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| --- | --- |
| Our Ref: | Phone:  Fax: |

Dear

**YOUR CHILDREN'S COURT MATTER**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Born on:** |
|  | **Born on:** |

I am writing to you about your Establishment Hearing in the Children’s Court at on .

This Hearing was about whether was in need of care and protection at the time was removed from your care.

**What Happened in Court**

Before your matter was in Court, I asked you to sign some written instructions to confirm you understood that the Court might make negative comments about your parenting if you proceeded with your Hearing. You signed these instructions and a copy is **enclosed**.

Your matter was listed before . appeared for Community Services, appeared for , and appeared as the Independent Legal Representative (“ILR”) for . (The ILR represents the children’s best interests). I appeared on your behalf on a duty basis.

Each party told the Court why they thought that was/was not in need of care and protection at the time [HE/SHE] was removed.

**The Decision**

Magistrate gave Judgment and decided:

1. At the time was removed, [HE/SHE] was not in need of care and protection;
2. The Magistrate explained that [HE/SHE] made this decision because [HE/SHE] did not think that the [WAS/WERE] in need of care and protection at the time they were removed from your care because
3. That the Department’s Application be dismissed.

I have **enclosed** the original Court Orders made for on for your records.

**What Should You Do Now?**

This decision does not mean that Community Services will no longer be involved with you and your family. Your caseworker may want to continue to work with you and your family.

Community Services can file another Application in the future if they continue to have concerns about you and your family.

You should make sure that you follow all reasonable directions and that if you are asked to sign any documents or agreements, that you contact us to get some advice before you sign anything.

I will now close your file.

You are welcome to attend our free legal advice service each from to .

Yours sincerely

**Solicitor**

Encl.