

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Albert A. Delia, Acting Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director

Child Welfare Services Section 325 N. Salisbury Street 2408 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2408 Courier # 56-20-25 Fax (919) 733-6924

March 1, 2012

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: SURVEY ON COUNTY CPS SCREENING DECISIONS RELATED TO DWI AND DUI ALLEGATIONS

The North Carolina Division of Social Services is interested in gathering information on county specific policy and practice for cases involving allegations that a parent or caregiver has been criminally charged for driving while intoxicated (DWI) and/or driving under the influence (DUI) with children as passengers in the vehicle. This interest was sparked in response to requests for technical assistance on the screening of Child Protective Services reports with these allegations, as well as the decision-making process in these types of cases.

To gather more information, the Division is requesting the assistance of each county department of social services to designate one person from each county agency to respond to this survey. Accessing and responding to the survey can begin March 1, 2012, and continue through March 30, 2012. In order to answer all of the questions, the survey will require research into the agency's Child Protective Services reports and/or CPS Assessments containing these types of allegations in your county from July 1, 2011, through December 31, 2011.

The survey entitled "County Policy & Practice for Cases Containing DWI and/or DUI Allegations" is located at: <u>http://www.ncsurveymax.com/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=m2MMn77</u>.

Your input is valuable to the Division, as it will guide future policy in this area. If you have any questions regarding the basis for this inquiry or the survey itself, please contact Arlette Lambert at (919) 334-1152 or <u>arlette.lambert@dhhs.nc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

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Kevin Kelley, Section Chief Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher Jack Rogers Child Welfare Services Team Leaders

CWS-03-12