

California Department of Social Services

Referral Name: _____ Referral Number: _____

Worker Name: _____ Household Name: _____

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- Initial
- Review/update
- Referral closing/case closing

☐ Yes

☐ No

IS THERE ANY INFORMATION THAT INDICATES THAT A CHILD IN THE HOUSEHOLD IS, OR MAY BE, AN INDIAN CHILD?

☐ No, not at this time.

☐ Yes.

If yes: ☐ Child is an Indian child ☐ Reason to know ☐ Reason to believe

If the child is an Indian child or there is reason to know the child is an Indian child, were tribal social workers or representative(s) consulted during the information gathering and safety assessment process?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If no: ☐ Contact with the tribe(s) attempted ☐ Contact with tribe(s) not attempted

FACTORS INFLUENCING CHILD VULNERABILITY

Conditions impacting in child's ability to protect self; select all that apply to **any** child.

- ☐ Age 0–5 years
- ☐ Diminished mental capacity (e.g., developmental delay, nonverbal)
- ☐ Diminished physical capacity (e.g., non-ambulatory, limited use of limbs)
- ☐ Not readily accessible to community oversight
- ☐ Significant diagnosed medical or mental disorder

SECTION 1: SAFETY THREATS

Assess household for each of the following safety threats. Indicate whether currently available information results in reason to believe a safety threat is present.

1. CAREGIVER CAUSED SERIOUS PHYSICAL HARM TO THE CHILD OR MADE A PLAUSIBLE THREAT TO CAUSE SERIOUS PHYSICAL HARM IN THE CURRENT INVESTIGATION

- ☐ Yes (select all that apply)
 - ☐ Serious injury or abuse to the child other than accidental.
 - ☐ Caregiver fears they will maltreat the child.
 - ☐ Threat to cause harm or retaliate against the child.
 - ☐ Excessive discipline or physical force.
 - ☐ Substance-affected infant.
- ☐ No

2. CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE OR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IS SUSPECTED, AND CIRCUMSTANCES SUGGEST THAT THE CHILD'S SAFETY MAY BE OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN

- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ Sexual abuse
 - ☐ Commercial sexual exploitation
- ☐ No

3. CAREGIVER DOES NOT MEET THE CHILD'S IMMEDIATE NEEDS, RESULTING IN SERIOUS HARM OR IMMINENT DANGER OF SERIOUS HARM

- ☐ Yes (select all that apply)
 - ☐ Supervision
 - ☐ Food, clothing, or hygiene
 - ☐ Medical or dental care
 - ☐ Mental health care
- ☐ No

4. THE PHYSICAL LIVING CONDITIONS ARE HAZARDOUS AND IMMEDIATELY THREATENING TO THE HEALTH AND/OR SAFETY OF THE CHILD

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

5. CAREGIVER DESCRIBES OR SPEAKS TO THE CHILD IN PREDOMINANTLY NEGATIVE TERMS OR ACTS TOWARD OR IN THE PRESENCE OF THE CHILD IN NEGATIVE WAYS AND THESE ACTIONS RESULT IN SEVERE PSYCHOLOGICAL/EMOTIONAL HARM, RESULTING IN IMMEDIATE DANGER

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

6. CAREGIVER DOES NOT PROTECT THE CHILD FROM SERIOUS HARM OR THREATENED HARM BY OTHERS. THIS MAY INCLUDE PHYSICAL ABUSE, SEXUAL ABUSE, OR NEGLECT

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

7. CAREGIVER'S EXPLANATION FOR THE INJURY TO THE CHILD IS QUESTIONABLE OR INCONSISTENT WITH THE TYPE OF INJURY, AND THE NATURE OF THE INJURY SUGGESTS THAT THE CHILD'S SAFETY MAY BE OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

8. THE FAMILY REFUSES ACCESS TO THE CHILD, OR THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE FAMILY IS ABOUT TO FLEE

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

9. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EXISTS IN THE HOUSEHOLD AND POSES AN IMMINENT DANGER OF SERIOUS HARM TO THE CHILD

- ☐ Yes (select all that apply)
 - ☐ Physical harm
 - ☐ Emotional harm
- ☐ No

10. OTHER: CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES MEET THE THRESHOLD OF IMMINENT AND SEVERE DANGER BUT ARE NOT DESCRIBED WITHIN SAFETY THREATS 1–9

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Specify: _____

Note: Supervisor approval required.

SAFETY DECISION: IF NO SAFETY THREATS ARE PRESENT, COMPLETE THE SAFETY DECISION BELOW.

- ☐ **Safe.** No safety threats were identified at this time. Based on currently available information, there are no children likely to be in immediate danger of serious harm. Complete the investigation and the risk assessment as required. No other work on this assessment needs to be completed.

SECTION 1A: CAREGIVER COMPLICATING BEHAVIORS

If yes is selected for any safety threats above, indicate whether any of the following behaviors are present. These are conditions that may make it more difficult or complicated to create safety for a child but do not by themselves create a safety threat. These behaviors must be considered when assessing for and planning to mitigate safety threats with a safety plan. Select all that apply to the household.

- ☐ Substance abuse
- ☐ Domestic violence
- ☐ Mental health
- ☐ Developmental/cognitive impairment
- ☐ Physical condition
- ☐ Other (specify): _____

SECTION 2: HOUSEHOLD STRENGTHS AND PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

Household Strengths: These are resources and conditions that increase the likelihood or ability to create safety for a child but in and of themselves do not fully address the safety threats.

Protective Actions: These are specific actions, taken by one of the child's current caregivers or by the child, that mitigate identified safety threats in the household.

Household strengths and protective actions should be assessed, considered, and built upon when creating a safety plan. *Select all that apply to the household.*

CAREGIVER PROBLEM SOLVING

Household Strengths

- ☐ At least one caregiver identifies and acknowledges the problem/safety threat(s) and suggests possible solutions

Protective Actions

- ☐ At least one caregiver articulates specific strategies that, in the past, have been at least partially successful in mitigating the identified safety threat(s), and the caregiver has used or could use these strategies in the current situation

CAREGIVER SUPPORT NETWORK

Household Strengths

- ☐ At least one caregiver has at least one supportive relationship with someone who is willing to be a part of their support network
- ☐ At least one non-offending caregiver exists and is willing and able to protect the child from future harm
- ☐ At least one caregiver is willing to work with the agency to mitigate safety threats, including allowing the caseworker(s) access to the child

Protective Actions

- ☐ At least one caregiver has a stable support network that is aware of the safety threat(s), has been or is responding to the threat(s), and is willing to provide protection for the child

CHILD PROBLEM SOLVING

Household Strengths

- ☐ At least one child is emotionally/intellectually capable of acting to protect themselves from a safety threat

Protective Actions

- ☐ At least one child, in the past or currently, acts in ways that protect themselves from a safety threat(s)

CHILD SUPPORT NETWORK

Household Strengths

- ☐ At least one child is aware of their support network members and knows how to contact these individuals when needed

Protective Actions

- ☐ At least one child has successfully pursued support, in the past or currently, from a member of their support network, and that person(s) was able to help address the safety threat and keep the child safe

OTHER

Household Strengths

- ☐ Other, specify: _____

Protective Actions

- ☐ Other, specify: _____

SECTION 3: IN-HOME PROTECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

If safety threats have been identified in the household and after consideration of child vulnerabilities, household strengths, and protective actions, it is determined that a safety plan will allow the child to remain in the home, the safety decision is "safe with plan." Select the decision below.

If a safety plan that would allow the child to remain in the home safely cannot be created, go to Section 4.

SAFETY DECISION

- ☐ **Safe with plan.** One or more safety threats are present; however, the child can safely remain in home with a safety plan. In-home protective interventions have been initiated through a safety plan and the child will remain in the home as long as the safety interventions mitigate the safety threats. Select all in-home interventions used in the safety plan.

- ☐ 1. Intervention or direct services by worker (DO NOT include the investigation itself)
☐ 2. Use of family, neighbors, or other individuals in the community as safety resources

- ☐ 3. Use of community agencies or services as safety resources
- ☐ 4. Inclusion of tribal, Indian community service agency, and/or ICWA staff as part of action steps on the safety plan
- ☐ 5. Have the caregiver appropriately protect the victim from the alleged perpetrator
- ☐ 6. Have the alleged perpetrator leave the home, either voluntarily or in response to legal action
- ☐ 7. Have the non-offending caregiver move to a safe environment with the child
- ☐ 8. Legal action planned or initiated—child remains in the home
- ☐ 9. Other (specify): _____

SECTION 4: PLACEMENT INTERVENTIONS

SAFETY DECISION

- ☐ **Unsafe.** One or more safety threats are present, and placement is the only protective intervention possible for one or more children. Without placement, one or more children will likely be in danger of immediate or serious harm. Select one response only.
 - ☐ 10. Have the caregiver voluntarily place the child outside the home, consistent with WIC § 11400 (o) and (p)
 - ☐ 11. A warrant or detention order will be sought immediately per local policy
 - ☐ 12. Child placed in protective custody

TRIBAL AGREEMENT WITH FINAL SAFETY DECISION

Complete only if the child/youth is an Indian child or there is reason to know the child is an Indian child/youth.

Is the tribe(s) in agreement with the final safety decision?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No; reasoning: _____
- ☐ Unknown