

**Manhattan Field Office**

150 William St.  
New York, N.Y. 10038

If you have any questions about the child safety conference, contact the field office or hotline staff listed below:

ACS Caseworker's Name:

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Phone Number:

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ACS Supervisor's Name

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Phone Number:

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**Hotline Information**

Parent's and Children's Rights Hotline  
(212) 676-9421



**NYC Administration  
for Children's Services**

Rudolph W. Giuliani, *Mayor*  
Nicholas Scoppetta, *Commissioner*  
William C. Bell, *Deputy Commissioner*  
Zeinab Chahine, *Associate Commissioner*

# 72-Hour Child Safety Conference



# Q & A 72-Hour Child Safety Conference

*Dear Parent/ Caretaker:*

*Your children were taken into protective custody by the New York City Administration for Children's Services to ensure their safety and well-being.*

*In a couple of days, Acs will invite you to participate in a Child Safety Conference.*

*You will have the opportunity to present your perspective on the current situation and provide input on a plan that best meets your children's needs. We encourage you to consider inviting those who know your family and play a supportive role to your family, such as relatives, friends, advocates, religious officials, service agencies, etc.*

## **What is the 72-Hour Child Safety Conference?**

The conference is a meeting which involves ACS, your family, your friends, relatives and others who support your family. It serves as a forum for sharing information related to the protection and safety of your children and the overall functioning of your family.

## **What are the objectives of the conference?**

- To reach an agreement about a plan that protects your children, preserves or reunifies your family and establishes permanency for your child.
- To make a comprehensive assessment of your family's functioning, which includes examining your family's strengths and needs.
- To coordinate the various service providers and community supports that are involved in your child's life.

## **Who participates in the conference?**

Child Evaluation Specialists (CES) from ACS will facilitate the child safety conferences. Each CES holds a Master of Social Work degree and has been trained in group facilitation and mediation skills. The conferences include ACS staff, your family, your support system and others who have had significant experience with your child and family and can contribute information to develop the most appropriate course of action.

## **How do I get a conference on my case?**

If a conference is appropriate for your case, a Child Evaluation Specialist from ACS will contact you and let you know where and when the conference will be held. You will be asked to identify anyone who supports your family and should be part of the conference. In some instances, depending on the allegations and circumstances of the case, ACS will determine that a child safety conference is not appropriate.