTIC SUPERVISED VISITATION SERVICES: Effective January 1, 2015, Standard 5.20 of the California Standards of Judicial Administration (Uniform Standards of Practice for Providers of Supervised Visitation) **eliminated** therapeutic supervised visitation as a type of supervised visitation provider. ***This means you are no longer able to provide this type of service.*** If you are currently engaged in an order for therapeutic supervised visitation, you may want to consider the following:

- Inform the parent about new statutory changes and suspend services immediately;
- List your reasons for suspension in writing (required by the standard 5.20);
- Refer the parent back to their attorney and/or the court that issued the order; and
- Obtain a new court order for supervised visitation services and get a new signed program service agreement from both parents.

The recent changes regarding the deletion and elimination of therapeutic supervised visitation as a type of provider was approved to be consistent with Family Code 3200.5, which recognizes only two types of providers: (1) Non-professional and (2) Professional. This means that a “therapeutic supervised visitation provider” and “therapeutic supervised visitation (TSV)” is no longer recognized as a model of service delivery or type of provider. This does not mean that therapeutic services are not an option for the court to order but that TSV cannot be ordered as a type of supervised visitation service. Additionally, ancillary services to be provided by a therapist or other individual qualified to perform evaluative services, etc, can be ordered by the court but this must be ordered as a separate and distinct service from supervised visitation because this is not the role of the professional provider and therapeutic provider/services have been eliminated. Furthermore, the Judicial Council Form, "Supervised Visitation Order (FL-341(A))," was revised (effective January 1, 2015) to eliminate the reference to therapeutic supervised provider.

For additional information, you may want to contact your local Family Court Services Department, an attorney, and/or Judicial Council/CFCC, Access to Visitation Grant Program.

REFERENCES:

1. Judicial Council of California: www.courts.ca.gov
2. Revised Judicial Council Form, “Supervised Visitation Order (FL-341(A))”:
<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/fl341a.pdf>
3. Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts, Access to Visitation Grant Program Manager (shelly.labotte@jud.ca.gov)

**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION
OF SUPERVISED VISITATION SERVICE PROVIDERS**