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**TO: Assignment Judges
Trial Court Administrators**

FROM: Michael J. Blee, J.A.D.

**SUBJ: Family – Children in Court – Change in Terminology: Renaming
"Compliance Review" to "Status Review"**

DATE: December 5, 2025

DIRECTIVE # 08-25

Questions may be directed to the Family
Practice Division at 609-815-2900,
ext. 55350

Effective immediately, this directive promulgates revisions to the terminology used for hearings in Children in Court (CIC) matters in child protection matters (FN docket). All references to “Compliance Review” in the FN docket hereinafter shall be referred to as “Status Review.” Status Review reflects a neutral reference as to the purpose of the proceeding for the parents and Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) to work together to support families involved in the child welfare system.

The Children in Court Improvement Committee (CICIC)¹ collaborated on this issue to improve interaction with court users and promote public trust and confidence in the child welfare system. The change in language helps prevent the incorrect assumption that all parents involved in CIC matters do not want to engage in services. The status review occurs after a disposition hearing, which follows a fact-finding or Title 30 summary hearing. The status review is intended to convey the intention that all parties (DCP&P and parents alike) are equally

¹ The CICIC is a judiciary committee that advises the Administrative Director of the Courts on systemic child welfare issues. Membership includes representatives of DCP&P, Office of Public Defender (parents' and children's attorneys), Attorney General's Office, Court Appointed Special Advocates of New Jersey, Legal Services of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education, Advocates for Children of New Jersey, professionals from the health, education, mental health and substance abuse fields, and other child welfare professionals. The voices of people with lived experience also were included in making this recommendation.

responsible for informing the court of the status of the efforts to remediate issues and, in out-of-home placement cases, to inform the court of the efforts to reunify the family.

The [CIC Operations Manual](#), [CIC Parent's Handbook](#), and the following three forms will be revised to reflect the change in terminology, effective January 1, 2026, and posted on the Judiciary's website:

- [CN 10261](#) - Child Protection Multipurpose Order (FN docket);
- [CN 10262](#) - Order - Stipulation/Admission or Fact-Finding/Trial (Title 9) (FN docket);
- [CN 11705](#) - Order - Admission or Summary Finding (Title 30) (FN docket).

cc: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Hon. Thomas W. Sumners, Jr., Chief Judge of the Appellate Division
Family Presiding Judges
Children in Court Judges
Steven D. Bonville, Judiciary Chief of Staff
AOC Directors and Assistant Directors
Clerks of Court
Special Assistants to the Administrative Director
David Tang, Chief, Family Practice
Family Division Managers and Assistant Family Division Managers
Jacqueline Augustine, Assistant Chief, Family Practice
Mona Prakash, Staff Attorney, Family Practice