



**WASHOE LEGAL SERVICES**  
**CASES AWAITING PLACEMENT**  
Cases Available as of January 27, 2022

**Family Law Cases**

**1. Contested Adoption – 22-0142676**

Client wishes to adopt her 13-year-old grandson. She has had legal guardianship of the child for 6 years. This is a contested adoption, although the mother is willing to consent if she is granted access to the child and visitation. The child is not sure that he wants to see his mother. The child wishes to be adopted and to have a sense of safety and permanency. The father's parental rights have been terminated. Mother has been in and out of prison for drug related charges. She currently has no job or stable living situation to provide for the child. Child has been diagnosed with PTSD, ADHD, and anxiety disorder. Client has previously adopted two other children from the same mother.

**2. Contested Guardianship – 22-0141968**

**\*\* Urgent Placement Requested – Upcoming court dates within the next month**

Client is requesting full representation to obtain guardianship of her granddaughter. Client is the maternal grandmother of 7-year-old girl. Granddaughter has been in her care since December of 2021. Child's mother is in rehab and father is in jail. Father initially consented to maternal great grandmother taking over guardianship, however he has since revoked that and expressed that he would like his daughter to be in the care of his mother (WLS Client). Maternal great grandmother has obtained an attorney to fight for guardianship and client needs representation to be on a level playing field. Client had a mediation on 02/22/2022 and another in mid-March.

**3. Divorce – 22-0141968**

**\*\* Urgent Placement Requested – Client Disabled & adverse party has left state**

Client is seeking full representation in a contested divorce. Client's wife left him after having an affair and has moved out of state. When she left, she took 90% of the possessions in the home. Client is elderly, disabled, and very low income. Wife has not contributed to finances since she left, and he is on the verge of losing his home due to eviction based on non-payment. The client states that wife has always been primary bread winner and handled finances and he is seeking some form of spousal support after 19+ years of marriage. Wife has retained an attorney and client is unable to afford one. Client really needs an attorney to help him through this process.

4. **Divorce/ Child Custody – 22-0141433**

**\*\* Urgent Placement Requested – Child taken out of state**

**Mediation 04/07/2022 / Settlement Hearing 05/23/2022**

Client is legally separated from his wife. Wife has taken their child out of the state of Nevada to California with no consent from the client. Client is seeking full representation to fight for primary physical custody of their 2-year-old son, and to compel his wife to return their son to Nevada. There is currently an open case. He attended the first hearing representing himself. Client's wife has an attorney in both California and Nevada. He is at a severe disadvantage without representation. Client filed for original legal separation, wife has a counter claim for divorce and was granted a temporary custody order wherein the client is only permitted to see his son every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month for one week. Client asserts that his wife has falsely accused him of abuse and is using this to keep his son from him. There have been no police reports or criminal charges filed against the client. Client has planned for long-term and reliable childcare should he be granted custody. Client also has no desire to keep his son from the mother and would like to reach a fair and reasonable arrangement for both parents.

5. **Family Law - Adoption – 21-0136208**

Client is seeking an attorney to help with adopting three of her grandchildren. Client has already previously adopted one grandchild from the same mother, child is special needs. Three children in question have been in client's care since 2012 when they were removed from their biological parents due to domestic violence, gun violence, and drug use. Father was recently released from prison and has moved out of state. Client has been unable to have him served due to sheriffs being unable to locate him. He has not responded to her petition. Mother has been served and is opposing the petition. Client has previously fostered 2 other grandchildren who have since reunified with their biological father (not the same father of the three she is seeking to adopt at present). Client is seeking full representation in this matter. Client believes that mother is not able to care for the children as she has unstable housing, repeat drug use, and previously terminating her parental right for other children of hers.

6. **Child Custody/ Visitation – 22-0141289**

Client is seeking full representation to settle child custody and visitation matter. Client is seeking primary physical and legal custody at this time, allowing for visitation with father. Client is seeking no overnight visits unless the child will be directly in her father's care. Client feels that the father of her 4-year-old daughter is not able to provide a stable living situation due to his profession and schedule. The child is frequently left overnight with babysitters or ends up sleeping on the couches of father's friends. Father has recently started withholding communication from the client when their daughter is with him. There is already established child support at this time. However, client may be looking to re-examine that in the future if she is able to prove income. Client claims father is a DJ whose income is made under the table and therefore not admissible. Client has done a lot

of work on this case through our self-help department and has reached a point where she would benefit greatly from an attorney.

**7. Child Custody – 22-0141171**

Client is seeking pro bono full representation for a child custody case. Client is disabled and a full-time student. Client also recently had a kidney transplant and due to complications and medical bills has no other avenue to afford a private attorney. Client is seeking to establish custody of a 3-month-old boy. He and the mother were never married, and the pregnancy was unexpected. Client is not on the birth certificate; however, he has taken a paternity test that resulted in a 99.9999% chance that the child is biologically his. The mother of the child is not allowing the client to see his child. On the rare occasion that he has gotten to see his son, it has been on her terms. Client states there is documentation of mother's mental health issues. Client also has serious concerns about hard core drug use. Client has not had AP served but has initiated the case. Client has CMC for 02/02/2022 and would benefit greatly by having representation at that time.