

YOUR DUTIES BY LAW

CASA Duties

Established in 1994, Henrico CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is authorized by the Code of Virginia which ensures that CASA programs provide trained advocates to advocate on behalf of children who are the subjects of juvenile court proceedings involving allegations of abuse and neglect. The Code of Virginia also lays out your duties as an advocate. These duties are the law.

Virginia Code § 9.1 - 153

1. Investigate the case to provide independent factual information to the Court.
2. Submit a written report at hearings, including recommendations as to the child's welfare.
3. Monitor the case to ensure compliance with the Court's orders.
4. Assist the Guardian ad litem in providing effective representation of the child's needs and best interests.
5. Report suspected abuse or neglect of a child.

Types of Cases

Advocates may be appointed to serve any case involving allegations that a child is abused or neglected. In Henrico County, this means that you could be assigned to a variety of cases throughout your tenure, including:

- Abuse and Neglect / DSS Foster Care
- Child Protective Orders
- Family Abuse Protective Orders
- Custody and Visitation
- CHINS (Services and Supervision)
- Delinquency cases
- Juvenile Adult cases with an Order for Foster Care Prevention Assessment.

While Henrico CASA works closely with children, families, and case professionals, we are a program that serves at the pleasure of the Court. Attorneys and parties to a case may request CASA to be assigned to a case, but we are only able to serve a case if appointed by a judge.

