State	In your state is the child welfare agency represented in dependency hearings? Which hearings?	Who provides this representation (Attorney General, Agency Attorney, Assistant General Counsel, etc.)?	Where are they located? Are they child welfare agency staff?	How are they funded (direct budget line item, contract with the agency, hours billed to the agency, etc.)?	What is the approximate budget for legal representation for the agency in child welfare hearings	Do case workers ever routinely attend child welfare hearings without agency counsel? Which hearings?	In your state is the state ("the people") represented in dependency hearings?	Who provides this representation (District Attorneys, Prosecutors, Attorneys General, etc.)?	Where are they located? Are they child welfare agency staff?	How are they funded (direct budget line item, contract with the agency, hours billed to the agency, etc.)?	What is the approximate budget for state representation in child welfare hearings?	Do case workers ever routinely attend child welfare hearings where the state is not represented? Which hearings?	Do case workers ever attend child welfare hearings where the state is not represented and they do not have agency counsel? Which hearings?	Generally, do your case workers routinely have legal representation in all dependency (child welfare) court hearings?	If a caseworker attends a hearing without representation, when a contested issue arises is an attorney readily available to step in to represent the agency? If not, typically how long does it take to get	Other information	Respondant
Alabama																	
Alaska	AG represents the agency (and the state simultaneously when conflict has arisen which is incredibly rare the agency gotten its own attorney). The AG's do not have standard prosecutorial discretion, if	Attorney General-Office of Law	Office of Law	Some general funds, some dedicated funds for special projects from the agency, predominately through billing at an hourly rate for attorneys and paralegals.	unknown	Very rarely (weekend hearings in far flung communities but the AG is available for consultation even for these). AG assigned for the life of the case. This AG goes to every hearing throughout the case.	Agency is the state -Dual Mandate										
Arizona	Yes, the statewide child welfare agency is represented in all dependency related hearings	Attorney General's Office	Regional Offices. They are AG Office Staff	Direct Budget Line Item in AG Budget	unknown	No	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	If they are attending without representation and a contested issue arises, there is no attorney available to step in to represent the agency and the hearing will be reset for the very near future.		Rob Shelly, Court Improvement Program Manager, 602-452-3416 rshelly@courts.az.gov
Arkansas																	
California	The agencies are all represented at all hearings throughout the proceedings.	In most counties, the agencies are represented by county counsel. The office of the county counsel represents the county Board of Supervisors and through the Board, all county offices and agencies. In	Most are located near if not in the same building as the agency–the location varies.	They are typically funded through county counsel.Part of whose budget income comes from FCS.	I don't have this information, it would be a part of county counsel's budget.This is difficult to answer, as the population size of each county differs greatly: the budget for representation of FCS would vary, just as the	No. Case workers would not attend statutory hearings without counsel. In counties with dependency drug courts, some case workers attend without counsel.	No. Although dependency hearings are considered "quasi-criminal" due to the constitutional level of issues, dependency hearings are identified as civil. If a criminal issue arises from same incident (e.g. under influence, DV)	n/a					no	yes.Yes. Ah, this is the 6 million-dollar question – WHO does Agency's counsel represent? Actually, county counsel does not represent individual Social Workers, and, technically, we don't even really represent FCS	n/a	Do conflicts ever arise between the perspective of the state (i.e., "the people" as represented by county cousel–like in prosecutions) and the perspective of the agency? If so how is that handled? Are two county	Beth Bobby Attorney Center for Families, Children & the Courts | Operations & Programs Division Judicial Council of California 2860 Gateway Oaks Drive Sacramento, CA 95833 (916) 263-5731
Colorado																	
Connecticut	YES ALL PROCEEDINGS	OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL	OAG HAS ATTYS WORKING OUT OF EACH COURTHOUSE. THEY ARE NOT AGENCY STAFF.	STATE BUDGET for AG Office	YOU CAN FIND THIS INFORMATION BY CONTACT THEIR OFFICE.	NEVER	YES* (but the state is the department in CT)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	NEVER	NEVER	YES	THIS RARELY HAPPENS, BUT YES AN OAG ATTY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO STEP IN.	Website claimes these answers: "This department, with over 40 attorneys, is dedicated to protecting the children of the State of Connecticut from abuse and neglect. This past year, the Child Protective Department	Barbara J. Claire Agency Legal Director Department of Children and Families 505 Hudson Street Hartford, CT 06106phone: 860-550-6557 fax: 860-560-7086
Delaware																	
Florida																	
Georgia	Yes	SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL==UNDER AG'S OFFICE, BUT PAID FOR BY THE CHILD WELFARE AGENCY	ALL OVER THE STATE. NOT STAFF, BILLABLE HOURS VIA CONTRACT	BUDGET APPROPRIATION WITHIN THE CHILD WELFARE AGENCY--ESTIMATED YEAR TO YEAR--LOTS OF HARDSHIP WITH ESTIMATES, BUT SO ARE LOTS OF OTHER	NOT SURE. SURELY MILLIONS	NO. BUT THAT USED TO HAPPEN. STOPPED COMPLETELY ABOUT 10 YEARS AGO	NO, GA'S MODEL IS THE AGENCY GETS LEGAL REPRESENTATION. THE AGENCY ACTS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE STATE. HOWEVER, I HAVE BEEN TO DO OF	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	n/a		Michelle Barclay <michelle.barclay@gmail.com>
Hawaii	Yes, all.	Deputy attorney general	Their offices are separate and apart from our CWS offices and near the Family Court Building. They are not child welfare staff	Hours billed to the agency We also draw down federal reimbursement dollars.	unknown	no	The ageny is the state-dual mandate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	We do not attend an hearing without representation. If the assigned DAG is unable to attend, the AG's office will send a substitute DAG.		Kayle M. Perez, ACSW, LSW Child Welfare Services Branch Administrator 810 Richards Street, Suite 400 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Phone: 808-586-5667
Idaho	NO	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes.	County Prosecutor	in each county	no answer provided	no answer provided	Always. All hearings Most often the position of the prosecutor and the agency line up and the prosecutor effectively represents the position of the agency. If there is a conflict, the agency has the option of contacting the Office of	Always. All hearings Most often the position of the prosecutor and the agency line up and the prosecutor effectively represents the position of the agency. If there is a conflict, the agency has the option of contacting the Office of	Always. All hearings Most often the position of the prosecutor and the agency line up and the prosecutor effectively represents the position of the agency. If there is a conflict, the agency has the option of contacting the Office of	Generally, the agency is aware of the conflict in advance of the hearing and will contact the regional DAG prior to the hearing. Often the hearing is not delayed at all.		Debra Alsaker-Burke <dburke@idcourts.net>
Illinois																	
Indiana	Yes. All hearings.	Agency Attorneys.	They are full-time agency employees located throughout the state. Large urban areas have up to 25 attorneys located in the same office as the caseworkers, more rural areas have attorneys covering between one and	We fund legal representation for DCS directly from our agency budget.	10 million dollars	No, Caseworkers never attend child welfare hearings without agency counsel	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	does not occur in Indiana		Wade Hornbacher General Counsel Department of Child Services 302 W Washington Rm E306 Indianapolis IN 46204
Iowa																	
Kansas																	

Kentucky	The agency does not have official representation in child welfare hearings until the filing of the termination of parental rights.	Agency Attorneys are agency staff. County attorneys are county staff	Agency Budget/County Budget	unknown	unknown	The County Attorney is always present at child welfare hearings and will often times support the stance of the agency; however since they do not officially represent agency staff, SSWs are not officially represented in	When the agency is the petitioner, for petitions of abuse, neglect or dependency, the local County Attorney who represents the interests of the County (The people/The state) will often times support the	Elected County Attorneys	The county attorney is an elected official and is located in the county in which they serve. They are considered county staff; not state or agency staff.	unknown	unknown	The County Attorney is always present at child welfare hearings and will often times support the stance of the agency; however since they do not officially represent agency staff, SSWs are not officially represented in	see previous answer	The only representation agency staff have at child welfare hearings is the County Attorney, who does not officially represent the agency, but often times supports the agency's stance			Tina Webb, Assistant Director; CHFS/ DCBS; Division of Protection and Permanency; 275 East Main Street 3E-A; Frankfort, KY 40621; phone: 502.564.6852; mobile: 502.352.8497; email: tina.webb@ky.gov							
Louisiana	Yes. DCFS is represented at all hearings in the Child in Need of Care process.	The District Attorney's office or an agency attorney.	These attorneys are located throughout the state. Some are assistant district attorneys and some are agency attorneys.	The District Attorney's office receives warrants through the state legislature and the agency attorney is funded through the department's funding streams.	unknown	The District Attorney's office represents the department at the continued custody hearing through the permanency/dispositional hearing in the dedicated juvenile courts. In those courts the agency attorney	The District Attorney's office represents the state and the department.	The District Attorney's office.	They are located throughout the state. No, they are not child welfare agency staff.	Warrents from the legislature	unknown	The District Attorney's office represents the state and the department. The agency attorney represents the department.	no	yes	Normally the caseworker does not attend without being represented by the District Attorney's office or an agency attorney.		Candice S. LeBlanc Deputy General Counsel 2 Department of Children and Family Services Bureau of General Counsel P.O. Box 1887 Baton Rouge, LA 70821 phone(225) 342-5744 fax (225) 342-9139							
Maine																										
Maryland	Yes, All Dependency Hearings and related TPR and Adoptions Hearings.	It varies throughout the state. In some jurisdictions it is the Attorney General, some jurisdiction hire agency counsel, some use county attorneys, and some use contract attorneys.	Again, it varies. In those instances where they are agency staff, they are located within the agency. In other instances they may be housed separately from the agency.	Varies, but usually a direct budget line item. In instances of contract attorneys, hours billed.	Don't know.	Not usually.	In my state, the state is the Agency.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	Caseworkers do not attend hearings where the agency is not represented.		Tracy Watkins-Tribbitt, Director Foster Care Court Improvement Program Administrative Office of the Courts Programs Division 2009 A Commerce Park Drive Annapolis, MD 21401410-260-1277 Tracy.watkins-							
Massachusetts	Yes, typically at all court hearings; however, see below for the few exceptions.	The agency employs staff attorneys who represent the agency in the court proceedings. Since only the Attorney General's Office can represent the Commonwealth, the Attorney General appoints the General Counsel of	The staff attorneys are located at our Regional Offices and supervised by 2-3 legal managers that report to the General Counsel. They are child welfare staff employed by the agency	The attorneys are funded under our administrative line item which is entitled Clinical Support and Operations. This is the same line as all of our managers, travel, supplies and leases.	$12,350,000.00	Depending on the court yes. In some courts workers file the dependency hearing without counsel. Additionally most workers attend proceedings without counsel when a child will be adopted	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes--rarely. When a child is adopted the caseworker is present; however, the attorney is typically not. In some courts the caseworker will file the petition to initiate the dependency case and to obtain custody; however, i	Generally, Yes. When a child is adopted the caseworker is present; however, the attorney is typically not. In some courts the caseworker will file the petition to initiate the dependency case and to obtain custody;	Usually yes. The length of time depends. For example, if there is an attorney in the courthouse the representation can occur almost immediately. If the attorney is at their office then we can usually get to the court within 30	Massachusetts has had this system in place since 1980 when the Department was first created.	Andrew Todd Home General Counsel Department of Children and Families Office of the General Counsel 600 Washington Street 6th floor Boston, MA 02111 Tel: (617)748-2015 Fax: (617)261-7428							
Michigan	Yes. DHHS staff are represented in all adjudications, dispositions, permanency planning and termination events. **We are not always represented in Review Hearings.**	Most counties are represented by local PA's (prosecuting attorney) but we also hire private attorneys in a few counties. The AG represents our largest urban county. The AG also represents us in most	They are not department staff. Counsel is local/county based but they are not co-located with our staff.	Most PA's do it as a function of their job. We have a Title IV-E contract with 39 PA's. I pay local counsel through a central account spending around $200k per year.	no answer	Yes, review hearings	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	review hearings	review hearings	not answered		Yager, Steve (DHHS) <YagerS@michigan.gov>							
Minnesota	Each county's child welfare agency is represented in every hearing at every phase of a child protection proceeding from initial removal through permanency, including the emergency protective care	)? The county attorney's office represents the county child protection agency in each of our 87 counties	Each county has it's own county attorney's office and it's own child welfare agency.	Each county funds its own child welfare office and its own county attorney	varies by county	Never – case workers always appear with their legal counsel	Yes, via a dual mandate county attorneys also represent the interest of the state	Each county attorney office represents the public (state) interest in every hearing at every phase of a child protection proceeding from initial removal through permanency, including the emergency protective care	The county attorney represents the county child welfare agency and also he public (state) interest in the child	Each county has it's own county attorney's office.	Each County funds its own county attorney	Never – case workers always appear with their legal counsel	never	yes	n/a	Minnesota Statues 260C.163, subd. 4, addresses Minnesota's dual representation mandate for county attorneys and states "In representing the responsible [county] social services agency, the	Judith Nord, Staff Attorney & CJI Manager Minnesota Judicial Brank- State Court Admin Office 25 Rev Dr MLK Jr Blvd Suite 105 St Paul MN 55155 judy.nord@courts.state.mn.us 651-282-3972							
Mississippi																										
Missouri																										
Montana																										
Nebraska																										
Nevada																										
New Hampshire																										
New Jersey	Yes, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency, is represented in all abuse and neglect, child welfare, and guardianship proceedings. If the	The New Jersey Attorney General's Office provides representation for the Department. There are approximately 130 Deputy Attorneys General in the NJ DCF practice section of the AG's office.	The Deputy Attorneys General (DAG) have offices in Trenton, Newark and Voorhees, NJ, where their respective support staff are located. However, a large portion of the DAGs typically have offices within the child	Through the state budget for the Division of Law within the Department of Law and Public Safety.	The funding for child welfare representation is not segregated within the state budget for Division of Law.	No, caseworkers only attend child welfare hearings with counsel.	No. The Department is represented by the New Jersey Attorney General. The children are represented by attorneys from the Office of the Law Guardian in the Public Defender's Office. The parents are represented	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes, NJ Attorney General	n/a		Joseph Ribsam; Joseph.Ribsam@dcf.state.nj.us]							
New Mexico	Yes. Derives from our children's code. It talks about how children are removed and it always references the agency. Agency represented by the children's court attorney. The children code as three sections for	Children's Court Attorney. Hired by the agency, employees of the agency	In-house counsel hired by the agency.	Child Welfare Budget (The division of children's court attorneys negotiates with the CW director the amount needed which is then accounted for in child welfare budget when making legislative requests)	unknown	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	n/a		Charles E. Neeley, Jr. Chief Children's Court Attorney NM Children, Youth & Families Department 1308 Gusdorf Road Taos, NM 87571 (575) 758-8871, ext 1108 (w) (575) 770-2146 (c) (575) 751-0219 (fax)							
New York																										
North Carolina																										

North Dakota	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	States Attorney represents the county/state with custody or seeking custody (the state takes custody of children whose parents rights have been terminated, otherwise, child custody is given to	State's Attorney	County Office	Funded by county property tax revenue	unknown	no	no	yes	n/a	ND is a county DHS system. Attorney General primarily represents the state in administrative appeals, lawsuits, etc. When this occurs the AG office is billed by the hour. (note: answers were unclear about whether the	Shari E. Doe <sedoe@nd.gov>								
Ohio	Yes, the PCSA is represented in dependency hearings. This would include the Shelter Care, Adjudicatory, Dispositional, and Permanency Hearings.	The prosecuting attorney is the legal advisor of the PCSA. The majority of PCSAs are represented through the office of the county prosecuting attorney but several PCSA also have counsel on staff. At the discretion of	In the prosecutors office	There may be exception among county practices, but the standard funding would be direct budget line item in the county budget	unknown	no	State is essentially considered the agency(?)						no	yes	n/a	supervised and county-administered system of child welfare. Each of Ohio's 88 counties has a single designated public children services agency (PCSA) with responsibility for providing child welfare	Jennifer.Justice@jfs.ohio.gov								
Oklahoma																											
Pennsylvania	Yes.All dependency and orphan's court hearings including shelter, adjudication, disposition, permanency reviews, termination of parent rights and adoption finalization.	Agency Attorney	In each county Not typically child welfare staff, depends on the county. Some are county law office staff, some are on contract with the child welfare agency.	All costs are built into the child welfare annual budget but how they are paid depends on the structure of the county (county staff or contracted provider).	This varies greatly from county to county.	Yes but in very few counties Which hearings? Most often the hearing in which a caseworker would attend without legal representation would be our 3 month reviews in front of Hearing Masters (lawyers who are	The "people" are represented in delinquency matters by the District Attorney but not in dependency proceedings. That said, in shared case management situations (where a youth is both dependent and	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not sure who the "they" is referencing	In general, yes	If a caseworker attends a hearing without representation, when a contested issue arises is an attorney readily available to step in to represent the agency? Typically the case worker has an attorney with them		Sandra Moore, Adminstrator Office of Children and Families in the Courts Admin office of Penn Courts 717-213-3329 Moore, Sandra E. <Sandra.Moore@pacourts.us>								
Rhode Island	Yes.. Staff attorneys represent DCYF at all hearings in the State Family Court on child welfare petitions (including dependency, neglect and abuse and termination of parental rights)	The Department has eight attorneys on staff who provide consultation for staff and represent the agency in the child welfare proceedings.	The staff attorneys are located in the State's Central office and yes they are agency attorneys.	Direct budget line within the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (State umbrella agency)	no answer	Yes.. Caseworkers are at times required to attend some Family Court proceedings without legal counsel. Those proceedings include juvenile justice matters and cases open to a variety of specialty courts	The staff attorneys represent the interest of the agency and are responsible for advocating the agency's position in the child protective proceedings. RIGL 40-11-14 specifically provides that, "In every court	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No, however, Caseworkers are at times required to attend some **Family Court proceedings** without legal counsel. Those proceedings include **juvenile justice matters and cases open to a**	yes	Typically a caseworker would notify the DCYF Office of Legal Counsel of a contested issue and/or a Court order in a matter that the agency did not have prior notice and/or legal representation via email. If the agency		Kevin Aucoin; RI DCYF Deputy Director Office of Legal Council 401 528-3570								
South Carolina	Yes. All hearings.	The agency is represented by attorneys who are full time employees (FTE) or who provide their services via a contract with the Office of General Counsel.	If they are FTEs, then they are located in the county DSS offices. Contract attorneys normally maintain a practice outside of the agency but are expected to have set office hours in the county offices.	FTEs – direct budge line item; contract attorneys are paid by invoices submitted at a set hourly rate for attorney services and paralegal services.	In SC, for FY15-16, $9,618,720.00 has been budgeted for the legal offices in the counties.	no	Yes, via agency counsel. (see follow up question in comments section). The agency is the state in SC						no	yes	n/a	Do the Agency (or contract) attorneys in South Carolina represent the agency/caseworker or "The People"/the community (the way that a prosecutor does)? Or if they represent both, what happens when a conflict	Dennis M. Gmerek Assistant General Counsel South Carolina Department of Social Services PO Box 1520 Columbia, SC 29202-1520 (803) 898-7138 (direct) (803) 898-7245 (fax) (803) 647-3681								
South Dakota	Yes, all	State's Attorney's Office--each county in the state has a state's attorney. Each county in South Dakota has a state's attorney that is elected to office for usually a period of 4 years. The state's attorney represents Child	No- elected officials	county budget--funded by each county	varies by county	no, never	Traditionally, the state's attorney represents the state child welfare agency and presents the recommendations of the agency to the court. However, there are times when the state's attorney's office disagrees with the	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	not answered	The Department of Social Services (DSS) which is where the Division of Child Protection Services is located. DSS also has a Division of Legal Services that provide legal services to all divisions like Child Support, Medicaid, Adult	Sara Kelly Court Improvement Program Coordinator South Dakota Unified Judicial System 500 East Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501 605-773-8459 (office) 605-773-5627 (fax) sara.kelly@ujs.state.sd.us	Virgena Wieseler Division Director 700 Governors Drive Pierre, South Dakota 57501 605.773.3227 605-773.6834 (FAX)								
Tennessee																											
Texas	Yes, they are represented by counsel.	Directly represented by either an AG, county attorney, district attorney, or by a regional agency attorney (these attorneys work directly for the department of family and protective services). Agency attorneys are	Agency attorneys are in the regional offices (and in the metro areas). District Attorneys/County Attorneys are in their own offices-but in some areas there will be agency staff in the DA/CA office to support the district	Agency Attorneys- funded by Department in Department budget; County Attorneys- seek their own funding (often grant funding and county funding). Because this is such a political issue many of the larger areas	Unknown	No, rarely at a post permanency review. Every so often at the adoption hearing (where the petition is filed by the adoptive parents). Agency attorneys are almost always present but a DA or CAs may not	No, only the state Division of Child and Family Services	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	not answered		Anna Ford Department of Child and Family Services Council 2102628225								
Utah	The child welfare agency (DCFS) is represented in all dependency hearings.	Assistant Attorney's General employed by the Executive Branch.	They are located in the Office of the Attorney General and are not staff members of DCFS.	I believe they are a direct line item although they do keep track of hours.	I am not privy to this information.	Generally workers do not attend court without the attorney general present.	No, only the state Division of Child and Family Services	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	n/a	Here are responses to your questions regarding child welfare agency representation in Utah. We have a statewide court system with 30 juvenile judges in 8 districts. Our Division of Child and Family Services is also	Katie Gregory Assistant Juvenile Court Administrator 450 South State P.O. Box 140241 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-0241 Phone: (801) 578-3929 Fax: (801) 578-3843 Email: katieg@utcourts.gov								
Vermont	Not until the TPR stage.	Until TPR the agency is not represented. The State's Atty represents "the people of the state".	Beginning at TPR stage, we are represented by the assistant attorneys general.	Child Welfare Budget Line Item	Not Sure.	Yes, they do. All hearings before TPR.	Yes.	State's Attorneys	In county state's attys office	Not by the child welfare agency.	Unknown.	TPR where the agency is represented	Prosecutor until TPR then Agency Counsel representing the Agency	no	No		Cindy Walcott Deputy Commissioner for Family Services Department for Children and Families email: cindy.walcott@state.vt.us phone: 802.769.6502								
Virginia	The child welfare agency is generally represented in all dependency hearings. Including: Emergency Protective Order; Preliminary Protective Order; Emergency Removal; Preliminary Removal; Adjudication; 60	We are a state-supervised/locally-administered system, so the child welfare agency is represented by their own local counsel.	They are generally local government or private counsel; however, some agencies actually have attorneys on retainer.	This varies by agency and can include all of the above. Additionally, the county can fund the attorney for the agency and then seek reimbursement through the annual Cost Allocation Plan (CAP).	This varies extensively by local agency and caseload, whether the attorney is on staff, etc.	This does not routinely occur. The Emergency hearings can occur without representation; however, this also varies by locality.	The "state" generally only participates in dependency hearings which have been appealed to the "state". These are primarily Removal Hearings, Termination of Parental Rights Hearing.	The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) represents the state.	They are located primarily in Richmond (Virginia's Capital).	They are funded by the state as they are their own office.	unknown	In a recent survey of local departments of social services, we estimated that local agencies spend about$ 1.9 million on legal representation.	Yes see the answer to #1. The "state" doesn't attend any child welfare hearings with the local case worker.	yes	We don't have this information. We would have to survey each locality to gather this information.	I just want to remind you that Virginia is a State-Supervised/Locally Administered system, so we have 120 Local Departments of Social Services which handle this process through various means.	Carl E. Ayers, MSW Director, VDSS Division of Family Services (Child Welfare Director) (804) 726-7597								
Washington	Yes. All hearings.	In all but six counties, representation is provided by Assistant Attorneys General. In the six counties not represented by the attorneys at the AGO, the AGO enters into contracts with local lawyers in private practice.	Assistant Attorneys General are employees of the Attorney General's Office, or for SAAGs in private practice or the county prosecutor as described above.	Funding is provided via a legal services revolving account, with associated authority to bill for legal services. Based on this authority, the child welfare agency is billed for legal services provided consistent with the	The budget to provide representation in child welfare hearings is not separately identified within the agency legal services budget.	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	n/a		Jennifer A Strus Assistant Secretary Children's Administation DSHS 1115 Washington Street SE PO Box 45040 Olympia WA 98504 360-902-7820								
West Virginia	NO	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	yes	Prosecuting Attorney	Prosecutor's Office	Prosecutor's office funds cover this	not provided	No, the prosecutor assigned to the case attends all hearings and if not available the hearing is continued just like any of the other attorneys.	no	no-the prosecutor's represent the state	No, the prosecutor assigned to the case attends all hearings and if not available the hearing is continued just like any of the other attorneys.	In Child Protective Service cases the Department is represented by the Prosecuting Attorney or delegated to an assistant prosecutor. The Prosecutor's office funds this coverage and it is in our State Code. In	Jane B. McCallister Director, Bureau of Children and Families Jane.B.McCallister@wv.gov								
Wisconsin																											
Wyoming																											
State	**In your state is the child welfare agency represented in dependency hearings? Which hearings?**	**Who provides this representation (Attorney General, Agency Attorney, Assistant General Counsel, etc.)?**	**Where are they located? Are they child welfare agency staff?**	**How are they funded (direct budget line item, contract with the agency, hours billed to the agency, etc.)?**	**What is the approximate budget for legal representation for the agency in child welfare hearings**	**Do case workers ever routinely attend child welfare hearings without agency counsel? Which hearings?**	**In your state is the state ("the people") represented in dependency hearings?**	**Who provides this representation (District Attorneys, Prosecutors, Attorneys General, etc.)?**	**Where are they located? Are they child welfare agency staff?**	**How are they funded (direct budget line item, contract with the agency, hours billed to the agency, etc.)?**	**What is the approximate budget for state representation in child welfare hearings?**	**Do case workers ever routinely attend child welfare hearings where the state is not represented? Which hearings?**	**Do case workers ever attend child welfare hearings where the state is not represented and they do not have agency counsel? Which hearings?**	**Generally, do your case workers routinely have legal representation in all dependency (child welfare) court hearings?**	**If a caseworker attends a hearing without representation, when a contested issue arises is an attorney readily available to step in to represent the agency? If not, typically how long does it take to get**	**Other information**	**Respondant**								