

Prepared by the Court

Plaintiff

v.

Defendant

Superior Court of New Jersey
Chancery Division - Family Part

County

Docket Number: _____

Civil Action
Protective Order for
Guardian ad Litem Report

This matter having been opened to the court, and it appearing that copies of the guardian ad litem report are being released to the attorneys and parties or self-represented litigants:

It is on this ____ day of _____, ____ **ORDERED** that:

1. Copies of the guardian ad litem report will be released as follows. (Select all that apply.)
 - ☐ a. The court shall conduct an in-camera review of the report before it is released.
 - ☐ b. With the consent of all parties and the guardian ad litem, an in-camera review of the report shall not be required before its release.
 - ☐ c. The report shall be released to the attorneys only. The parties shall be permitted to review the report in the office of their respective counsel. Neither party shall retain a copy of the report or be permitted to take notes, pictures, or photocopy the report or any portion of the report.
 - ☐ d. The report shall be released in hard copy to the attorneys and parties. The attorneys and parties shall be permitted to retain a hard copy of the report.
 - ☐ e. The report ☐ shall / ☐ shall not be released electronically to the attorneys and parties. The attorneys and parties ☐ shall / ☐ shall not be permitted to retain an electronic and hard copy of the report.
 - ☐ f. The report shall be released in hard copy to self-represented litigants. Self-represented litigants shall be permitted to retain a physical copy of the report.
 - ☐ g. The parties and/or self-represented litigants shall not receive the report but shall be permitted to review the report at the courthouse on a date to be scheduled by the court.
2. No document or information contained in the report shall be disclosed to any person that is not involved in this litigation, except that documents and communications can be disclosed without the express written permission of the court to the following:
 - a. Any mediator, arbitrator or parenting coordinator involved in this litigation;
 - b. Any custody expert retained by either party upon notice and disclosure to the other party; and
 - c. Any mental health professionals treating the children and/or the parties.
3. All documents and information contained in the report shall be kept confidential by the parties, the attorneys for the parties, any mediators, arbitrators, experts, witnesses, or other third parties. All people who have access to information subject to this protective order shall not

discuss the documents or communications, or the contents with anyone other than those specified in this order, nor shall they provide or make such documents or communications known or available to anyone other than those specified herein, or in any other way reveal to any other person or entity any of the information disclosed within any such documents or communications.

4. The report cannot be used in any other matter without the express written permission of the court.
5. The report and the information contained therein cannot be disclosed to the child/children or any other person for any reason, and cannot be distributed, given out or made public by any means, direct or indirect, without the express written permission of the court. Under no circumstances is the report to be discussed, revealed or disclosed to the child/children. Any discussion by the parties with the child/children as to the contents of the report is strictly prohibited.
6. Any other use of the contents of the documents that are the subject of this protective order is strictly prohibited. A person who uses the information contained in the report for any purpose other than as stated by the court shall be in violation of this court order and could be subject to sanctions at the court's discretion.
7. If either party retains an attorney and/or experts after the entry of this protective order, the party must give them a copy of this order, which shall be binding upon them and shall remain in full force and effect.
8. If the report is submitted to the court for any purpose with any pleading, the report shall be sealed or protected in any other way to ensure its confidentiality.
9. Upon disposition of this matter, the report shall be:
 - ☐ a. Destroyed; or
 - ☐ b. Returned to _____ or
 - ☐ c. Retained by any person in possession of the report who will continue to be bound by the terms of this protective order.
10. **It is FURTHER ORDERED that:**

11. The terms of this protective order shall survive the disposition of the pending issues before the court and shall remain valid and binding until further order of the court.
12. A copy of this order shall be provided to all people receiving or reviewing the guardian ad litem report.

Date