



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVPUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

October 16, 2025

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,
SUPERVISORS, SOCIAL WORKERS, AND LICENSED CHILD PLACING AGENCIES**

SUBJECT: DSS-1515: FIRE INSPECTION SAFETY REPORT UPDATE

REQUIRED ACTION: ☐ Information Only ☒ Time Sensitive ☒ Action Required

This is a follow up to DCDL-CWS-51-2025. The DSS 1515: Foster Home Fire Inspection Safety Report was revised for clarification and to strengthen protections for children and youth in licensed foster homes. After the release, we received feedback from fire marshals regarding Question 10, which references compliance with building code standards. Fire marshals noted that they were not authorized to certify building code compliance, as this falls outside the scope of their professional duties. We appreciate their feedback and are revising the form, in partnership, to align roles and responsibilities while maintaining child safety.

In the interim, please use the previous version of the DSS 1515: Foster Home Fire Inspection Safety Report, effective immediately. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Jenny Millsaps, Foster Home Licensing Manager, at Jenny.Millsaps@dhhs.nc.gov. Thank you for your understanding as we implement this update.

Sincerely,

Kimaree Sanders

Kimaree Sanders, MSW, MPA
Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Cc: Lisa T. Cauley, Division Director, Human Services, Child, Family, and Adult Regional Support
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Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety
Meredith Houchins, Interim Section Chief for County Operations
Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Child and Family Services

CWS-73-2025

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