

Juvenile Court (CINA) Process

Hearings

What	When	Description/Notes
Pre/post-removal conference	1-3 days after removal	
Removal Hearing	Within 10 days after removal	Is/was removal appropriate?
Adjudication Hearing	6 weeks after removal	To determine if the child is in need of the court's assistance
Dispositional Hearing	10 weeks after removal	To determine placement/set case plan
Review Hearing	3-6 months after removal	This is like a progress report; how are things going?
Permanency Hearing	<p>If the child is 0-3, this hearing is held 3-6 months after removal.</p> <p>If the child is 3+, this hearing is held 6-12 months after removal</p> <p>An extension may be granted if the parents are making progress</p>	<p>A number of different things could happen at this hearing, depending on how things are going.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The court could return your children and dismiss the CINA case. • The court could grant an extension. • The court could direct the county attorney to file a Termination of Parental Rights petition, especially if the child has been in an out-of-home placement for 15 of the last 22 months (for infants and young children, this timeline is usually shortened).
Permanency Review	6 months after permanency	This is another "status" hearing. If the CINA case is dismissed at permanency, however, there is no permanency review hearing.

These timelines are not set in stone, but offer a general guideline of when things happen and what the purpose is for each hearing.