

10 Things to always think about when representing low-income children in family law matters:

1. Have you complied with standards and rules for GALs?
2. Is the child eligible for state funded health insurance?
3. Does the family qualify for government assistance?
 - a. TANF/ASPIRE
 - b. Food Stamps
 - c. Earned Income Tax Credit
 - d. General Assistance
 - e. Fuel Assistance
 - f. Subsidized Housing
 - g. SSI/SSDI
4. Have the parents attended parenting education courses?
5. Are there allegations of domestic violence?
6. Do the parents or children need mental health services?
7. Are the children having trouble in school?
8. Are you able to work with the parents to reduce the conflict in the family?
9. Are you being sensitive to issues of poverty and culture?
10. Are you focused on the best interest of the child?