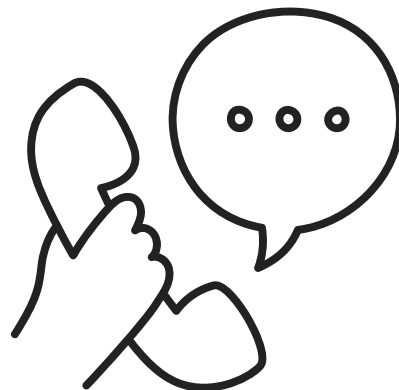

What Happens During a CPS Investigation?

- A CPS worker will try to contact you to discuss the complaint.
 - The CPS worker may come to your home or call you by phone.
 - The CPS worker may call family members, neighbors, doctors, and teachers for information.
 - If the CPS worker cannot reach you, they may try to speak with your child at school.
 - If CPS is satisfied that no abuse or neglect has taken place, there is no further action.
 - If CPS finds evidence of abuse or neglect, additional steps are taken, including possible court action.
-



Legal Advice Hotline: 716-846-1181

If CPS Contacts You:
Call our free hotline open
Monday through Friday 8am-4pm.
A legal advisor will be
available to discuss your rights
free of charge.



Pre-Petition Legal Advice Program

The Assigned
Counsel Program

*Erie County Bar Association's Aid
to Indigent Prisoners Society, Inc.*



The Assigned Counsel Program Mission Statement

“The Program strives to help those who cannot help themselves, who face steep odds against the power of the State, and who struggle with poverty, mental issues, helplessness, and dread. The attorneys in the Program save lives and save families...”.



What Are My Rights in a CPS Investigation?

- You have the right to know the details of the allegation made against you.
- You have the right to speak with an attorney before speaking with CPS.
- You have the right to refuse CPS entrance to your home without a court order.
- You have the right to keep your immigration status private.
- You have the right to an interpreter if one is needed.
- You have the right to refuse mental health or drug test evaluation without a court order.
- You have the right to refuse to have CPS question your children without a court order.
- You have the right to refuse services recommended by CPS.



Should I Have an Attorney in a CPS Investigation?

It is always a good idea to seek legal advice when involved in a CPS investigation.

**Call the Assigned
Counsel Program's free
Legal Advice Hotline at
716-846-1181.**

The hotline is open Monday - Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. You will be able to discuss your rights with a legal advisor free of charge.

