

- 181 (2) A contracted parental defense attorney shall:
- 182 (a) adequately prepare for and attend all court hearings, including initial and continued
- 183 shelter hearings and mediations;
- 184 (b) fully advise the client of the nature of the proceedings and of the client's rights,
- 185 communicate to the client any offers of settlement or compromise, and advise the client
- 186 regarding the reasonably foreseeable consequences of any course of action in the proceedings;
- 187 (c) be reasonably available to consult with the client outside of court proceedings;
- 188 (d) where attendance is reasonably necessary, attend meetings regarding the client's
- 189 case with representatives of one or more of the Division of Child and Family Services, the
- 190 Office of the Attorney General, or the Office of Guardian Ad Litem;
- 191 (e) represent the interest of the client at all stages of the proceedings before the trial
- 192 court ~~§~~ , and on appeal as required by law ~~§~~ ; and
- 193 (f) participate in the training courses and otherwise maintain the standards described in
- 194 Subsection (4).
- 195 (3) If the commission enters into a contract with a firm to provide parental defense
- 196 attorney services under this section, the contract shall require that each attorney in the firm who
- 197 will provide representation of a parent in a child welfare case under the contract perform the
- 198 duties described in Subsection (2).
- 199 (4) (a) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (4)(b), a contracted parental defense
- 200 attorney shall:
- 201 (i) complete a basic training course provided by the program;
- 202 (ii) have experience in child welfare cases; and
- 203 (iii) participate each calendar year in continuing legal education courses providing no
- 204 fewer than eight hours of instruction in child welfare law.
- 205 (b) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
- 206 commission may, by rule, exempt from the requirements of Subsection (4)(a) an attorney who
- 207 has equivalent training or adequate experience.
- 208 Section 4. Section **63M-7-211.2** is enacted to read:
- 209 **63M-7-211.2. Child Welfare Parental Defense Fund -- Agreements for coverage**
- 210 **by the Child Welfare Parental Defense Fund.**
- 211 (1) There is created an expendable special revenue fund known as the "Child Welfare