



Today's Date: _____

Volunteer's Name: _____

The above CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) applicant requests your input as a reference to the CASA Volunteer program. CASA is a nonprofit organization that recruits, trains and supervises individuals to work one-on-one with an abused child in Orange County. CASA volunteers advocate in court for children who are victims of abuse, abandonment and/or neglect, and it is important that CASA volunteers are competent, responsible, articulate and mature.

This reference form is used to assess the candidate's ability to perform the role of a Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASA applicants receive 30 hours of court-mandated training and on-going case supervision. Once appointed to a case, the CASA volunteer researches the case, interviews relevant parties, spends unsupervised time with the child/teen, makes recommendations on behalf of a child and prepares written reports for the court.

Your input is valued and considered along with other criteria during our review process. The information shared by you is used to determine the prospective volunteer's suitability and is held in *strict confidence*.

Please do not hesitate to contact a Program Manager at (714) 619-5153 for further input or to seek additional information about the CASA program. You may also visit our website at www.casaoc.org. Thank you in advance for your time and honesty in completing this reference form. Feel free to use another sheet of paper for additional comments.

1. How long have you known the applicant? And in what capacity?

2. Do you have knowledge of how the applicant relates to children? Yes No
If yes, please describe:

3. What strengths do you see in the applicant that will help him/her in this role? In what areas will he/she need to grow?

REFERENCE LETTER

4. Check as many of the following as you believe describe the applicant:
- | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Unhappy | <input type="checkbox"/> Moody | <input type="checkbox"/> Insightful | <input type="checkbox"/> Friendly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative | <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks Confidence | <input type="checkbox"/> Follower | <input type="checkbox"/> Happy | <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Considerate | <input type="checkbox"/> Well-adjusted | <input type="checkbox"/> Stubborn | <input type="checkbox"/> Reserved | <input type="checkbox"/> Caring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opinionated | <input type="checkbox"/> Open-Minded | <input type="checkbox"/> Patient | <input type="checkbox"/> Leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Tactful |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible | <input type="checkbox"/> Hot-tempered | <input type="checkbox"/> Assertive | <input type="checkbox"/> Aggressive | <input type="checkbox"/> Narrow-Minded |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compassionate | <input type="checkbox"/> Arrogant | <input type="checkbox"/> Impatient | <input type="checkbox"/> Confident | <input type="checkbox"/> Easily upset |

If you have additional comments on the boxes you checked, explain below in Question #12.

5. In your opinion, would the applicant have problems working with any of the following:
- Diverse Cultures Females Males Disabled Religious Groups

Explain: _____

6. To your knowledge, has the applicant ever had a drinking or drug problem?
 Yes No If yes, please explain:

7. How well does the applicant assume responsibility?
 Very Well Well Average Below Average

8. How well does the applicant finish projects and activities?
 Very Well Well Average Below Average

9. Do you consider the applicant emotionally stable?
 Yes No If no, please explain: _____

10. Would you be comfortable having the applicant as an advocate for a member of your family?
 Yes No

11. Overall, I would give the applicant the following recommendation for CASA:
 Excellent Good Fair I have some reservations

12. Discuss your overall impression of the applicant as it relates to this volunteer position:

Signature

Print name

Today's Date

Phone