

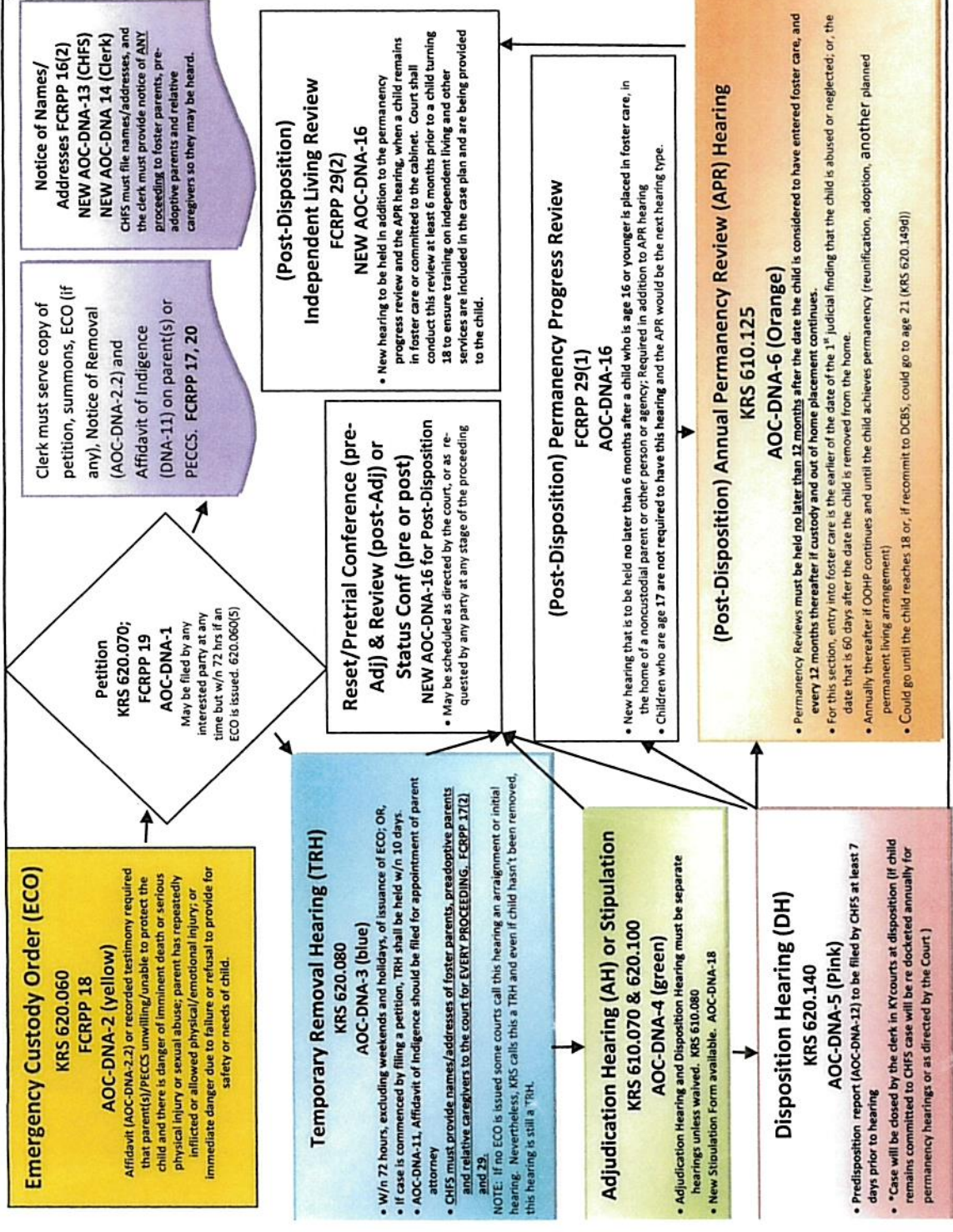
# Kentucky Court Process in KRS Chapter 620, Dependency, Neglect and Abuse Proceedings

## Required Findings

- Reasonable efforts were required/not required AND were/were not made to prevent the child's placement in care. ASFA requires this written finding be made w/n 60 days of entry into care or the child becomes permanently ineligible for federal reimbursement for foster care.
- A written judicial determination that continuation in the home would be contrary to the welfare of the child must be made at the first hearing following removal in order for the child to be eligible for federal reimbursement for foster care. Failure to do so will result in permanent ineligibility.
- At TRH, Court must find reasonable grounds to believe that the child is D/N/A.
- At the AH Court must determine the truth or falsity of the complaint.
- At the DH, Court must make above R/E determination; consider dispositional alternatives (return to home, protective orders, relative placement, commitment to CHFS, informal adjustment; aggravated circumstances exist/do not exist; if cabinet will not make R/E to reunify, must document reasons & permanency review must occur w/n 30 days; less restrictive placements and services were/were not considered; and, were relatives given preference in placement.
- At the APR, R/E to finalize permanency plan have/not been made; determine permanency plan (return to parent; adoption; relative placement; permanent custodian; has cabinet documented a compelling reason that it is in the best interest of the child to be placed in another planned permanent living arrangement); and, if cabinet will not make R/E to reunify, must document reasons and permanency review must be held 30 days after.

### 6-Month Case Plan Review by CFCRB

- ASFA requires review w/n 6 months of the earlier: 60 days after removal from the home or the date the court first determined the child had been neglected or abused.
- Administrative Review on behalf of the court by CFCRB for all children in the custody of the cabinet. See KRS 620.270. CFCRB reviews:
  - Case permanency plan. KRS 620.230
  - Case progress report. KRS 620.240
  - Efforts of parents and cabinet
- Report and Recommendations must be submitted to Court w/n 14 days of the 6-month review. KRS 620.290. Review must include:
  - If there is plan for permanency; progressing; and
  - Appropriateness of current placement or plan for permanency.
- The CFCRB will continue to review a child's case until permanency is achieved.
- The court can ask the CFCRB to conduct a review at any time.



Certain colors relate to the form color for DNA Orders; purple denotes functions performed by the Clerk of the Court; and, dark orange denotes Citizen Foster Care Review Board (CFCRB) function.