

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P.O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

January 19, 2006

MEMORANDUM**WHAT'S INSIDE:**

- Assuring Safety of Household Children in CA/N Fatality Investigations

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: PAULA NEESE, INTERIM DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: CLARIFIED POLICY REGARDING STEPS NECESSARY FOR ASSURING SAFETY OF HOUSEHOLD CHILDREN DURING *INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING THE DEATH OF A CHILD.*

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify policy and procedures that were introduced with Memorandum [CD05-50](#) regarding Fatality/Critical Events Protocol.

In particular, safety of all household children must be immediately assured whenever allegations of Child Abuse/Neglect have been alleged involving the death of a child. When the safety of surviving household children cannot be assured, there are necessary actions that must be taken, which are further explained in this policy revision. This revised policy should be reviewed by staff and management, and supervisors should assure that staff have reviewed and understand the procedures involved.

NECESSARY ACTIONS:

1. Please review this memorandum with all Children's Division Staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual: [Section 2, Chapter 4.1.3.9](#).
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

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*CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS:
SECTION 2, CHAPTER 4.1.3.9*

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| RELATED STATUTE: Chapter 210 RSMo |
| ADMINISTRATIVE RULES: N/A |
| COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS: N/A |
| PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PLAN (PIP): N/A |
| SACWIS REQUIREMENTS: N/A |
| RELATED LINKS: N/A |

PN/MS