



Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Rights and Duties of a Joint Managing Conservator

Joint Managing Conservatorship (commonly referred to as JMC) is a legal status where two or more parties share the parenting rights and duties related to a child. Examples of some of those rights and duties include, but are not limited to, consent to medical and dental decisions, consent to psychiatric and psychological treatment, access to medical, dental, psychological, and educational records, and the right to confer on decisions about health, education, and welfare.

DFPS may enter into a Joint Managing Conservatorship agreement with a parent or legal guardian solely for the purposes of obtaining mental health services for a child. In these situations, the Department will obtain mental health treatment through a contracted provider. The parent or legal guardian may be required to participate in treatment planning decisions and activities such as family therapy. Because a legal case must be initiated for DFPS to be involved in this way, a judge will oversee the case and issue court orders. The judge presiding over the case may assign specific duties to one of the Joint Managing Conservators based on the needs of the child. [Texas Family Code 262.352 Joint Managing Conservatorship](#)

See also Texas Family Code Chapter 153, [Subchapter C](#) and [Subchapter G](#) regarding the rights and duties of a parent and of DFPS when appointed as a Joint Managing Conservator.