

Amend Section 31-206 to read:

31-206 CASE PLAN DOCUMENTATION

31-206

.1 (Continued)

.4 The social worker shall document in the child's case plan file a determination regarding whether it is in the best interest of the child to make a referral to the local child support agency for child support services in accordance with Section 31-503.

.4 5 (Continued)

Authority cited: Sections 10553, 10554, and 16501.1, Welfare and Institutions Code; and Section 17552, Family Code.

Reference: Section 358.1(e) (~~as added by Assembly Bill 1544, Chapter 793, Statutes of 1997~~), 361, 361(b) (~~as added by Assembly Bill 1544, Chapter 793, Statutes of 1997~~), 361.5, 4094, 4094.5, 4094.6, 4094.7, 5585.58, 5600.3, 16002, 16501, 16501(e), and 16507, Welfare and Institutions Code; 42 U.S.C. Sections 675(1) and 677; Sections 7901, 7911, 7911.1, ~~and~~ 7912, and 17552, Family Code; and Sections 1502 and 1502(a)(8), Health and Safety Code.

Adopt Section 31-503 to read:

31-503 CHILD SUPPORT REFERRAL REQUIREMENTS

31-503

- .1 If a child is receiving family reunification services, the social worker shall determine whether it is in the child's best interest to make a referral to the local child support agency. In making this determination the social worker shall take the following into consideration:

  - .11 The parent's ability to meet the requirements of the reunification plan if the child's case is referred to the local child support agency.
  - .12 The parent's ability to meet the current and future financial needs of the child if the child's case is referred to the local child support agency.
- .2 If the social worker determines it is in the best interest of the child not to make a referral to the local child support agency, the social worker shall forward their recommendation to the appropriate county eligibility worker for appropriate action.

  - .21 The social worker shall review this decision following each court hearing held under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 361.5.

    - .211 If, upon completing this review, the social worker determines that due to a change in the child's circumstances, it is no longer contrary to the child's best interest, the social worker shall inform the appropriate county eligibility worker to refer the child's case to the local child support agency.
- .3 The social worker shall document in the child's case plan if it is determined that it is not in the best interest of the child to refer his or her case to the local child support agency.
- .4 The social worker may provide information regarding the best interest of the child as it pertains to child support issues to the local child support agency upon request.

Authority cited: Sections 10553 and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code; and Section 17552 Family Code.

Reference: Section 17552, Family Code.