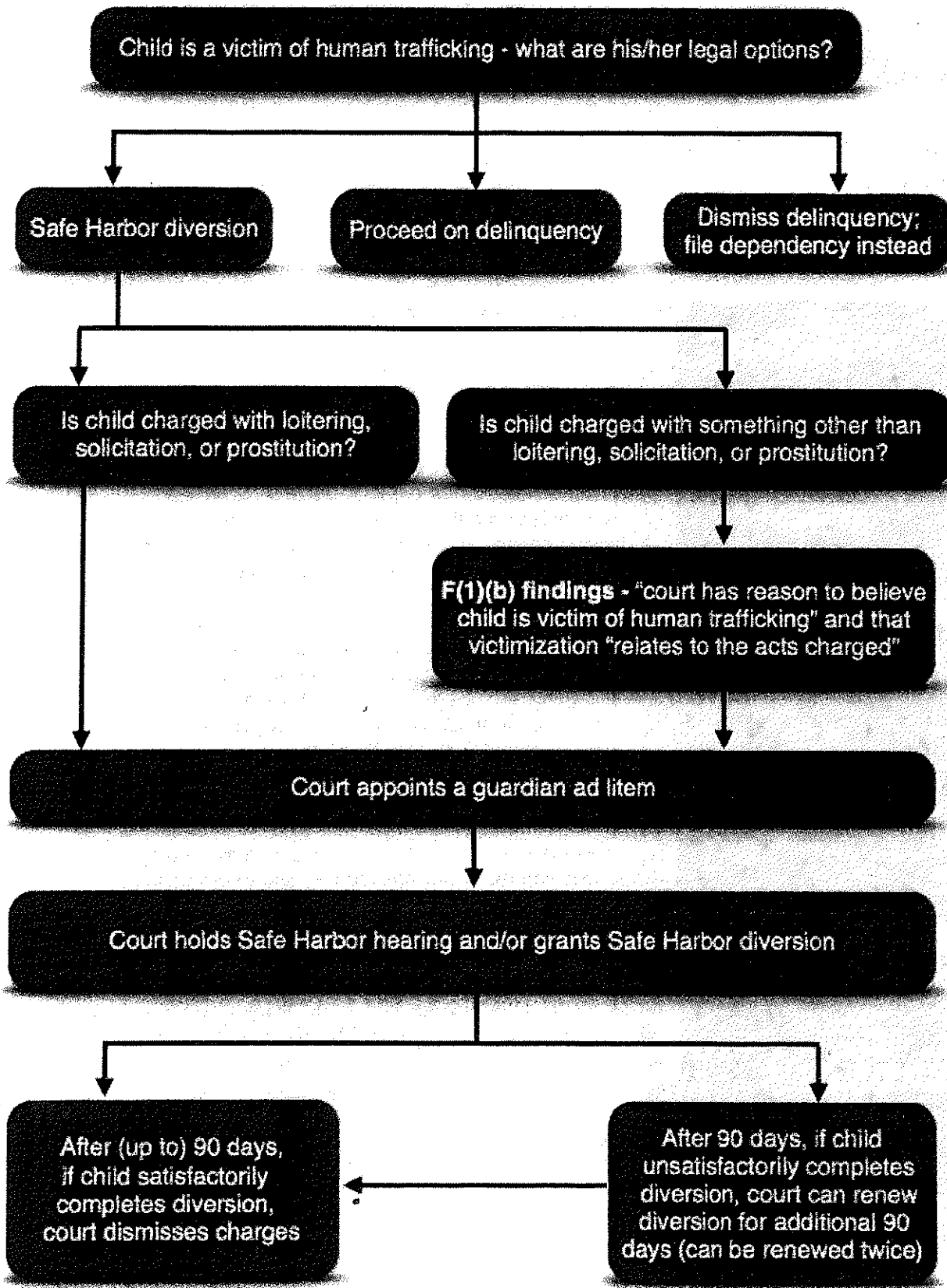


Safe Harbor Flow Chart



Safe Harbor Diversion and the Empowerment Program

The Safe Harbor law was passed to assist juvenile victims in overcoming their exploitation and trauma rather than punishing them for it. However, the law simply provides that a child is entitled to supervision, services, and placement. It does not create those opportunities or fund them. Because of this, Franklin County Juvenile Court has initiated the Empowerment Program for juvenile victims of human trafficking. This program will support victims in addition to their tailored services, supervision, and residential treatment.

Supervision

Safe Harbor holds the complaint in abeyance while the child is provided diversion activities. For this reason, Care Coordination rather than probation will be used to support participants and ensure they are making progress.

Placement

Some participants may be in need of a residential facility. Safe Harbor participants receive orders for residential facilities that offer trauma-informed care and trafficking-specific counseling services. Placements may include both secure and non-secure facilities.

Services

Safe Harbor participants can access case management from Gracehaven, a local non-profit that specializes in providing support to juvenile trafficking victims. They will also meet soon after Safe Harbor is granted to complete an Empowerment Goal Sheet and select an slate of services unique to them and their future goals. These can include educational, employment, volunteer, and talent cultivation activities. The goal here is to replace the negative things in a child's life with positive ones, to begin building his or her confidence, and to establish tools for life.

Empowerment Program Hearings

The Empowerment Program combines the tailored services and goal setting conducted by Care Coordination, Gracehaven, and Greif with a monthly progress review by the Court. At these reviews, the Court will hear from parties regarding the successes and setbacks experienced by the child and will determine whether to continue under Safe Harbor or to proceed upon the complaint. Empowerment Hearing Days are generally scheduled on the second Thursday of the month, though they are subject to change.