

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

August 21, 2009

<p>What's Inside: Policy changes regarding POE on juvenile perpetrators of CAN</p>

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: PAULA NEESE, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: REVISIONS OF POLICY REGARDING PREPONDERANCE OF EVIDENCE FINDINGS ON JUVENILE PERPETRATORS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff of updates made to the Child Welfare Manual [Section 2 Chapter 4 Subsection 1.8](#) and [Section 2 Chapter 4 Subsection 5](#). The updated policy introduces and clarifies procedure for field staff to follow when they establish a finding by a Preponderance of Evidence (POE) for Child Abuse and Neglect (CA/N) when the alleged perpetrator is identified as a juvenile.

The modifications to the policy are in regards to finding a Preponderance of Evidence against a juvenile perpetrator of child abuse and neglect. When a worker and supervisor agree on a POE finding against a juvenile perpetrator, the file must be sent to the Regional Director or designee for approval **prior** to the finding being entered onto the conclusion page in FACES. The policy also allows for a juvenile perpetrator with a POE finding to request an appeal at any time, be it within the mandated time frame or at any time in the future.

NECESSARY ACTION

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

PDS CONTACT

Melody L. Barker
573-751-0311
Melody.L.Barker@dss.mo.gov

PROGRAM MANAGER

Amy Martin
573-751-3171
Amy.L.Martin@dss.mo.gov

CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS Section 2 Chapter 4 Subsection 1.8 Section 2 Chapter 4 Subsection 5	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS N/A	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES N/A	
RELATED STATUTE N/A	
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE N/A	
COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS N/A	
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) N/A	
PROTECTIVE FACTORS N/A Parental Resilience Social Connections Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development Concrete Support in Times of Need Social and Emotional Competence of Children	
FACES REQUIREMENTS N/A	