



## Travis County Office of Child Representation



### **CLIENT BILL OF RIGHTS**

1. You have the right to direct your lawyer. When you form the attorney-client relationship, that means your lawyer works for you and has to fight for what you want.
2. You have the right to have your lawyer meet with you in-person before each hearing.
3. You have the right to go to court and speak with the judge.
4. If your case goes to trial, you have the right to make your own decisions about which side you want to be on, and whether you want to testify.
5. You have the right to a competent lawyer. Your lawyer has to know the law, and must investigate your case. They can't just rely on what CPS tells them.
6. You have the right to communicate with your lawyer:
  - a. Your lawyer has to respond when you call or message them;
  - b. Your lawyer must update you when important things happen in your case;
  - c. Your lawyer has to keep the things you tell them confidential. That means they can't share them without your permission;
  - d. Your lawyer must answer your questions;
  - e. Your lawyer must give you their best advice; and
  - f. Your lawyer has to be honest with you, even if that includes giving you bad news.