REPORT TO COURT

DATE:

Worker:

Title:

Agency:

Type of Hearing:

Type of Referral:

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION:

CHILD:

DATE OF BIRTH:

CURRENT PLACEMENT:

SIBLINGS:

PARENTS:

NAME:

DATE OF BIRTH:

MAILING ADDRESS:

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

NAME:

DATE OF BIRTH:

MAILING ADDRESS:

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

II. FACTS:

A. Initial summary of findings, including evidence, facts and information collected through the investigation and the results of the worker’s professional assessment of the child’s safety.

B. Chronology of events in detail from receiving report to removal including all contact with parents, child, and other people involved.  These contacts include when, by what means, and content of the conversations/actions that took place.

C. This area includes information pulled from police reports, the initial report and any addendums received.

III. HISTORY AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A. Previous reports and findings from those reports

B. Criminal background information if relevant

IV. PARENTS’ FUNCTIONING AND CAPACITY TO PARENT AS ASSESSED BY

WORKER

A. Parent’s behaviors observed by worker, others who would be able to testify to them.

B. Explaining the parent’s ability to meet their own basic needs, not only just the child’s.

C. Ability to focus on child’s needs for the necessary length of time and the ability to reflect, critique and have insight of own abilities to care for child.

D. Assessment of parent’s interpretation and gauging of what happened (are they taking the accusation serious, are they completely denying it when facts strongly show otherwise?)

V. CHILD’S IDENTIFIED NEEDS

A. Where at in cognitive, motor, verbal development, level of supervision needed (i.e. due to age and development of child, she needs constant supervision at all times)

B. Illustrate how the parent does or does not match each specific need identified for the individual child.  Connect this piece with the previous section – explaining how the parent’s functioning is impacting ability to appropriately parent the child.  (i.e. Information collected in this worker’s assessment concludes that the parent’s drug use is severely impacting their ability to attuned and meet their child’s basic needs, putting the child at risk of harm).

VI. CURRENT SITUATION

A. May be redundant in some cases, but this is the place to articulate clearly how the facts presented impact the child’s safety (both physical and psychological).

B. Justify why this removal is necessary, what would happen if the child were returned without further intervention by Social Services. Be specific.

C. Describe parent’s willingness to work with and engage with BIA social services to address concerns together. Be specific (for example, describe avoidant behaviors).

D. If requesting TIA for this report, what information needs to be further known to make a determination for further intervention? Parent needs to be interviewed further? UAs pending from lab? If the report is specifically regarding parenting skills, do one or two supervised visits need to occur?

VII. EFFORTS TO PREVENT REMOVAL

A. Previous services offered to the family as a result from previous reports.

B. Actions taken by the agency to prevent removal after report was made. This includes referral to other services, and other services that were providing support. This piece always includes the worker’s carrying out of an assessment of the

child’s safety as an identified effort to prevent removal.

VIII. SUMMARY

A. Can be short and to the point but needs to be state, “As a result of this worker’s assessment and professional expertise, [the child] is found to be in immediate harm/danger due to… and found that removal and placement with … was and continues to be necessary until the safety assessment can be fully completed.”

IX. RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. The Above child be made a ward of the [name the Tribal Court that has

jurisdiction].

B. Care and Supervision of the child be vested with [name specific office of] Bureau of Indian Affairs Social Services.

C. Temporary investigative authority be given to [name specific office of] Bureau of Indian Affairs Social Services.

D. The proper language be added to the court order so that the above named child is in current relative placement, and that be continued with  \_\_\_\_\_ .

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Respectfully submitted,

[your name]