



CASA of Merced County Advocate Application

Date _____

How did you hear about our program?

The information on this form will help us assess your qualifications to serve as a volunteer for CASA of Merced County. Please read the directions carefully and complete all the sections of the application as thoroughly as possible. All information provided by you is confidential and will be used for case matching and statistical purposes only. CASA of Merced County will reject any applicant who refuses to sign a release of information form or submit to fingerprint scan and background check as required by law.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Legal

Name(s): _____

Mailing

Address: _____

Home

Address: _____

Street

City

Zip Code

Telephone: (H) _____

(W) _____

May we call you at work? (Yes / No)

E-Mail: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Pager Number: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Gender: M F

Date of Birth (must be 21 yrs. of age or older) _____

Place of Birth: _____

Emergency
 Notification: _____

Name	Phone	Relationship
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Ethnicity: _____

Resident of Merced County for _____ Yrs.

Other States in Which You Have Resided: _____

Marital Status _____

If married, please provide spouse's name and occupation:

Spouse's
 Name _____ Occupation _____

Children:	Name	Age

Other Members of Household:

Name	Relationship

Personal Transportation Available? Yes No
 If yes, License Plate # _____

California Drivers License # _____
 Automobile Insurance Carrier: _____

Circle languages other than English that you speak:

- Spanish
- Chinese
- Portuguese
- Japanese
- Vietnamese
- Cambodian
- Tagalog
- Hmong
- Other _____

II. EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Circle current employment status:

- Full-time
- Part-Time
- Self-employed
- Student
- Unemployed
- Retired

Check **P** for Paid and **V** for volunteer work experience

Dates of Employment	Job Title	Name of Company	Address of Company	Telephone Number	Reason for Leaving	Paid Position (P) or Volunteer (V)?

Please describe duties, responsibilities and likes/dislikes about your past or present volunteer experience(s):

What hobbies, sports, crafts or activities interest you?

Are you a member of any community service organizations or clubs? Yes No
Please List them:

III. EDUCATION (Circle highest level completed)

High School: 9 10 11 12 College: 1 2 3 4 Graduate: 1 2 3 4

Last School Attended _____
Date _____

Major _____
Degree _____

Are you currently attending school? Yes No (Circle)

Do you have any special skills or licenses?
If yes, please list _____

Do you have any training or experience in the following?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ Medicine | _____ Drug/Alcohol Abuse Programs |
| _____ Mental Health/Counseling | _____ Criminology/Law Enforcement |
| _____ Social Work/Child Welfare | _____ Writing |
| _____ Child Development | _____ Public |
| _____ Speaking/News Media | _____ Education |
| _____ Art Graphics | _____ Web Site Design |
| Other _____ | |

IV. PERSONAL REFERENCES

Please list names, addresses, and telephone numbers of 3 references whom we may contact. These may be friends, coworkers, employers, teachers, someone who has seen you interact with children, but no relatives please.

1. _____
 Name _____ Phone _____

Address (include zip code) _____ Relationship _____

2. _____
 Name _____ Phone _____

Address (include zip code) _____ Relationship _____

3. _____
 Name _____ Phone _____

Address (include zip code) _____ Relationship _____

V. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Have you ever been:

- a) Arrested for a crime against a child? Yes No
- b) Arrested for a violent felony? Yes No
- c) Arrested for a sex crime? Yes No

If you answered "yes" to a, b or c above, can you produce a written declaration of a "Finding of Factual Innocence?" Yes No

Have you been convicted of any crime within the past 5 years (excluding vehicle code infractions, but including vehicular misdemeanors or felonies)? Yes No

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of any crime not mentioned above? Yes No

Are you or have you been the subject of or been involved in:

- a) A reporting to a Child Protective Agency? Yes No
- b) An adjudicated dependent of any juvenile court? Yes No
- c) Placed under informal supervision in any county's children's social service agency? Yes No

Have you ever been directly involved in a court proceeding in this or any other state? Yes No

As a child, were you or any of your siblings ever the subject of a child abuse report? Yes No

Are you currently paid or reimbursed to provide a service to children and/or parents within the child welfare and/or Juvenile Court System? Yes No

Note: Any applicant found to have been convicted of, or having charges pending for a felony or misdemeanor will NOT be accepted as a CASA volunteer.

VI. MEDICAL INFORMATION

Are you currently under the care of a medical professional, and/or therapist and/or taking any prescribed medications? Yes No

If yes, please explain:

VII. OTHER

If you were to volunteer with CASA of Merced County, would you agree to: (Circle one)

- 1. Be a CASA volunteer until case is resolved (approx. 18 months)? Yes No
- 2. Complete the volunteer basic training program (approx. 30 hours)? Yes No

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 3. Participate in ongoing supervision and training meetings? | Yes | No |
| 4. Participate in court hearings when necessary, a minimum of every 6months? | Yes | No |
| 5. Maintain confidentiality regarding all court cases? | Yes | No |
| 6. Submit to a criminal index and investigation background check? | Yes | No |
| 7. Provide verification of auto liability insurance before working directly with children? | Yes | No |
| 8. Volunteer 10 to 15 hours per month? | Yes | No |
| 9. Work with children who have suffered abuse or neglect and their families? | Yes | No |
| 10. Would you be willing to accept a sibling group assignment? | Yes | No |

The children with whom you work the best with are (Please Circle):

Gender: M F Ages: 0-3 4-12 13-17

VIII. AUTOBIOGRAPHY

On a separate sheet of paper, please write a one-page autobiography.



AFFIRMATION & RELEASE

I, _____ hereby affirm that all of the answers provided are true. I hereby authorize CASA of Merced County to investigate my background to determine my fitness as a potential volunteer. Falsifying and/or knowingly misrepresenting any information in this application are grounds for denying the applicant or dismissal of the volunteer. I understand that the screening process includes, but is not limited to: child abuse index check, fingerprinting, DMV check, proof of automobile insurance, references and in-depth personal interviews.

I understand that the information requested in this application will be used only for the purpose of determining suitability as a CASA volunteer. I understand that after successful completion of my training, and acceptance as an advocate, I will be expected to serve a minimum of 18 months in the CASA program. If unforeseen circumstances prevent me from fulfilling this obligation, I will submit my written resignation to the CASA Director as soon as possible.

I understand that if I am unable to complete all mandatory training sessions, I will have to complete all missed sessions at either the next scheduled training or arrange individual training with the CASA Office. I understand that I will not be able to serve as a volunteer until these sessions are completed as well as any additional requirements that the CASA staff may deem necessary.

I understand that when I leave the program, I will return all CASA training manuals, case files, ID badges, and all CASA materials obtained while serving as a volunteer with the program. All materials will be returned within one week of separation from the program.

I am aware of the sensitive and confidential nature of the documents, discussions, and other material I will examine in my capacity as a volunteer advocate. I will discuss these matters only with those directly involved in the case.

Name (please print) _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return completed application to:
CASA of Merced County, P.O. Box 2362 Merced, CA 95344
MercedCASA@gmail.com
209/722-2272