DOCKET MANAGEMENT

Child Dependency Courts

WASHINGTON COURTS
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

For many judicial officers, large workloads and complex cases can make giving each family enough time and attention feel impossible. Effective docket management can make a real difference in the ability to engage families and children, make informed decisions, and strengthen dependency systems.
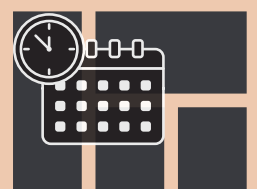
4 calendaring methods for dependency cases

"Cattle Call"

Block Time

Time Certain

Hybrid
block time & time-certain

Time-certain calendaring can help reduce wait times to **20** to **60** minutes for parents, children, and professionals.

NCJFCJ (2015) Research Report: Assessing Time-Certain Calendaring Dockets

Reductions in wait times can allow for more cases to be heard, decreased workload for dependency partners, and less stress for families.

Learn More

Putting Children and Families First in Dependency Case Management and Scheduling

Five self-paced, online modules that help courts assess their adherence to principles of case management and scheduling and investigate research-supported strategies for increasing effective case docket management in dependency cases. This course is designed to guide cross-systems teams in action planning, however, the information within the modules is beneficial to individual court professionals as well.

National Center for State Courts(NCSC) and National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)

Click Here

Interactive Dependency Timeliness Dashboard: web-based 'interactive' tool that allows courts to track their own progress in meeting child dependency system performance measures.

Click **HERE** to view the dashboard

Click **HERE** to see a 2020 summary table of data from WA counties

Data