



MEMORANDUM

?

TO: All DCF Employees
FROM: Vincent Russo, Chief of Gov't Relations & Policy
DATE: 07/01/2026
SUBJECT: Policy Bulletin 2026 - 06

This policy bulletin updates 2 existing policies and promulgates a new one.

[20-1-1 Purposeful Visitation and Contact Standards](#) has been updated as follows:

- Details what should be assessed in visitation, including child safety
- Interaction with family/ Identification of "Family"- identify family/household members, who is to be seen and the frequency of contact to be determined in supervision
- Expectations for in-person contact
- ABCD paradigm language included
- Language to include concerted efforts and use of AHV and UHV
- Decision regarding frequency of visitation discussed in supervision based on age, vulnerabilities, risk, safety and protective capacities
- Supervisors can determine who will be seen 2x per month and which family members must be seen monthly
- Visitation plans reassessed in supervision monthly
- Aligns with CFSR standard to ensure visits with family occur. Modification may be made during supervision based on case circumstances
- Use of Announced and Unannounced Home Visits

- Aligns with CFSR standard for contact with parent of a child in placement based on Permanency Plan
- Frequency of contact when a child is in placement and at least one child is at home will be determined in supervision
- In cases with less than monthly contact with the non-custodial parent /non-residential parent record will reflect why
- Establishes visitation standards for the social worker, or DCF representative, to visit a child placed out-of-state

[21-7 Substance Use Disorder Screening and Testing](#) has been updated to include distribution of naloxone to DCF offices and staff as appropriate.

[2-3-5 Text Communication with Clients](#) is a new policy that establishes clear guidance for text communications between DCF employees and the families we work with. One key provision requires text communications to be documented in CT-KIND using uploaded screen shots.

Also, in accordance with the standing order from the Juvenile Court, we have updated two court forms in accordance with Practice Book section 32a-2 by including a radial button to indicate whether the child's placement location speaks limited English and correcting the email address for the Office of Public Defender.

The new forms are posted and can be found here:

[DCF-2017 – Checklist for OTC](#)

[DCF-3004 – Court Notification of OTC Placement](#)