



Child Custody

Categories : [Children and Families](#), [eLibrary](#), [Fatherhood](#), [Legal and Protective Services](#), [Re-Entry](#)

The material provided on the 211 eLibrary is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be and should not be construed as legal advice.

The following is summarized from the [Connecticut General Assembly Office of Legislative Research, Report #2011-R-0377](#)

WHAT IS CHILD CUSTODY

In Connecticut, child custody, in cases of dissolution of a marriage, is determined by a judge in the Family Division of Superior Court. Judges use the “best interests of the child” standard in awarding custody of minor children. If both parents agree, the law establishes a presumption of joint custody. There is also a presumption that it is in the child’s best interest to be in the custody of a parent over a non-parent. But, testimony or other evidence can rebut both of these presumptions.

Parents who have divorced, legally separated, had marriages annulled, or ended non-marital relationships usually reach out-of-court agreements concerning a minor child’s legal and physical custody. Parents with legal custody have the duty and responsibility to make major decisions about such issues as schooling, religious upbringing, and ongoing medical care. Physical custody entails the child’s day-to-day care and residence.)

WHAT CAN THE COURT REQUIRE OF PARENT

When parents do not agree, court mediators, retired judges, or volunteer attorneys will attempt to help them resolve their differences. If this fails, a family court judge or magistrate will hold a trial and issue a decision reflecting what he or she determines to be in the child’s best interest.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHILD CUSTODY ISSUES

- Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries, “Child Custody Actions in Connecticut” :<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/law/custody.htm>
- CTLawHelp.org: <http://ctlawhelp.org/how-to-modify-child-custody-orders?gclid=CKTqnNjs1soCFYVFaQodHGUIfA#>

TO FIND PROVIDERS IN CONNECTICUT’S COMMUNITY RESOURCES DATABASE:

Search by service names:

[Co-Parenting Workshops](#)

[Family Law Courts](#)

SOURCE: Connecticut General Assembly Office of Legislative Research, Report #2011-R-0377; CTLawHelp.org

PREPARED BY: 211/ch

CONTENT LAST REVIEWED: January2022



United Way of Connecticut - 211 and eLibrary

Resource Center

<https://uwc.211ct.org>
