**Do we need a TDM? *Initial TDM***

**Initial TDMs should be held when:**

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| 1. **There is a specific threat to child safety**   ***There will be occasions when #2 or #3 occurs when #1 hasn’t been established.*** | **The worker has a clear understanding of the threat to child safety, and some evidence to support her assessment.** | The worker is able to articulate a specific caregiver action or inaction that is directly causing a threat to the safety of the child.  The worker has done enough investigative work to identify evidence of the threat to safety. |
| **AND either of the following:** | | |
| 1. **Child is not separated** | **The worker believes that assuring safety may require separating children from caregivers.** | An immediate safety plan has been co-created with the family; AND  While the immediate safety plan is sufficient in the short term, it is not sustainable in its current form. The immediate safety plan will either require strengthening OR separation will be the only way to protect child. |
| 1. **Child is separated on an emergency basis** | **Either law enforcement initiated an emergency removal but there is not yet a court order**  **OR**  **Child is voluntarily and temporarily separated from all legal parents or guardians** | The ultimate decision about separating children from their caregivers has not been made yet.  In the case of an emergency separation from caregivers, the TDM would be held by the next business day, or prior to the initial court hearing. |

