

ISSUED DATE: February 18, 2026

TO: Children's Division Contracted Staff

FROM: Sara Smith, Children's Division Director

SUBJECT: **CD-288 Human Trafficking Assessment Tool**

OVERVIEW:

The [CD-288 Human Trafficking Assessment Tool](#) has been updated. All Children's Division staff are required to begin using the revised version of the tool to ensure early identification and appropriate response in any applicable cases involving potential or confirmed youth human trafficking.

NECESSARY ACTIONS:

The revised tool includes structural, and content updates aimed at improving screening accuracy and trauma-informed engagement. Key enhancements include:

- Revised indicator questions with updated indicators for clearer identification of trafficking risks
- Reorganization to support conversation-based assessments
- Clearer instructions for follow-up actions when trafficking is suspected
- Additional screening questions for familial trafficking, labor trafficking, and buyer-perpetrated trafficking.
- Grouping questions that may trigger a forensic interview

Completion Timeframes

- Immediately:
 - When imminent safety concerns related to trafficking are identified.
- Within 24 hours:
 - When a youth is listed as a victim or non-victim in a CA/N report with allegations of human trafficking.
 - When a youth in CD custody returns from being on the run, missing, or abducted.
 - When there are current suspicion, history, or new concerns of human trafficking for any youth involved through a CA/N report, FCS case, or AC case.
- Within 72 hours:
 - When it is learned that a youth involved with CD (via CA/N report, FCS case, or AC case) has a known history of running away from home or placement.
- As needed:

- When a youth's circumstances change, or new information surfaces that indicates a more thorough screening is warranted.

How to Use the Tool

The CD-288 includes two sections:

Indicators Section

- Used to identify red flags or risk factors that may suggest trafficking, or risk of trafficking.

Comprehensive Assessment

- A deeper assessment to be conducted in a trauma-informed, conversational manner.
- Must occur in a safe, private environment where rapport can be established.
- Do not conduct this assessment in front of suspected traffickers or controlling individuals.
- If a child is unable or unwilling to engage, the assessment should be re-attempted within 5 business days.

Note: If at any time prior to/ during the screening process a disclosure of human trafficking is made, the screener should pause the assessment and discuss proceeding with CAC forensic interview scheduling. If the youth:

- Agrees to proceed with a CAC forensic Interview
 - Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888.
 - Call in a new report to CANHU if human trafficking is not a current allegation in an open investigation.
 - Notify local law enforcement for a co-investigation.
 - Proceed to schedule a CAC forensic interview within 24 hours to occur as soon as reasonably possible.
- Discloses human trafficking but declines to participate in a forensic interview OR there are existing immediate safety concerns, the screener should continue the assessment tool to gather information necessary to assure the youth's immediate safety and to investigate the allegations.

Special Considerations

- For youth 12 years and younger, staff must use discretion to determine which questions in Part 2 are developmentally appropriate.

Documentation

- Document the results of the CD-288 in the narrative section of FACES upon completion and upload the completed guide to OnBase.

Required Actions if Child is "Likely Is" a Victim

- Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888
- Call CANHU to report if trafficking concern is not already an open allegation
- Notify local law enforcement for co-investigation
- Schedule a CAC forensic interview within 24 hours, to occur as soon as reasonably possible

Please ensure you are using the most current version of the CD-288. Discard and discontinue use of all previous versions.

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CHILD WELFARE MANUAL POLICY AND COLLATERAL DOCUMENTATION:

For more information, consult the [Child Welfare Manual, Section 4, Chapter 4 \(Working with Children\)](#), Subsection 9—Missing Person Report Procedure.