

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 1760

By: Williamson of the Senate

and

Peters, Kern and Pittman of
the House

An Act relating to courts; authorizing appointment of certain managers; specifying duties of certain managers; directing selection of certain managers; establishing qualifications for certain managers; authorizing salary for certain managers; allowing certain agreements; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 128 of Title 20, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Juvenile court case managers may be appointed in any county pursuant to subsection C of this section.

B. The duties of the juvenile court case managers shall be:

1. To assist judges with juvenile docket responsibilities in the appointing county by insuring that juvenile cases proceed through the court process in a timely and effective manner by accurately tracking cases, insuring consistent data entry, conducting review of open cases and monitoring open case reports to insure compliance with all federal and state statutory requirements;

2. To increase the amount of information available to the court for its consideration by acting as liaison between parties, attorneys and other professionals and the judges;

3. To encourage accountability and communication among professionals, parties, participants and attorneys; and

4. To perform any other duties necessary to assist the court in carrying out its judicial functions under Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

C. Juvenile court case managers shall be selected by the chief of the juvenile division of the district court subject to the approval of the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Juvenile court case managers shall serve at the pleasure of the chief of the juvenile division.

D. To be eligible for appointment as a juvenile court case manager, a person shall possess at least one of the following minimum qualifications:

1. Be an attorney licensed to practice law in this state with at least two (2) years experience in juvenile or family law; or

2. Hold a bachelor's degree in the social sciences or related field from an accredited college or university and three (3) years experience working with court procedures, juvenile law or social work. A master's degree in social sciences may substitute for one year of the required experience.

E. Each juvenile court case manager shall receive a salary to be determined by the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court to be paid from the local court fund pursuant to paragraph 21 of subsection B of Section 1304 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

F. The juvenile divisions of the district courts located in two or more adjoining counties may enter into an agreement to employ a single juvenile court case manager to serve the needs of the juvenile court judges in those counties. Such juvenile court case manager shall be employed and serve in the same manner as those employed for individual counties.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2008.

Passed the Senate the 27th day of February, 2008.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 17th day of April, 2008.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives