

1 AN ACT concerning fees, fines, and assessments.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Article 1. General Provisions

5 Section 1-1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
6 Criminal and Traffic Assessment Act.

7 Section 1-5. Definitions. In this Act:

8 "Assessment" means any costs imposed on a defendant under  
9 schedules 1 through 13 of this Act.

10 "Business offense" means a petty offense for which the fine  
11 is in excess of \$1,000.

12 "Case" means all charges and counts filed against a single  
13 defendant which are being prosecuted as a single proceeding  
14 before the court.

15 "Count" means each separate offense charged in the same  
16 indictment, information, or complaint when the indictment,  
17 information, or complaint alleges the commission of more than  
18 one offense.

19 "Conservation offense" means any violation of the  
20 following Acts, Codes, or ordinances, except any offense  
21 punishable upon conviction by imprisonment in the  
22 penitentiary:

1           (14) The County Jail Medical Costs Fund is to help  
2 defray the costs outlined in Section 17 of the County Jail  
3 Act. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for  
4 reimbursement to the county of costs for medical expenses  
5 and administration of the Fund.

6           (15) The Prisoner Review Board Vehicle and Equipment  
7 Fund is a special fund in the State treasury. The Prisoner  
8 Review Board shall, subject to appropriation by the General  
9 Assembly and approval by the Secretary, use all moneys in  
10 the Prisoner Review Board Vehicle and Equipment Fund for  
11 the purchase and operation of vehicles and equipment.

12           (16) In each county in which Court Appointed Special  
13 Advocates provide services, a Child Advocacy Center Fund,  
14 specifically for the operations of the Court Appointed  
15 Special Advocates, from which the county board shall make  
16 grants to support the activities and services of the Court  
17 Appointed Special Advocates within that county. The term  
18 "Court Appointed Special Advocates" is copyrighted and is  
19 used with permission of the holder of the copyright.

20                           Article 15. Assessment Schedules

21           Section 15-5. SCHEDULE 1; generic felony offenses.  
22 SCHEDULE 1: Unless assessments are imposed by the court under  
23 another schedule of this Act, for a felony offense, the Clerk  
24 of the Circuit Court shall collect \$549 and remit as follows:

1 (1) As the county's portion, \$354 to the county treasurer,  
2 who shall deposit the money as follows:

3 (A) \$20 into the Court Automation Fund;

4 (B) \$20 into the Court Document Storage Fund;

5 (C) \$5 into the Circuit Court Clerk Operation and  
6 Administrative Fund;

7 (D) \$255 into the county's General Fund;

8 (E) \$10 into the Child Advocacy Center Fund;

9 (F) \$2 into the State's Attorney Records Automation  
10 Fund;

11 (G) \$2 into the Public Defender Records Automation  
12 Fund;

13 (H) \$20 into the County Jail Medical Costs Fund; and

14 (I) \$20 into the Probation and Court Services Fund.

15 (2) As the State's portion, \$195 to the State Treasurer,  
16 who shall deposit the money as follows:

17 (A) \$50 into the State Police Operations Assistance  
18 Fund;

19 (B) \$100 into the Violent Crime Victims Assistance  
20 Fund;

21 (C) \$10 into the State Police Merit Board Public Safety  
22 Fund; and

23 (D) \$35 into the Traffic and Criminal Conviction  
24 Surcharge Fund.

25 Section 15-10. SCHEDULE 2; felony DUI offenses. SCHEDULE 2:

RESOLUTION No. 2013-60

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FUND

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a unit of local government exercising power under the Illinois Counties Code (55 ILCS 5/1-100, et seq.); and

WHEREAS, Franklin County, a local government entity established within the great State of Illinois, depends on the state for authority and financial assistance to carry out its responsibilities to effectively meet the needs of residents, and

WHEREAS, the duly elected Franklin County Board believes it is their obligation to respond to legislation introduced that can adversely or positively impact the citizens of their County, and

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly introduced legislation amending the Countries Code 55 ILCS 5/5-1101, and the Governor has signed the following amended language into law.

(f-10) In each county in which the Court Appointed Special Advocates provide services, the county board may, in addition to any fine imposed under Section 5-9-1 of the Unified Code of Corrections, adopt a mandatory fee of between \$10 and \$30 to be paid by the defendant on a judgment of guilty or a grant of supervision for a felony; for a Class A, Class B, or Class C misdemeanor; for a petty offense; and for a business offense; where a court appearance is required. Assessments shall be collected by the clerk of the circuit court and must be deposited into an account specifically for the operations of the Court Appointed Special Advocates. The clerk of the circuit court shall collect the fees as provided in this subsection and must remit the fees to the Court Appointed Special Advocates Fund that the county board shall create for the receipt of funds collected under this subsection, and from which the county board shall make grants to support the activities and services of the Court Appointed Special Advocates within that county. The term "Court Appointed Special Advocates" is copyrighted and is used with permission of the holder of the copyright.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DECREED, by the Franklin County Board that effective December 1, 2013, a fee of \$20.00 will be assessed on and paid by the defendants as prescribed in the afore cited language of 55 ILCS 5/5-1101, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND DECREED, that a separate special revenue fund will be established by Franklin County for the purpose of fiscal management of the deposit and disbursement of collected fees;

*Randall Crocker, Chairman*  
Randall Crocker, Chairman

ATTEST:  
*Dave Dobill*  
Dave Dobill, Franklin County Clerk

YEAS                      9    
NAYS                     0    
ABSENT                  0



**CASA**  
Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

FRANKLIN & HAMILTON COUNTIES

### Mission Statement

The mission of CASA of Franklin & Hamilton Counties is a non-profit agency which provides trained court appointed volunteers to advocate for best interest of abused and neglected children who have experienced abuse and neglect in Franklin & Hamilton Counties Juvenile Court System.

### Vision

Every child in Franklin and Hamilton Counties to receive quality advocacy by CASA.

### Expansion into Hamilton County

The beginning of 2020 Judge Barry Vaughan did a swearing in of our first advocate in Hamilton County. Since then we have trained six advocates and are appointed to 17 youth cases.

### Friend of the Court Model

CASA Advocate is court appointed by the Judge to gather information and advocate on behalf of the best interest of the children we are court appointed to serve. The CASA Advocate is not a party to the case.

The CASA works closely with agencies, schools, doctors, youth's placement, counselors, and others to ensure services are facilitated. and youth is receiving quality care and needs are met while in court system. Most importantly we spend numerous hours with the youth to ensure we can advocate for his/her individual needs and wishes.

### CASA Team

Staff: 3 staff

Executive Director: Mariah Hayes

Advocacy Program Coordinator: Tina Casillas

Program Assistant (Part Time): Marci Glover

## CASA BY THE NUMBERS

### CHILDREN SERVED

106 Children Served in 2022

43 New Cases in 2022

38 Cases Closed in 2022

### VOLUNTEERS

43 Active Volunteers in 2020

21 Active Volunteers in 2022

Trained 6 volunteers in 2022.

1350 Hours Spent on Cases in 2022

3,370 Volunteer Miles driven on cases

*Volunteer \$29.95(Federal Rate for Volunteer) x 1350= \$40,433 donated*

### Board of Directors

Lynn Braden-McLeansboro

Matt Donkin-West Frankfort

Chris Ely-Benton

Amy Garmane-Benton

Nicci Miller-Benton

Michael Oliver-West Frankfort

Wayne Shannon-Sesser

Diane Simpson-Benton

***24 YEARS providing advocates for children who have experienced abuse and neglect.***



## VISTATION CENTER

Providing home environment for visitations which are supervised. These visits are for children in care with parents, sibling visits and grandparent visits. Our CASA Visitation Room is used 100 hours a month. We are the only CASA program in Illinois and the only visit room in Franklin & Hamilton Counties.

Supervised visitation for custody cases. We do charge \$20 an hour fee and provide a supervisor for these visits.

## DIRECT SUPPORT

We provide children in our program and others, additional support to fill in the gaps with funding. Majority of financial support is through donations and grants.

- Clothing- we have children clothing at the office and have bought clothing for teens and others when they leave foster home with nothing.
- Food Assistance- Many of our youth are placed with family members. This year due to COVID many have been impacted financially. Through Poshard Foundation and United Way South Central we provided food for many of our families who were struggling.
- Other necessary items- assisted with rent, bedding, furniture etc. Our goal is to assist children with normalcy and stability.
- Gas cards-CASA Advocates drive throughout Southern Illinois to visit CASA children in their foster placement, schools etc. We have also provided gas cards for visits also.

## Partnership with Lutheran Charities:

CASA of Franklin/Hamilton Counties and LLC has created an interagency agreement to provide a COMFORT DOG for visitations one time a month. The Comfort Dog, Esther, is with a trained handler and they will be on hand during visitations that are stressful for children. These visitations may be with parents, sibling visits, last visits with parents are termination of parental rights, or even the first visit after children have been brought into care.

The visitations started in August and have been going very well. All the children who have visited with Esther, have seen improvements with their behaviors.

## FUNDING

Grants 60%  
Fundraisers 23%  
Donors 15%  
County Fees 2%

*CASA of Franklin and Hamilton Counties do not charge for services they provide.*

***24 YEARS providing advocates for children who have experienced abuse and neglect.***



903 W. Washington Street, Suite 3  
Benton, IL 62812

[www.casafranklincounty.org](http://www.casafranklincounty.org)

618-438-0608

## Case Studies

Two little boys ages 3 and 4, were brought into care due to mother's substance abuse issue and the father was in prison. Over the course of time the CASA Advocate worked with the boys and was a large support for the grandmother and grandfather where the boys were placed. When COVID hit and the schools went to remote the family struggled with technology and the boys fell further behind in schooling. They were in Kindergarten and First Grade. Our program was able to work with their teachers and tutor the boys two times a week. The CASA Advocate was consistently in touch with their teachers, attended IEP for one of the boys, and ensured they received the support needed while so many were in this difficult transition time of school. The CASA advocated for the boys in multiple ways over the four years they were in the court system. The boys recently closed in guardianship (due to our CASA advocacy) with their grandparents and continue to thrive.

The CASA Advocate was appointed to six-year-old little girl who was removed from her mother's care due to leaving her in a drug house. The mother has severe mental health and substance abuse. During this time the CASA Advocate was able to be in contact with her biological father. The CASA Advocate drove to Peoria and ensured the father's home was safe, and that day care and school was set up for her when she was placed in his care. The CASA Advocate worked closely with the little girl and her father and continues to maintain communication even after the court case closed and she was placed there. Recently they both stopped by our office, and we were able to see the little girl has blossomed under his care. The dad even jokes he has learned to paint fingernails. It is wonderful our CASA was able to assist and be the critical person to influence the court to place her with him.

A 2 year old little girl and a three year old little boy were brought into care because both parents had substance abuse issues and the little boy had swallowed medicine and was not taken to the doctor. Over the next two years the CASA Advocate consistently visited the little ones. Getting to know their needs, wishes, and nonverbal cues. The first placement was relative care and they shared they were having behavior problems with the two. The CASA Advocate witnessed both kids having typical two and three year old behaviors and worked to get the family assistance to ensure the children wouldn't have to move and the foster parents were supported. After a year and half, the foster parent who was a bread winner, lost his job and they asked for the little ones to be moved due to the added stressors and their behaviors. The two were placed in traditional foster care. The CASA Advocate went with them for the initial placement and visited them weekly to see how they were transitioning to the new home. The CASA saw the two were becoming more withdrawn and were not adjusting. The CASA Advocate was able to find a grandparent who wanted the two little ones and pushed for the children to be moved there. They were placed with the grandmother and are flourishing under her care. After two years we were able to close the case in guardianship with the grandmother.