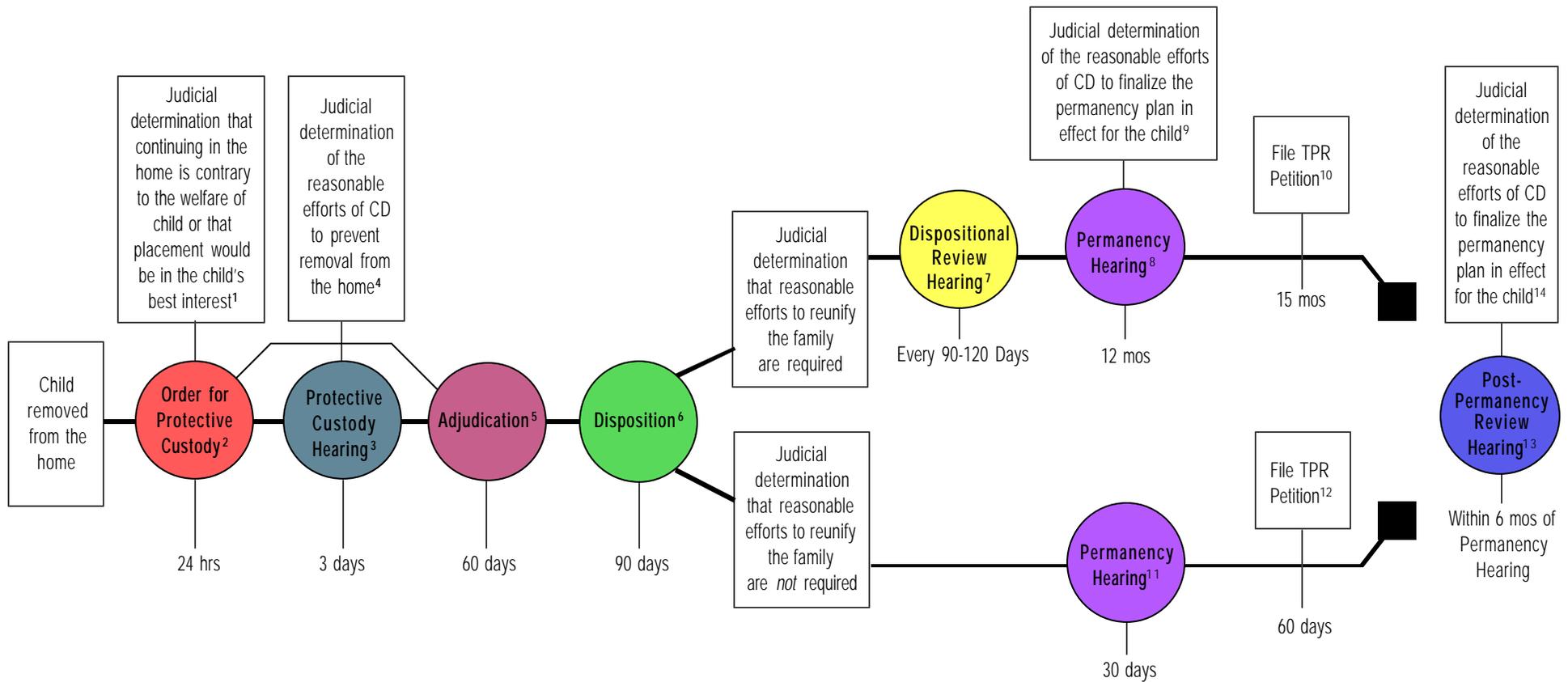


Hearings in Child Abuse/Neglect Cases



1. Required in the first court order removing the child from the home.
2. May be entered before the child is removed from the home.
3. Required within 3 business days from the date the child is removed from the home.
4. Required no later than 60 days from the date the child is removed from the home.
5. Required within 60 days of the child's removal from the home.
6. Required within 90 days of the child's removal from home; may immediately follow adjudication.
7. Required every 90-120 days after disposition during the first 12 months to determine reunification efforts of the Children's Division.
8. Required within 12 months of the date of removal and at least annually thereafter.
9. Required within 12 months of the date of removal and at least annually thereafter.
10. Mandatory filing unless an exception exists.

11. Required within 30 days of determination that reasonable efforts to reunify the family are not required and at least annually thereafter.
12. Mandatory filing if the child is an abandoned infant or if reasonable efforts to reunify the family are not required.
13. Required within 6 months of permanency hearing; may be held as often as necessary.
14. In the absence of reunification, the child's permanency plan must be: (1) termination of parental rights and adoption; (2) guardianship; (3) placement with a fit and willing relative; or (4) a planned, permanent living arrangement. See also footnote 9.

Source: This timeline was originally prepared by Mimi Laver and updated and amended by Cecilia Fiermonte and Jennifer L. Renne, as found in *Making it Permanent*, ABA, ©2002. It has been revised to reflect Missouri law.