



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
A Healthcare Service Agency

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

PATRICIA A. REHMER, MSN
COMMISSIONER

To: Agency CEO's, DMHAS Operated Facility CEO's and DMHAS Senior Managers

From: Patricia A. Rehmer, MSN, Commissioner

Date: June 2, 2010

Re: Change in Law for Puerto Rico Birth Certificates

As you may be aware, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has enacted a law which invalidates or cancels all birth certificates previously issued by the Commonwealth as of July 1, 2010. This new law represents a joint effort by the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Puerto Rico to address the fraudulent use of Puerto Rico-issued birth certificates.

The cancellation and invalidation of Puerto Rico-issued birth certificates may cause embarrassment, frustration and confusion among CT residents, including individuals we serve of Puerto Rican origin, who rely on such documentation as their primary source of identification. Our responsibility is to assist any affected consumers/individuals in recovery with obtaining a replacement birth certificate and/or addressing any concerns or questions related to this issue.

I am requesting that each of you:

1. Immediately make this information available to agency employees, as well as, to staff who work directly with consumers/individuals in recovery that are of Puerto Rican origin; and
2. Review and forward the information available on this website for direction on how to obtain replacement birth certificates:
<http://www.prfaa.com/birthcertificates/>.

Thank you for your attention to this extremely important matter.

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