

01/29/2020: 5.1, 7.3, and 8.5: I attended court with my instructor Wednesday morning regarding a case we received about a nine-year-old girl who, primarily due to the trauma she endured at a very early age, had been demonstrating homicidal and suicidal tendencies. She was currently in the custody of her grandmother, who deeply loved this girl but felt she had become a threat to both herself and the other grandchildren who she also had custody of. This came to a head when the young girl attempted to push the grandmother down the stairs while the grandmother was recovering from knee replacement surgery. While investigating the case, we learned that the girl had been in and out of mental health care facilities and had actually been given the recommendation for residential treatment. However, due to insurance issues, she was unable to receive in-patient treatment. My instructor and I were able to put together an intervention plan that included resolving these insurance issues in order to prevent the child being placed in state custody, where she would most likely bounce around from home to home, and instead enable her to be placed in a residential treatment center to receive the treatment she so desperately needs while ensuring the safety of the grandmother and the other children. My instructor and I were able to begin the process of correcting the insurance issues with the assistance of the mental health consultant for the court and the judge was able to arrange for the state to cover her care in a residential treatment center until the child's insurance issues were completely resolved. This greatly relieved the grandmother as this was certainly the best outcome and enabled my instructor and I to facilitate an effective transition and ending that advanced our mutually-agreed upon goals.