This policy defines safety planning practices when danger is identified with Division-involved families.

Required Practices
Any deviations to the following information must be documented with Supervisory Approval.

I. CPSW/J PPOs shall continually assess for danger relevant to all children in the home throughout the course of their involvement with a family.

II. When danger is identified (i.e. through an approved standardized assessment tool, verified by credible report, or determined through the direct observation of the CPSW/J PPO), the use of a safety plan must be considered and implemented if appropriate. Safety plans shall:

A. Be a voluntary agreement made between parents/caregivers and DCYF;

B. Be an immediate, short-term strategy that provides children with appropriate adult supervision and care to ensure safety;

C. Be clear, detailed, and specific as to what the danger is and what actions will be taken or what actions/behaviors will cease in order to ensure safety;

D. Be created with parents/caregivers in language and terminology the family understands so it is clear to them why danger has been identified and what must be done about it;

E. Be reviewed with all participants, with consensus as to who will be doing/not doing what, and for how long;

F. Include one or more individuals and/or services as a safety network; and

G. Have a plan for follow-up.
III. When it is determined that an alternative caregiver is needed to ensure the safety of children:
   A. Parents/caregivers must be able to identify an appropriate alternative caregiver;
   B. Alternative caregivers must understand the presenting danger, agree to follow the safety plan, and be clear as to what action they will take if safety issues arise; and
   C. CPSW/J PPOs shall assess the ability and willingness of identified alternative caregivers to abide by the plan prior to plan implementation.

IV. Safety plans shall be documented in the DCYF electronic information system in a timely manner.

V. CPS/JJS Supervisors shall review safety plans to ensure all danger indicators have been addressed appropriately with the family.

VI. Details of safety plans shall be shared with any safety network members/providers working with a family on the danger.

VII. CPSW/J PPOs shall conduct ongoing assessment of the appropriateness of a safety plan so long as it remains in effect.

### Glossary and Document Specific Definitions

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For the Purpose of this Document:
“Safety” initially means the absence of danger to a child. Once danger has been identified, safety means actions of protection taken by the caregiver that mitigate the danger and are demonstrated over time.

“Safety Network” means one or more people who are not part of the household who agree to help keep the child(ren) safe from an identified danger until caregivers are able to demonstrate safety. This may include an alternative caregiver as applicable.