

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

August 18, 2015

## M E M O R A N D U M

**What's Inside:**Critical Event  
Response

TO: REGIONAL DIRECTORS, FIELD SUPPORT MANAGERS,  
AND CIRCUIT MANAGERS

FROM: TIM DECKER, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: CRITICAL EVENT RESPONSE

**DISCUSSION:**

The Critical Event Response was developed pursuant to [§ 210.135\(3\) RSMo](#) that requires the Children's Division to conduct a preliminary evaluation, and a review and assessment if necessary, following the death or serious injury of a child after a report has been made to the Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline.

The competency and ability of Children's Division staff are assessed on an ongoing basis as part of supervision. The purpose of this addition is to formalize that process following the death or serious physical injury of a child with whom the Children's Division is, or has been, involved.

The preliminary evaluation, and the assessment and review, shall be completed by the Regional Director or designee no later than three days after the child's death or within three days of the Children's Division receiving notification of a near fatality or serious physical injury.

For additional information regarding this process, please consult the Child Welfare Manual and the forms referenced below.

**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:

<b>PDS CONTACT</b> Not Applicable	<b>PROGRAM MANAGER</b> Sara Linenfelser, MSW (573) 751-4920 Sara.Linenfelser@dss.mo.gov
<b>CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS</b> Section 4.3.8 <a href="#">Fatality, Near-Fatality Abuse/Neglect or Other Critical Event</a>	
<b>FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b> Critical Event Response Part II Review and Assessment Guide (CD-213) Critical Event Competency Guide Children’s Services Worker (CD-213a) Critical Event Competency Guide Children’s Services Supervisor (CD-213c) Critical Event Competency Guide Circuit Manager (CD-213d) Critical Event Competency Guide Program Manager/Field Support Manager (CD-213b)	
<b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES</b> Critical Event Response Flowchart	
<b>RELATED STATUTE</b> <a href="#">Chapter 210.135 RSMo</a>	
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE RULE</b> N/A	
<b>COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS</b> N/A	
<b>CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR)</b> N/A	
<b>PROTECTIVE FACTORS</b> N/A Parental Resilience Social Connections Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development Concrete Support in Times of Need Social and Emotional Competence of Children	
<b>FACES REQUIREMENTS</b> N/A	