

NAME
Attorney at Law
Address
Email
Phone #

Date

CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY CLIENT COMMUNICATION

Client Name
Address

Re: In re _____
Court of Appeal No. _____
Juvenile Court No. _____

Dear _____:

I have now carefully read the record in your case and have discussed it with a staff attorney at the California Appellate Project.

Based on the record, and on the applicable law, I have determined that there are no issues which I can argue to the Court of Appeal on your behalf. I hope you understand that while I may not agree with the decision of the juvenile court concerning your case, there is no legal argument that I can make to the Court of Appeal that is likely to result in that decision being changed.

As a result, I will file with the Court of Appeal a brief and a copy of that brief is enclosed. In this document, I summarize the facts of your case and advise the court that I am not presenting any arguable issues.

If you disagree with my conclusion and you want to file something with the Court of Appeal explaining why it should consider your case, you may attempt to file a brief on your own without assistance of counsel (*in propria persona*) within thirty days of the filing of my brief. The Court of Appeal may then allow you to file that brief, or it may not allow it, and this will depend on whether the Court concludes the brief shows good cause that an arguable issue does, in fact, exist. Under existing law, the Court is not required to permit you to pursue an appeal that has no arguable merit. (*In re Phoenix H.* (2009) 47 Cal.4th 835, 844-845.) If you do not attempt to file anything within 30 days of my brief, or if the court is not satisfied that you have demonstrated that an arguable issue exists, your appeal will be dismissed.

I am returning to you with this letter the transcript record, which belongs to you; do not lose it because I have not kept a copy. However, if you file your brief with the Court and the Court decides to request additional briefing from me, I will need to get the transcript record back from you.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Encls.
