




STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
1500 Jefferson Street, SE • P.O. Box 40975 • Olympia WA 98504-0975

POLICY MEMO

June 27, 2023

TO: Child Welfare Employees

FROM: Natalie Green, Assistant Secretary 

RE: Changes to [1170. Domestic Violence](#) policy

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

SUNSET REVIEW DATE: July 1, 2024

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance to Child Welfare (CW) employees of the updated policy and procedure requirements to align with [House Bill 1227: Keeping Families Together Act](#) and [KW](#) Supreme Court decision.

This policy is under full review for further revisions, but the following changes will take effect July 1, 2023:

New Procedural Requirements

Caseworkers must:

- Conduct a universal domestic violence (DV) screening prior to placing in a relative or suitable person's home and document in a case note.
- Conduct a specialized DV assessment if there is domestic and/or intimate partner violence identified and document in a case note.
- If the child or youth's safety is in question, staff with your supervisor to determine if a Safe Child Consultation is appropriate to:
 - Mitigate the concerns.
 - Develop a Placement Support Plan.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact Jasmine Hodges, Child Safety Program Manager, at jasmine.hodges@dcyf.wa.gov or 206-889-9431.

Cc: Brenda Villarreal