**Appeals not transmitted to OAL for hearing**

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| **Year received** | **Number of Appeals** |
| 2010 | 232 |
| 2011 | 265 |
| 2012 | 310 |
| 2013 | 724 |
| 2014 | 739 |
| 2015 | 639 |
| 2016 | 544 |
| 2017 | 499 |
| 2018 | 493 |
| 2019 | 518 |
| 2020 | 310 |

Upon receipt of an appeal request, the DCF Administrative Hearings Unit reviews the request to determine if a hearing is warranted. This review includes:

1. A determination as to whether the appeal is timely submitted. If it is not, the appeal is denied.

2. A determination as to whether the person appealing has been the subject of an abuse or neglect investigation and the investigation resulted in a finding that the person seeking the appeal was responsible for the abuse or neglect. If there is no such finding, the appeal is denied.

3. A determination as to whether the appellant has previously received a review of the matter at issue. If a prior review has been conducted, the appeal is denied.

4. A determination as to whether there are any factual issues in dispute. If not, no hearing is necessary, and the appeal is decided by a motion for summary disposition.

5. A determination as to whether the subject of the appeal is under review in another forum; i.e., if there are criminal charges pending as a result of the incident at issue or a superior court custody or guardianship proceeding. If so, the appeal is denied pending the result of the other proceeding. Upon the completion of the related proceeding, the appellant may again request DCF review, which may be conducted if the other proceeding has not resolved the matter.

6. A determination as to whether the evidence obtained during the investigation is sufficient for the substantiated finding to be upheld following a hearing. If not, the agency may modify the finding to a more appropriate finding; i.e., established, not established or unfounded.

In addition, the appellant may sometimes withdraw the appeal request prior to transmittal of the matter for a hearing.