

**MINOR SETTLEMENT SCRIPT**

**THE COURT:** We are on the record in Cause No. \*\*\*\*  
  
Before the Court today is a proposed settlement on behalf of a minor.  
Would the parties please make their appearances for the record and  
indicate who you represent.

**PLAINTIFF:** (Attorney name) for Plaintiff (name).

**AD LITEM:** (Attorney Name) as Guardian Ad litem for (name).

**DEFENDANT:** (Attorney Name) for Defendant (name).

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**THE COURT:** This record is taken via videoconference pursuant to the Supreme Court of Texas’s First, Third, and Twelfth Emergency Orders Regarding the COVID-19 State of Disaster; Supreme Court of Texas Misc. Docket Nos. 20-9042, 20-9044, and 20-9059. In its First Emergency Order, the Supreme Court of Texas authorized all courts in Texas to “[a]llow or require anyone involved in any hearing, deposition, or other proceeding of any kind—including but not limited to a party, attorney, witness, or court reporter, but not including a juror—to participate remotely, such as by teleconferencing, videoconferencing, or other means.” Additionally, the Supreme Court authorized all courts in Texas to “[c]onsider as evidence sworn statements made out of court or sworn testimony given remotely, out of court, such as by teleconferencing, videoconferencing, or other means.”

Does Counsel for Plaintiff understand and consent to moving forward with this hearing?

**PLAINTIFF:** (Yes or No) → (if no, elaborate).

**THE COURT:** Does Counsel for Defendant understand and consent to moving forward with this hearing?

**DEFENDANT:** (Yes or No) → (if no, elaborate)

**THE COURT:** Does the Guardian Ad Litem understand and consent to moving forward with this hearing?

**DEFENDANT:** (Yes or No) → (if no, elaborate)

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**THE COURT:** Let's start with a brief narrative from the Guardian Ad Litem.

**AD LITEM:** (Guardian Ad Litem gives brief narrative).

**THE COURT:** Thank you. Does the Plaintiff have any additional facts that need to be added to the narrative?

**PLAINTIFF:** (yes/no Judge) → (if yes) Plaintiff would like to add (brief narrative).

**THE COURT:** Thank you. Does the Defendant have any additional facts that need to be added to the narrative?

**DEFENDANT:** (Yes/no Judge) → (if yes) Defendant would like to add (brief narrative).

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**THE COURT:** Thank you. Who is offering testimony on the minor's behalf?

**AD LITEM:** (name) if offering testimony Judge.

**THE COURT:** (Plaintiff's Lawyer Name) can you please verify that the person testifying is indeed your client's voice and that you recognize it?

**PLAINTIFF:** Yes, Judge, the person testifying is my client and I recognize their voice.

**THE COURT:** (Judge Swears in the Witness). (Name of Ad litem) you may proceed.

**AD LITEM:** Thank you Judge. (Ad Litem asks witness questions).

[AT THE CONCLUSION OF AD LITEM QUESTIONING]

**THE COURT:** Thank you. Are there any additional questions by Plaintiff at this time?

**PLAINTIFF:** (Yes or No) → (if yes, elaborate).

**THE COURT:** Are there any additional questions by Defendant at this time?

**DEFENDANT:** (Yes or No) → (if yes, elaborate)

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**THE COURT:** Thank you. Is there a recommendation from the Guardian Ad Litem?

**AD LITEM:** Yes, I recommend (state recommendation). (If no, then discussion).

**THE COURT:** Has the Ad Litem fees been agreed to?

**DEFENDANT:** Yes, Judge.

**THE COURT:** **Closing Remarks.**