

1 **Rule 44. Findings and conclusions.**

2 (a) If, upon the conclusion of an adjudicatory hearing, the court determines that the  
3 material allegations of the petition are established, it shall announce its ruling. The  
4 findings of fact upon which it bases its determination may also be announced or reserved  
5 for entry by the court in an order as provided in these Rules. In cases concerning any  
6 minor who has violated any federal, state, or local law or municipal ordinance, or any  
7 person under 21 years of age who has violated any such law or ordinance before  
8 becoming 18 years of age, findings of fact shall not be necessary. If, after such a  
9 determination, the dispositional hearing is not held immediately and the minor is in  
10 detention or shelter care, the court shall determine whether the minor shall be released  
11 or continued in detention, shelter care or the least restrictive alternative available.

12 (b) In proceedings under Utah Code sections ~~78A-6-703.3~~ 80-6-402, 80-6-503, and 703.5  
13 80-6-504, and in abuse, neglect, dependency, and permanent deprivation-termination of  
14 parental rights, and contested adoption cases, the court shall enter findings of fact and  
15 conclusions of law with specific reference to each statutory requirement considered,  
16 setting forth the complete basis for its determination. Such findings and conclusions may  
17 be prepared by counsel at the direction of the court, but shall be reviewed and modified  
18 as deemed appropriate by the court prior to the court's acceptance and signing of the  
19 documents submitted by counsel.

20 (c) The court may at any time during or at the conclusion of any hearing, dismiss a  
21 petition and terminate the proceedings relating to the minor if such action is in  
22 the interest of justice and the welfare of the minor. The court shall dismiss any petition  
23 which has not been proven.

24 (d) After the dispositional hearing, the court shall enter an appropriate order or decree of  
25 disposition.

26 (e) Adjudication of a petition alleging abuse, neglect, or dependency of a child shall be  
27 conducted also in accordance with Utah Code sections ~~78A-6-309-80-3-401~~ and ~~section~~  
28 ~~78A-6-310-80-3-201~~.

29 (f) Adjudication of a petition to review the removal of a child from foster care shall be  
30 conducted also in accordance with Utah Code section ~~78A-6-318-80-3-502~~.