

**What is a Truancy CASA?**

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates. CASAs are not paid to be in their role, rather, they are trained volunteers. Judges and magistrates appoint CASA volunteers to truancy cases to be an additional resource for families. Truancy CASA Volunteers gather information and write reports for the Court. This information helps judicial officers make informed decisions regarding your child.

**A Truancy CASA Volunteer…**

**does not** decide what happens in the truancy case. This is ultimately up to the judicial officer.

**does not** choose sides in family disagreements

**does not** transport your child to school or appointments

**does not** drive family members to appointments or court

**does not** act like a parent or older sibling to your child

**does not** represent you in court or give legal advice

**does** talk to people who might have information about your child. These people can include school personnel, doctors, therapists, attorneys, social workers probation personnel or others

**does** get to know your child and may visit with them independently at home or school

**does** get to know you and can help you find and use resources in the community

**does** have access to your child’s educational records and gets copies of all court documents related to the truancy case

**does** take notes about their interactions and observations with your child and family. The truancy CASA is required to write reports and provide information to the Court

**does** listen to your thoughts and feeling about how things are going and can include these things in their reports

**does** represent the child(ren)’s best interest



**does not** decide what happens in the truancy case. This is ultimately up to the judicial officer.

**does not** choose sides in family disagreements

**does not** buy you things or take you to their home

**does not** drive you or your family members to court or appointments

**does not** tell anyone else outside the court case anything about you or your life

**does** talk to people who might know about how you are doing. These people can be school personnel, doctors, therapists, or others.

**does** get to know you and your family and will visit you at home and at school

**does** get copies of all court documents and your educational records

**does** take notes. The truancy CASA has to write reports to the court telling the judge or magistrate what’s going on. This means, anything you say to the truancy CASA can be reported to the judge or magistrate.

**does** listen to your thoughts and feeling about how things are going and can include these things in reports

**does** try to support you and do what is in your best interest

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates. They are appointed by a Judge to be a support for you. Judges want information about you to help them make good decisions about you. Your truancy CASA can help you understand what is happening in the court case you are involved in, and you can ask them any questions you have. Truancy CASAs are not paid for their time, but they are trained volunteers who are there to advocate for you. They listen to you and gather information about you to report to the Court, and they can speak on your behalf in court.

**What is a Truancy CASA?**

FOR CHILDREN

**A Truancy CASA Volunteer…**