**SIJS STANDARDS**

Adding SJIS considerations to the standards will require a few modifications to the child’s attorney standards:

(2)(I) (consider expanding the scope of representation) is the first section which seems to apply. (6) of this section already includes immigration issues, but the following sentence should be added to the commentary: “If the child might be eligible for SIJS, the child’s attorney should consider obtaining funds and consulting with an immigration attorney.”

Standard (5) (Investigation) should include a new action.

Action: If the child is not a U.S. citizen and does not have LPR status, determine if the child likely qualifies for SIJS status. The child must be subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court or committed to a department or entity appointed by the juvenile court and be under 18 at the time jurisdiction was established. The court must find that reunification with one or more of the parents is not viable due to neglect, abuse or abandonment. The court must be able to find that it is not in the child’s best interest to return to his home country. If these guidelines seem to apply to the client the attorney for the child should obtain an immigration consult.

Standard (6)(B) (court preparation- motions and pleadings) should include a new action as follows:

Action: If applicable, the attorney for the child should obtain an SIJS order from the juvenile court as requested by the child’s immigration attorney and ensure the court makes the appropriate findings to facilitate the SIJS application proceedings.