

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

DATE: August 1, 2012
TIME: 10:00 A.M
LOCATION: Room 2921, Rhodes State Office Tower
30 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Pursuant to sections 119.03, 5101.141, 3107.031, 5153.16, and 5153.166 of the Ohio Revised Code, the director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services gives notice of the department's intent to consider the amendment of the rules as identified below and of a public hearing thereon. The Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rules governing the Multiethnic Placement Act (MEPA) have been amended as a result of the five year rule review process.

OAC 5101:2-33-11 entitled "Multiethnic Placement Act (MEPA) agency administration requirements" sets forth the administrative requirements for PCSAs, PCPAs and PNAs regarding certain administrative requirements for MEPA. The rule has been amended to provide clarity that agencies may share MEPA monitors from other county agencies to fulfill MEPA monitoring functions.

OAC 5101:2-48-16 entitled "Adoption Preplacement and Placement Procedures" outlines the pre-adoptive staffing and matching conferences. The rule has been amended to clarify the public children services agency (PCSA) and private child placing agency (PCPA) shall e-mail the matching conference notification to ODJFS MEPA coordinator at matchingconference@jfs.ohio.gov. The rule was also amended to clarify that agencies have the option to continue to hold matching conferences if the child meets the criteria as specified in Section 3107.02 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC).

JFS 01689 entitled "Documentation of the Placement Decision-Making Process." The heading was changed on page one, "Agency Affiliation" to "Family Serving Agency" to be clearer.

A copy of the proposed rule is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rule the address listed below. The rule is also available on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>. A public hearing on the proposed rule will be held at the date, time, and location listed at the top of this letter. Either written or oral testimony will be taken at the public hearing. Additionally, written comments submitted or postmarked no later than the date of the public hearing will be treated as testimony.

Requests for a copy of the proposed rule or comments on the rule should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Legal and Acquisition Services, 30 East Broad Street, 31st floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414, by fax at (614) 752-8298, or by e-mail at rules@odjfs.state.oh.us.

