

COMPLETING THE SAFETY ASSESSMENT, PPS 2030B

The Safety Assessment should be completed on any child listed on the PPS 1000. The safety assessment is to assess the safety of the child to remain at home or to return home (such as from police protective custody). Complete this form only for child abuse/neglect cases.

- **CASE NAME:** Use the same case name as on page 1, Section II, #1 of form PPS 1000.
- **CASE NUMBER:** Use the same case number as on page 1 of form PPS 1001.
- **EVENT NUMBER:** Use the same event number as on page 1 of form PPS 1001.
- **SOCIAL WORKER:** Enter the name of the assigned worker from form PPS 1002, page 2, Section III.
- **DATE OF ASSIGNMENT:** Enter the date of case acceptance from form PPS 1002, page 1.

Section I: IMMINENT DANGER AND OTHER SAFETY FACTORS

Identify the imminent danger that exists for any child(ren) in the home or returning home prior to any intervention (e.g. service, worker action, referral, use of family resources). Check "YES" for all types listed. Such judgment should take into account the age or diminished capacity for self protection due to diminished mental or physical capacity or repeated victimization.

Each danger type "yes" shall be qualified. Danger types related to the allegations which are met with a "no" shall be qualified.

If DCF is unable to locate a family, this is indicated as an OTHER safety factor reason on number 16. Any additional information regarding the safety assessment should be documented in other safety factors.

Section II: IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CONCERNS (SCREEN)

WAS MEDICAL EXAMINATION OR TREATMENT RELATED TO ABUSE OR NEGLECT NEEDED?

Indicate if the child(ren) was found to be in need of urgent or immediate medical attention due to the alleged abuse or neglect. Medical care, as used in this section, should relate to medical needs resulting from suspected child abuse or neglect and should not be construed to include medical care or treatment which is non-urgent or elective. This does not include routine medical concerns.

If answer is "Yes," describe actions taken to ensure medical care was provided. "Reasonable action" means taking steps which can be expected to relieve pain and suffering, prevent further harm, prevent permanent injury and/or preserve evidence.

Section III: SAFETY/HARM DESCRIPTION AND PROTECTIVE ACTION RESPONSE.

Each danger type "yes" shall be qualified. Danger types related to the allegations which are met with a "no" may be qualified.

Please describe the following, specifying which child is affected by that danger type.

1. The immediate danger and safety factor(s) indicated including the frequency of incident, context of situation, and conditions or circumstances surrounding the abuse or neglect. The narrative may include other safety factors if they apply.
2. Reasonable efforts to prevent out of home placement and/ or protective action taken to protect the child considering the following actions and resources available to the family:

- family resources, neighbors, or other individuals in the community
- community agencies or services
- alleged perpetrator leaves the home voluntarily or in response to legal action
- non-maltreating care giver and child move to a safe environment
- worker action taken or agency services/resources provided

If safety plan is completed, you may reference the safety plan for safety response taken. If no protective action (reasonable efforts) can be developed to protect the child, explain.

Note: IF CHILD IS IN CUSTODY AND OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT, WHAT REASONABLE EFFORTS WERE MADE AND WHAT SERVICES WERE CONSIDERED TO PREVENT PLACEMENT. Summarize the efforts that were made to prevent the child from coming into DCF custody and/or to avoid the necessity of an out of home placement. The summary should include any services that were considered in these efforts.

Section IV: SAFETY DECISION

The CPS specialist identifies the safety decision by checking the appropriate response. Check only one response. This decision should be based on the assessment of all safety factors and any other information known about this case.

Safe: Safe is a condition in which serious harm or threats of serious harm from maltreatment are not present. There is no need for controlling safety interventions. "Safe" should be checked only if no safety factors were identified in Section I.

Conditionally Safe: A condition in which serious harm from maltreatment is present, or there is an imminent threat of serious harm, and there is a responsible adult in a caregiving role who demonstrates sufficient capacity to protect the child. The caregiver's protective capacities, either demonstrated by the caregiver or recommended by PPS, are the controlling safety interventions mitigating the unsafe situation for the present time.

Check the box indicating if the family or another agency has taken protective action and specify the tasks and person responsible or if DCF is recommending protective action and completing a safety plan.

Unsafe: A condition in which serious harm from maltreatment is present, or the threat of serious harm is imminent, and the protective capacities of the family are not sufficient to protect the child.

CUSTODY SCREEN:

This screen is to be completed for any child for whom a request for custody is being considered. If child is already in custody, leave this section blank.

IS THE CHILD ABANDONED?

Indicate “Yes” or “No”.

If “No”, respond to the following three questions:

- (1) Is the child(ren) in imminent danger?
- (2) Is the non-abusing parent unable to protect the child(ren)? and
- (3) Does the perpetrator have access to the child?

It is agency policy that DCF will not request law enforcement protective custody or an ex parte order of custody unless all three conditions are met, or the child is abandoned.

DID DCF REQUEST LAW ENFORCEMENT PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OR AN EX PARTE ORDER OF CUSTODY?

Indicate yes or no if DC F requested law enforcement protective custody or an ex parte order of custody. Enter the date and time DCF requested law enforcement protective custody or an ex parte order of custody.

☆ Practice Note: Completion of the questions necessary to request an exparte court order/police protective custody order is **REQUIRED** if the child has been determined unsafe or the child is currently in protective custody. However, it would be best practice to complete these questions on all cases.

When the safety decision is unsafe, a description of the circumstances of the case supporting the decision the child is unsafe is required.

