

HB 1453 Non-Offending Parent

701.336 Section 1.1 RSMo

HB 1453 impacts policy regarding the placement of children with the non-offending parent.

Current Policy:

Current policy directs workers to place the child in the least restrictive setting needed to meet the child's needs.

New Policy:

- Require CD staff to promptly return children taken into custody to the care and custody of a non-offending parent entitled to physical custody of the child if certain conditions exist.
- Require CD staff to perform a name-based search for criminal history when placing a child with a non-offending parent to assure that there is no history of criminal behavior, drug or alcohol abuse, child abuse, or child neglect, domestic violence, stalking, or full orders of protection entered against them within the past five years.

Expected Outcomes:

This addition to policy provides an avenue for the worker to follow best practice in their work with the family, as well as preventing unnecessary placement in the foster care system. The child will be protected from their abuser, however be able to continue to live in a safe environment with their non-offending parent.