

NEVADA SAFETY ASSESSMENT FIELD GUIDE – A UNITY FORM

Part B – Safety Threat Identification

Directions:

Indicate the presence or absence of safety threats in a family by giving consideration to all 12 safety threats, using all the information that is collected and known about the family.

A “yes” indicates the safety threat exists; it is observable and it can be described. It is a conclusion, not a suspicion, and can only be indicated when sufficient credible, reasonable, believable information supports the conclusion. Indicating “yes” means that the safety threat meets all of the safety threshold criteria including: out of control, severe, imminent and observable and specific. If a “yes” box is indicated, a case-specific description of how the threat is actually occurring in the family must be explained in the space provided beneath each safety threat, then go to part C.

If the caregiver protective capacities mitigate the threat, that will be documented in Part C and Part D of this form.

A “no” box is indicated when the conclusion is reached that the safety threat does not exist, or at the time of the safety assessment, the information available did not reveal the safety threat. If a negative family condition does not meet all of the safety threshold criteria, then “No” must be indicated. If “No” is checked and the case was substantiated, a case specific description should be entered explaining how the correlating threat to the substantiated incident does not or no longer presents a threat to the child

Always Refer to the Safety Threats Guide, which provides examples of dangerous situations and behavior, as well as, diminished caregiver protective capacities.

- 1. Yes No Behavior of any member of the household or other persons having access to the child is violent.
- 2. Yes No Caregiver describes or acts toward the child in extremely negative ways or has extremely unrealistic expectations.
- 3. Yes No A member of the household has caused serious physical injuries or is threatening serious physical harm to the child.
- 4. Yes No There is reason to believe that the family is about to flee; caregivers overtly reject CPS intervention; refuse access to the child; and/or the child's whereabouts cannot be ascertained.
- 5. Yes No The caregiver(s) is unwilling or unable to meet the child's immediate protection needs for supervision, food, clothing, and/or shelter which could result in serious harm.
- 6. Yes No Caregiver(s) is unwilling or unable to meet the child's exceptional needs for acute, debilitating, or life threatening medical or mental health condition.
- 7. Yes No Child expresses extreme fear or terror of the home situation, a caregiver, other household members, or other persons having access to the home.
- 8. Yes No The child's physical living conditions are hazardous and are an immediate threat of serious harm.
- 9. Yes No Caregiver(s) emotional stability, developmental status or cognitive deficiency seriously impairs their current ability to supervise, protect, or care for the child(ren).
- 10. Yes No The child has a serious injury for which there is no reasonable or credible explanation.
- 11. Yes No Child sexual abuse is suspected and circumstances suggest that child safety may be an immediate concern.
- 12. Yes No Caregiver's drug or alcohol abuse impairs his/her ability to supervise, protect or care for the child.

Child Vulnerability – PART C

- Child: _____ Yes No
- Child: _____ Yes No
- Child: _____ Yes No

A vulnerable child is one who is unable to protect him/herself from an indicated safety threat (or risk) and is dependent on others for protection. **If a safety threat is identified, and a “No” is indicated for any above children, you must justify why that child is not vulnerable to the identified safety threat.**

Caregiver Protective Capacities: Can and Will Protect – PART D

Complete this section only if safety threats are indicated. Indicate whether a caregiver residing within the home can and will protect a vulnerable child from present and/or impending danger.

- Can and Will Protect** **Cannot And/Or Will Not Protect**

Protective capacities are a parent's or caregiver's strengths or abilities to manage existing safety threats, prevent additional safety threats from arising, or prevent risk influences from creating a safety threat.

If the conclusion is that a caregiver can and will protect a child subject to present or impending danger, state the basis for the judgment. Consider any particular situational challenges or exceptional vulnerabilities of a child that the caregiver's protective capacity must take into account.

Provide sufficient justification below to confirm the protective capacity and willingness of the caregiver to protect each vulnerable child from each identified safety threat. (Describe the protective behaviors or attitudes the parent/caregiver displays that demonstrate how the child is safe now, in light of identified safety threats).

Child Safety Assessment Conclusion – PART E

Indicate whether a child is safe by checking the conclusion that accurately reflects this assessment.

- The Child(ren) is/are **safe** (because):
- There are no safety threats present
- and/or**
- There are sufficient caregiver protective capacities to assure that safety threats are controlled
- The Child(ren) is/are **not safe** (because):
- There are safety threats present
- and**
- Caregiver protective capacities are insufficient to assure that safety threats are controlled

Child _____ Safe ____ Unsafe ____
Child _____ Safe ____ Unsafe ____

Safety Plan Analysis – PART F

Describe how the safety threats are occurring within the family including when (time of day), how often, under what circumstances, other influences involved, and caregivers access to the child(ren).

Complete this section only if child is "unsafe" and a safety plan is being implemented.

- Yes No Caregiver(s) is/are residing in the home where the child will live.
- Yes No The home environment is calm enough for safety actions, tasks or services to be provided and for people participating in safety management to be in the home safely without disruption.
- Yes No The caregiver(s) is/are willing for safety actions, tasks or services to be provided and will cooperate with those participating in the initial protective plan or continuing safety plan.
- Yes No There are sufficient resources within the family or community to perform the safety actions, tasks, or services necessary to manage the identified safety threats.

Justify any case specific information for any/all "no" determinations:

If the answer to any of these questions is "no," safety management must involve out-of-home placement. If the whereabouts of the child(ren) are unknown, you must staff the case immediately with a supervisor to determine the next steps.