



MEMORANDUM

TO: DCF All Staff
FROM: Commissioner Vanessa Dorantes
DATE: April 6, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Executive Order 7M

On 3/10/2020, Governor Ned Lamont proclaimed a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States and the confirmation of the virus spreading in Connecticut.

These uncertain times in our communities have resulted in all of us making changes to our operational functions that we believe are in the best interests of children, families and our workforce.

Pursuant to the Authority granted to me by Governor Ned Lamont pursuant to Executive Order 7M dated 3/25/2020, Governor Ned Lamont has granted me the authority as Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families to order the following modifications to existing practice:

- Temporary Modification of In Person Investigative Visits and Extension of Time to Commence and Complete an Investigation of Child Abuse or Neglect Conducted by the Department of Children and Families.
- Temporary Suspension of Non-Critical Department of Children and Families record production.
- Flexibility related to Written Consent for Disclosure of Department of Children and Families records
- Temporary Suspension of Non-Critical Department of Children and Families Administrative Hearings.
- Temporary Suspension of Fingerprinting by the Department of Children and Families
- Temporary Suspension of 30-day requirement for MDE.

Please find the entire Executive Order here which also provides more specifics about the modifications: [DCF Commissioner COVID Order 1](#)

This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency unless earlier modified or terminated by myself.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Your flexibility and diligence during this period are greatly appreciated.