

**The Sioux Falls Area
Court Appointed Special Advocate Program**

415 N. Dakota Ave., P.O. Box 1901
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Volunteer Reference Information Form

Applicant's Name: _____

I am applying to be a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Volunteer and would like to use you as a reference. Would you please complete this important form and return it to the CASA office in the enclosed envelope.

As a CASA Volunteer, I will work alongside attorneys, social workers and others as an appointed officer of the court. I will provide the judge with carefully researched background of the child to help the court make a sound decision about the child's future. I will talk with the child, parents, family members, social workers, school officials, health care providers, and others who are knowledgeable about the child and the parents. At the time of the hearing, I'll submit a report to the court with a recommendation about whether the child should be placed in foster care, reunited with parents, or legally cleared to be adopted. Thank you for your assistance.

.....

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

In what capacity do you know the applicant? _____

What is the length of your relationship? _____

How well do you know the applicant?

Extremely Well ____ Well ____ Average ____ Little ____ Very Little ____

How would you rate the applicant's personality? Circle as many as you wish!

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| Adventuresome | Confident | Optimistic | Sensitive | Free Spirited |
| Quiet | Happy | Shy | Moody | Active |
| Nervous | Opinionated | Friendly | Pessimistic | Open-minded |
| Spiritual | Assertive | Leader | Team player | Risk-taker |
| Patient | Warm | Stable | Loyal | Easily upset |

(Over)

Would you have any reservations about this person spending time alone with a young person?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain: _____

Have you ever observed the applicant interacting with children? If so, please describe:

Would you have any concerns regarding the applicant working with any of the following?

(Yes or No) Racial Minorities _____ Females _____ Males _____

Various Religious Preferences _____ Ethnic Minorities _____

If yes, please explain: _____

Would you have any concerns regarding the applicant working with the Court or Department of Social Services? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain: _____

To what extent is the applicant aware of his/her own shortcomings?

Ignores them _____ Realizes them with no adjustment _____ Adjusts for them _____

Unknown _____

How does the applicant assume responsibility?

Excellent _____ Good _____ Average _____ Fair _____

To the best of your knowledge has the applicant ever been accused or convicted of a crime?

Do you feel the applicant is in the position to make a one-year commitment to volunteer eight to ten hours a month? _____

Would you recommend this person to volunteer for the CASA Program? _____

If you have any questions regarding this reference information, please feel free to contact Nancy McMahon, CASA Case Manager, at 339-9492. The information given will remain in the strictest of confidence and will not be shared with the applicant. Thank you so much for taking the time to complete this reference form, thereby contributing to making a difference in the life of a child.

(Over)