

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES**

DATE: 1/5/2021

TIME: 10am

LOCATION: Teleconference

Due to COVID-19 precautions this meeting will be held by teleconference. If you would like to submit oral testimony, please call in at the above date and time to 1-614-721-2972. Then enter the meeting I.D. which is 602 607 539#. Written testimony may also be submitted electronically to rules@jfs.ohio.gov.

Pursuant to sections 5101.141, 5103.03, 5153.166, 3107.033, 5101.134 and Chapter 119 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.

OAC rule 5101:2-33-03 entitled "Procedure for complaints of alleged discriminatory acts, policies or practices in the foster care or adoption process that involve race, color or national origin," details the procedure that each public children services agency (PCSA), private child placing agency (PCPA), and private noncustodial agency (PNA) shall follow when a complaint of discrimination is filed. The revision dates were removed throughout.

OAC rule 5101:2-33-11, entitled "Multiethnic Placement Act (MEPA) agency administrative requirements," details the responsibilities of the public children services agency and private child placing agency to designate MEPA monitors and the duties of the MEPA monitor. The rule also details the annual requirements of each private non-custodial agency, public children services agency, and private child placing agency to submit data and complete a Biennial Comprehensive Assessment. Paragraph (D) and (E) were deleted, as the requirements were obsoleted per Procedure Letter No. 325 in January 2018. The requirement for agencies to review and update their foster care and adoption recruitment plans annually was added. Wording in paragraph (F) was clarified. The revision dates were removed throughout.

OAC rule 5101:2-33-13, entitled "Administrative procedures for falsification in adoption," provides guidance to agencies on the procedures that must be followed if the agency suspects a false statement or false documents has knowingly been submitted during the homestudy process. The rule details the steps to be taken if this is discovered before and after approval of the homestudy. The revision dates were removed throughout.

OAC rule 5101:2-33-70, entitled "Statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) access," provides guidance to agencies on how to obtain access and on what information is to be entered into SACWIS. Additionally, the rule states who may be granted access to SACWIS and the responsibility of those with access to maintain confidentiality of the

information within SACWIS. Wording in paragraph (E) was clarified. Paragraph (F) was removed due to redundancy, as a result lettering was changed as needed throughout the rule. 30 Days to Family specialist were added to the list of staff that could be granted access to SACWIS. There was a correction to a paragraph referenced from another rule. The revision dates were removed throughout.

INSTRUCTION:

A copy of the proposed rules is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rules at the address listed below. The rules are also available on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>. A public hearing on the proposed rules will be held at the date, time and location listed at the top of this notice. 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 rules or comments on the rules 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, by fax at (614) 752-8289, or by e-mail at rules@jfs.ohio.gov.