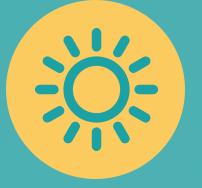


Presented by the Ruggiero Law Firm

CHILD CUSTODY CHECKLIST

IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN PREPARING YOUR CHILD CUSTODY CASE



POSITIVE FACTORS TO CONSIDER

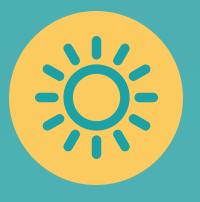
Primary caregiver. Who takes care of the daily needs of the child? Who helps with homework, makes dinner, schedules doctors appointments, etc.?

Availability. Does your work schedule allow you exercise the majority of timesharing with the child?

Willingness to foster a relationship with the other parent.

Ability to provide for the intellectual and emotional needs of the children.





POSITIVE FACTORS TO CONSIDERED

Quality of home environment. Consider neighborhood, room for the children and safety of residence.

Quality of care.

Stability. Do you have a stable place to live? Do frequently move or change jobs?

Child's preference. The court may take the preference of the child into consideration in conjunction with that they feel is in the child's best interest.

NEGATIVE FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Abuse/Neglect. Any history of abuse or neglect of any children will weigh heavily against you.

Unwillingness to foster a relationship with the other parent.

Domestic violence. Especially violence that occurred in the presence of the children

Alienation/False accusations. It is always a bad idea to make false accusations. It can lead to the loss of custody.

Drug and/or alcohol abuse

Ignoring court orders and interference with visitation.

Absence and lateness. You are unlikely to get custody if you don't regularly see or attempt to see your children.

Any misconduct involving the children.

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CHILD CUSTODY CHECKLIST