## TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR CHILDREN IN CUSTODY

## **POLICY**

If a child in custody is identified as an alleged perpetrator, he/she may not be interviewed by agency staff or law enforcement without legal representation.

## **PROCEDURE**

- 1. The child's caseworker contacts the attorney appointed to represent the child during the custody proceedings. (This is the child's attorney, not his/her Guardian ad Litem.)
  - a. Arrangements are made through the attorney for permission to interview the child.
- 2. If no attorney was appointed, the child's caseworker refers the issue to the TCJFS Legal Unit.
  - a. The Legal Unit makes a request to the Tuscarawas County Juvenile Court for appointment of counsel for the child.
  - b. When the agency is notified that an attorney has been appointed, arrangements are made through the attorney to interview the child, if consent is obtained.
- 3. In the absence of consent by the attorney for the child to conduct an interview, agency personnel and/or law enforcement <u>may not</u> interview the child regarding issues related to the investigation that identifies him/her as an alleged perpetrator.

Lynn Angelozzi, Director

Effective Date