



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

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## NCJFCJ 72nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Chicago, Illinois

### Resolution No. 7

#### RESOLUTION REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF POLICY STATEMENTS AND PRACTICES RECOMMENDED IN *A JUDICIAL GUIDE TO CHILD SAFETY IN CUSTODY CASES*

**WHEREAS**, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges has a long established policy of encouraging the judiciary to engage in practices that foster the effective administration of justice as it pertains to the safety of victims of violence and their children; and

**WHEREAS**, all state and tribal courts employ some form of the best interest of the child standard in making determinations about custody and visitation, whether by statute, case law, or custom; and

**WHEREAS**, family law cases involving both custody and domestic violence issues may require special considerations and practices as judges make determinations about the best interest of the child; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges initiated a project to develop a tool for improving practice and policy in family court cases that involve custody and domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the resulting publication, *A Judicial Guide to Child Safety in Custody Cases*, was published in 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges should take a leadership role in promoting practices that encourage family court judges to work actively toward the improvement of outcomes for children, individuals, and families who appear in their courts;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges hereby approves and adopts as its official policy the statements made and practices recommended in its publication, *A Judicial Guide to Child Safety in Custody Cases*.

Adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009  
By the NCJFCJ Board of Trustees  
Chicago, Illinois