

**Date: July 1, 2021**

**Manual** – Child and Family Services Manual, Chapter C, Child Protective Services

**Transmittal #** - 295

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide new and revised guidance for the Child Protective Services Program. Unless otherwise stated, the provisions included in this transmittal are effective upon release.

This release includes updates to guidance as a result of changes to the Code of Virginia and other programmatic updates.

Guidance has been updated to reflect legislation passed during the 2021 session of the Virginia General Assembly which impacts §§ 63.2-1505 and 63.2-1506 of the Code of Virginia regarding the release of a child’s location to a parent or guardian and becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

Guidance has been revised to account for the programmatic update which occurred with the re-design of our In-Home Services Program.

Significant changes to the manual are as follows:

Section(s) Changed	Significant Changes
Section 4	
4.3.5 Release child’s location	Creates a new sub-section to provide guidance on the changes to §§ 63.2-1505 – 63.2- 1506 of the Code of Virginia regarding the authority of the LDSS to release a child’s location to a parent or guardian and the criteria required for such disclosure by the LDSS.
4.5.15.1 Risk level guides decision to open a case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaces link to Section 6: Services with a link to Section 2, Chapter B. Prevention, VDSS Child and Family Services Manual for In-Home Prevention Services.</li> <li>• Replaces CPS On-going with In-Home Services.</li> </ul>
4.5.15.1.1 Low/moderate risk cases open for prevention services	Replaces link to Section 6: Services with a link to Section 2, Chapter B. Prevention, VDSS Child and Family Services Manual for In-Home Prevention Services.
4.6.25.1 Risk level guides decision to open a case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaces link to Section 6: Services with a link to Section 2, Chapter B. Prevention, VDSS Child and</li> </ul>

Commissioner Guidance Manual Transmittal

	<p>Family Services Manual for In-Home Prevention Services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaces CPS On-going with In-Home Services.</li> </ul>
4.6.25.1.1 Low/moderate risk cases open for prevention services	Replaces link to Section 6: Services with a link to Section 2, Chapter B. Prevention, VDSS Child and Family Services Manual for In-Home Prevention Services.
Section 9	
9.8 Release child’s location	Creates a new sub-section to provide guidance on the changes to §§ 63.2-1505 – 63.2- 1506 of the Code of Virginia regarding the authority of the LDSS to release a child’s location to a parent or guardian and the criteria required for such disclosure by the LDSS.

Questions about this transmittal should be directed to Shannon Hartung, CPS Program Manager, at (804)726-7554 or by email at [shannon.hartung1@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:shannon.hartung1@dss.virginia.gov).

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