



# Practice Alert

## Notification of DJO When a Child Changes Placement

This Practice Alert is to remind staff of the policy surrounding notifying team members (specifically the Juvenile Officer) when a child in Alternative Care needs to change placement. [Section 4.7.2](#) in the Child Welfare Manual directs practitioners to hold Family Support Team meetings before a child changes placement (or within 72 hours if the change of placement was an emergency).

In circuits that have implemented Team Decision Making (TDM) placement stability meetings, the TDM meeting takes the place of this Family Support Team meeting. This meeting should still be held prior to the move to discuss all placement options if at all possible.

Every child's team, including the Juvenile Office, should always know where a child is placed at all times. The Juvenile Officer Standards require the Juvenile Office to notify all parties of upcoming court hearings. Having the most current placement information for every child is crucial.

It is important that Children's Division staff take on the responsibility to inform and update team members, as practitioners have the most direct knowledge about each child's situation.

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