

Stuart Student Hypothetical
Guardian Ad Litem Disability Conference
April 2016

The Family

Stuart Student, age 13

Stuart's mother, Monica Student, age 33

Stuart's father, Frank Student, age 35

Stuart's paternal grandmother, Gertrude Student, age 60

Others

Lisa Lawyer, Stuart's Attorney

Victor Volunteer, Stuart's Guardian ad Litem

Carrie Counselor, Attorney for the Guardian ad Litem Program

Cindy Safety, CPI

Renee Reunion, Stuart's Case Manager

Ms. Loving, Stuart's Caregiver (and director at his group home)

Allison Attorney, Monica Student's attorney

The Background

Stuart, age 13, entered care in January 2016 after his grandmother, Gertrude, had a stroke and was hospitalized. Currently, Stuart's mother, Monica, is being detained on a VOP charge in another county. There is a diligent search pending for Stuart's father, Frank. According to Stuart, he and his parents have been living with Gertrude for approximately 6 years in South Sunshine County. Stuart reports that he loved his school, but his school attendance has been poor for years. He is in the 7th grade.

When Stuart was sheltered in January, no other relatives were available to care for him and he was placed temporarily in a shelter in North Sunshine County. While there, he received a CBHA which recommended visitation with his family, a psychological evaluation, therapy, follow-up dental care, and that efforts be made to stabilize his educational placement.

In early March, Stuart was moved to the Loving Home Group Home in mid-Sunshine County. Ms. Loving has been the group home director for years and is an active participant at school events concerning the children placed in her care.

Stuart is adjusting to his new placement, however, he is displaying some concerning behaviors at school. He frequently is disrespectful, swears at school staff and his classmates, and appears unable to manage his emotions. He is struggling with his school work, never completes homework and frequently disrupts class.

The school has completed a Social History, Functional Behavioral Assessment and psychological evaluation. The school psychologist found Stuart to have an IQ of 71 and has recommended that Stuart receive assistance for his learning disability.

An IEP meeting has been scheduled for April 29, 2016.