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| --- | --- |
| **Colorado Court of Appeals**  2 East 14th Avenue, Denver, CO 80203 | Court Use Only |
| **Parties:**  Children:  *[Use initials only, C.R.S. § 19-1-109(1)]*  &  Concerning:  *[Use initials only, C.R.S. § 19-1-109(1)]*  Appellant / Respondent: |
| **Filed by:**  Name:  *Note to Parents - only use your initials.*  Address:  Phone Fax:  Email: Bar Number:  (For lawyers) | District/Juvenile Court Case  Number:  Division:  Courtroom:  Court of Appeals Case  Number: |
| **Opening Brief** | |

**1. Certificate of Compliance**

I certify that this brief complies with the requirements of Colorado Appellate Rules (C.A.R.) 3.4(f)(1)(B), 28, and 32. Including:

**Word Limits:** My brief has       **words**, which is not more than the 7,500 word limit.

**Standard of Review:**

I discuss which Standard of Review should be used to evaluate that issue.

**Preservation:**

I discuss if that issue was preserved for appeal. I cite to the page in the Record on Appeal where I raised this issue before the District Court and I cite to where the District Court decided that issue.

I understand that my brief may be rejected if I fail to comply with these rules.

Signature of the Appellant

**2. Table of Contents**

Table of Authorities:

Statement of Compliance (ICWA):

Issues on Appeal:

Statement of the Case:

Argument Summary:

Argument:

Conclusion:

**3. Table of Authorities**

**Cases**

**Statutes**

**Court Rules**

**Other Authorities Cited**

**4. Certificate of Compliance: Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)**

*(For more information see* [*JDF 1949 – ICWA Checklist*](https://www.courts.state.co.us/Forms/PDF/JDF1949.pdf)*)*

Did the Court issue an order regarding ICWA compliance?

No.  Yes, on (date) .

Do you believe there was compliance with ICWA?

No.**\***  Yes.

**\*** If no, please explain:

**5. Issues on Appeal**

List the issues you will discuss later in this brief:

1) .

2) .

3) .

*List more or less as needed.*

**6. Statement of the Case**

Write a brief background statement about your case. This can include key facts and procedural history. Identify the orders you are appealing. Include references to the record.

**7. Argument Summary**

Write a brief overview of your arguments for each issue. (One page or less.)

**8. Arguments**

Issue 1: {List the issue}

1. Standard of Review:

For more info, please read the Standard of Review section in [JDF 1915 i](https://www.courts.state.co.us/Forms/PDF/JDF1915i.pdf), starting on page 4.

De Novo (issues of law)  Mixed question of fact and law

Abuse of Discretion  Other:

Please Explain:

.

1. Preservation:

Where in the record was this issue raised with the district / juvenile court?

(Cite to page in the record or transcript) .

1. Discussion and Argument:

**Helpful Tips:**

* If you mention a fact, cite to where that fact appears in the record.
* Cite to any law or court cases that support your argument.

{Repeat sub-sections A, B, and C for each additional issue}

**9. Conclusion**

**10. Copies Delivered**

I certify that on *(date)* , I *(check one)*

mailed |  hand delivered

a copy of this document to:

1. Party Name:

Attorney Name: *(if any)*

Full Address:

1. Party Name:

Attorney Name: *(if any)*

Full Address:

**11. Signature & Date**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_