Justification to extend time frames for completion or waive completion of assessment/investigation activities.

- (A) The public children services agency (PCSA) shall complete a justification for extension if the PCSA is unable to complete specific assessment/investigative activities pursuant to the time frames established within Chapters 5101:2-36 and 5101:2-37 of the Administrative Code. The justification for extension shall:
 - (1) Contain written justification for not meeting the established time frame.
 - (2) Contain supervisory approval of the written justification prior to the expiration of the established time frame.
 - (3) Be maintained in the case record.
- (A)(B) The public children services agency (PCSA) may extend time frames for completing all of the following assessment/investigation activities outlined below with written justification and supervisory approval. The approved justification must be documented in the case record. A justification for extension is permitted for the following assessment/investigative activities:
 - (1) Completion of the JFS 01401 "Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model I.S., Safety Assessment" (rev. 2/2006) within four working days pursuant to rule 5101:2-37-01 of the Administrative Code. The time frame may be extended until face-to-face contact with each required participant alleged child victim and at least one parent, guardian, or custodian or caretaker having routine responsibility for the care of the alleged child victim is conducted completed or until the PCSA is required to make a report disposition or final case decision is made.
 - (2) Obtaining the signature of the parent, guardian, or custodian, or person(s) responsible for an action step on the JFS 01409 "Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model I.S., Safety Plan for Children" (rev. 2/2006) within one working day twenty-four hours from receipt of the verbal authorization. pursuant to rule 5101:2 37-02 of the Administrative Code. The length of the time frame of the extension shall not exceed five working days.
 - (3) Completion of the JFS 01400 "Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model I.S., Family Assessment" (rev. <u>7</u> 2/2006) within thirty days from the date the report—was—screened in for assessment/investigation—pursuant to—rule 5101:2-37-03 of the Administrative Code. The time frame of the length of the extension shall not exceed fifteen days.
 - (4) Completion of the JFS 01402 "Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model I.S., Ongoing Case Assessment/Investigation" (rev. <u>7</u> 2/2006) within thirty

days from the date the report was screened in for assessment/investigation pursuant to rule 5101:2-37-03 of the Administrative Code. The time frame length of the extension shall not exceed fifteen days.

- (5) Completion of the JFS 01403 "Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model I.S., Specialized Assessment/Investigation" (rev. 2/2006) within thirty days from the date the report was screened in for assessment/investigation pursuant to rule 5101:2-36-04 of the Administrative Code. The time frame length of the extension shall not exceed fifteen days.
- (6) Completion of the report disposition within thirty days pursuant to rules 5101:2-36-03, 5101:2-36-04, and 5101:2-36-05 of the Administrative Code. The time frame length of the extension shall not exceed fifteen days.
- (C) The PCSA shall complete a waiver justification if the PCSA is unable to complete specific assessment/investigative activities pursuant to the requirements established within Chapters 5101:2-36 and 5101:2-37 of the Administrative Code. The waiver justification shall:
 - (1) Identify the reason each assessment/investigation activity can not be completed.
 - (2) Contain the director's or designee's approval of the written justification prior to the termination of the established time frame, or extended time frame, for the assessment/investigation activity.
 - (3) Be maintained in the case record.
- (B)(D) The PCSA may waive completion of the assessment/investigation activities outlined in this paragraph. Written justification for not completing each assessment/investigative activity, including the reason the activity cannot be completed, must be approved by the director or his designee, and documented in the case record. All of the A waiver justification is permitted for the following assessment/investigation activities as outlined in rules 5101:2-36-03, 5101:2-36-04, and 5101:2-36-09 of the Administrative Code may be waived:
 - (1) Completion of the face-to-face interview with the alleged child victim or child subject of the report. Face-to-face interview with each child in the home of the alleged child victim, including the alleged child victim.
 - (2) Completion of the face-to-face interview with each child in the home of the alleged child victim or child subject of the report.
 - (2)(3) Completion of the Face to face face-to-face interview with each adult residing in the home of the alleged child victim or child subject of the report,

- including the parent(s), guardian, or custodian.
- (3)(4) Completion of the Face to face face-to-face interview with the alleged perpetrator.
- (4)(5) Completion of Face-to-face face-to-face or telephone interviews with any identified witnesses and collateral sources.
- (5)(6) Completion of the JFS 01400 pursuant to rule 5101:2-37-03 of the Administrative Code, the JFS 01401 pursuant to rule 5101:2-37-01 of the Administrative Code, or the JFS 01402, or JFS 01403 pursuant to rule 5101:2-36-03 of the Administrative Code if the report disposition is one of the following:
 - (a) Family moved: unable to complete assessment/investigation.
 - (b) Family moved out of county: refer to appropriate PCSA.
 - (c) Unable to locate.
- (7) Completion of the JFS 01400, JFS 01401, JFS 01402, or JFS 01403 if all of the following apply:
 - (a) The PCSA has not successfully gathered sufficient information from any principal of the report, identified witness, or collaterals in order to complete the JFS 01400, JFS 01401, JFS 01402, or JFS 01403.
 - (b) The parent, guardian, or custodian of the alleged child victim refused the PCSA to have contact with family members, including principals of the report, to complete the required assessment activities.
 - (c) The PCSA consulted legal counsel regarding the report and the family's refusal to engage in the assessment/investigation process.
 - (d) The PCSA's legal counsel advised the PCSA no legal action will be pursued.
 - (e) The PCSA report disposition is unsubstantiated, substantiated, or indicated.
- (C) Completion of the report disposition shall not be waived.
- (D)(E) The PCSA shall not complete a justification to waive or extend the completion

time frame for any of the following assessment/investigation activities activity not identified within this rule. as outlined in rule 5101:2-36-03, 5101:2-36-04, or 5101:2-36-09 of the Administrative Code:

- (1) Time frame for attempting the initial face-to-face contact with the principals of the case, including the alleged child victim or the telephone contact with the collateral source.
- (2) Requesting assistance from the county prosecutor, the PCSA's legal counsel, or the court, when refused access to the alleged child victim or any record needed to conduct the assessment/investigation.
- (3) All of the following notifications:
 - (a) Notifying the child, unless child is not of an age or developmental capacity to understand, and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian of the report disposition unless the disposition is unable to locate or family moved unable to complete assessment/investigation.
 - (b) Notifying the alleged perpetrator in writing of the report disposition unless the disposition is unable to locate, family moved unable to complete assessment/investigation, or the alleged perpetrator is unknown.
 - (c) Notifying the alleged perpetrator of the allegations made against him/her at the time of the initial contact with the individual unless the PCSA did not make contact with him/her during the assessment/investigation.
 - (d) Notifying the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of the out-of home care entity of the allegations contained in the child abuse or neglect report and the person named as the alleged perpetrator.
 - (e) Notifying the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of the out-of-home care entity in writing of the disposition.
 - (f) Notifying the appropriate licensing and supervising authorities of a child abuse or neglect report involving an out-of-home care entity.
 - (g) Notifying law enforcement regarding a request for a third party investigation if a child abuse or neglect report alleges a criminal offense.
- (4) Providing required information to mandated reporters, upon request.
- (5) Providing licensing and supervising authorities with information regarding the investigation of an out-of-home care abuse or neglect report.

(6) Providing written notice of the right to appeal the report disposition and the method for filing the appeal to the alleged perpetrator at the time of the official notification of the report disposition unless notification is waived pursuant to paragraph (E)(3)(b) of this rule.

- (7) Referring any child under the age of three who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect to "Help Me Grow" for early intervention services.
- (8) Referring any infant that has been born and identified as affected by an illegal substance or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal exposure to "Help Me Grow."
- (9) Making a screening decision to investigate child abuse, neglect, or dependency reports.
- (10) Providing an interpreter for all interviews when the PCSA has determined that a principal of the case has a language or any other impairment that causes a barrier in communication, e.g., deaf or hearing impaired, has limited English proficiency, or is developmentally delayed.

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Certification

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