

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION
 P. O. BOX 88
 JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

What's Inside:

Sexual abuse allegations in a licensed foster home with children remaining in household is priority response level 1

November 28, 2007

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: PAULA NEESE, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL PRIORITY RESPONSE LEVEL 1 CRITERIA – SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS IN LICENCED FOSTER HOME

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff of revised *Child Welfare Manual* policy relating to *Response Priority Level 1* criterion. Effective immediately, reports with allegations of sexual abuse in a licensed foster home with any child remaining in the household (including children not in Division custody) will be coded by the Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline Unit (CANHU) *Response Priority Level 1*. (Reference: Section 2, Chapter 2, Attachment B: Criteria for Priority Response Level (1) One)

Response Priority Level 1 requires face-to-face contact with all victim(s) listed on the CA/N-1 within three (3) hours from the receipt of the report.

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:

Randall McDermit
 573-751-8932
Randall.D.Mcdermit@dss.mo.gov

DEPUTY DIRECTOR:

James C. Harrison
 573-751-2502
James.C.Harrison@dss.mo.gov

CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS:

Section 2, Chapter 2, Attachment B: [Criteria for Priority Response Level \(1\) One](#)

RELATED STATUTE:

[Section 210.145 RSMo.](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE:

[13 CSR 35-20.010 Screening and Classification of Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline Reports](#)