IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY OHIO

IN THE MATTEROF

M.R.

AN ALLEGED DEPENDENT CHILD

LEGAL NOTICE
(Publication by Posting and Mail)

FILED
DEC 30 2025
J. Jeffrey Benson, Judge
Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division
ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

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To: Whitney Ritz

Last Known Address: 802 1/2 E. 2nd St., Chillicothe, OH 45601

You are hereby notified that a Complaint alleging Abuse, Neglect and/or Dependency and/or a Application/Motion for ☐Temporary Custody ☐ Protective Services ☐ Legal Custody ■Permanent Custody has been filed in the Ross County Juvenile Court by the State of Ohio regarding the minor child,

M.R., in case number: 24 DEP 138.

Parent(s) of said child is/are Whitney Ritz

A hearing on this Complaint or Motion is scheduled for: the 2nd day of February 2026 at 1:30 ~~am~~/pm before the Court at Ross County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division located at 2 N. Paint St, Suite A, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

You are hereby ordered to appear before the said Court on the date and at the time listed to show cause why this request for ☐ Temporary Custody ☐ Protective Services ☐ Legal Custody ■ Permanent Custody should not be granted.

An order granting ☐ Temporary Custody ☐ Protective Services ☐ Legal Custody ■ Permanent Custody may cause the removal of the child from the custody of the parents, guardian or custodian and vest in the person or Agency granted custody of the child the physical care and control of the child, including the right to decide where and with whom the child shall live, and the duty to protect, train, discipline and provide the child with food, shelter, education, and medical care subject to any residual rights, privileges and responsibilities of the child's parents.

An order granting Legal Custody is intended to be permanent in nature and may not be modified or terminated unless the Court finds that there is a change in circumstances of the child or legal custodian and that the modification or termination is in the best interest of the child.

An order granting Permanent Custody is permanent in nature and severs all parental rights.

Lois Smith who may be reached by phone at (740) 774-1177 ext 111 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm is the employee designated by the Court to arrange for the prompt appointment of counsel for indigent persons. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer in this proceeding, but believe you cannot afford one, you should contact this person as soon as possible.

Date posted: Dec. 30, 2025 to Jan. 6, 2026 (Seven [7] days)

Affidavit of Publication by Posting and Mail & Legal Notice for AND cases