Clinton J. Davis
Presiding Judge

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173rd Judicial District Court
Henderson County Courthouse
100 East Tyler Street, Suite 207
Athens, Texas 75751

Eric Ward
Bailiff

FILED FOR RECORD
At 4:00 o'clock P M.
JAN 22 2026
Betty Herriage
District Clerk
Henderson County, Texas
By _____, Deputy

January 22, 2026

RE: Visitation Guidelines for Children Under 3 Years of Age

The Court hereby publishes to the public model *Visitation Guidelines for Children Under 3 years of Age* to assist parents, attorneys, and caregivers in developing appropriate possession and access schedules for very young children.

These guidelines are intended to serve as a **helpful reference** in promoting consistent, child-focused visitation plans that support the development of healthy parent–child relationships.

Please be advised:

- These model *Guidelines* are **advisory only**.
- They **do not have the force of law** and **do not replace** the requirement for the Court to consider the **specific facts and circumstances** of each case.
- In every matter involving a child under three (3) years of age, the Court will determine an appropriate possession and access schedule **based on the individual needs of the child and the evidence presented** pursuant to **Texas Family Code §153.254** and related provisions.
- Parties retain the right to present evidence and testimony at a hearing regarding what schedule is in the **best interest of the child**.

These guidelines are provided solely for educational purposes and as a tool to encourage cooperation and understanding among parents and guardians.

Sincerely yours,

Judge Clint Davis
173rd District Court

CJD/ale

VISITATION GUIDELINES FOR CHILDREN UNDER 3 YEARS OF AGE

If the parents reside less than 100 miles apart:

0 - 6 months: visitation shall occur in the home of the custodial parent unless the Court designates another supervised location. Visitation shall be from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on each Tuesday and Thursday evening and from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on each Saturday.

6 - 18 months: visitation may occur outside the custodial parent's home. Custodial parent shall provide an infant car seat and any breast milk or formula which the child may need during the visit. Visitation shall be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. one evening per week (to be designated by the visiting parent) and 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Saturdays of each month from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

18 months - 2 years: visitation shall be 1st, 3rd, and 5th weekends of the month from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, further on December 25th & 26th, Thanksgiving Day, January 1st, Easter Sunday and July 4th, Mother's Day/Father's Day, and the child's birthday from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

If the parents reside further than 100 miles apart: (Same as less than 100 miles or at visiting parent's option)

0 - 6 months: visitation shall occur in the home of the custodial parent unless the Court designates another supervised location. Visitation may occur between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any Saturday and Sunday the visiting parent shall be in town; however, said visitation shall be scheduled so as not to interfere with or interrupt the child's sleep or feeding schedules.

6 - 18 months: visitation may occur as set forth above, however the visiting parent may take the child from the custodial parent's home for 2 periods during each day not to exceed 2 hours each.

18 months - 2 years: visitation shall occur on any designated weekend (no more than 2 weekends per month to be designated by the visiting parent giving the custodial parent at least 14 days' notice) between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Visiting parent may also have possession of the child from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on December 25th & 26th, and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day, July 4th, Mother's Day/Father's Day and the child's birthday.

Under either scenario, the parties shall follow a standard possession order beginning when the child is 2 years of age, unless the Court orders otherwise.