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Date: 10/28/2015 8:12:10 AM
Subject: Materials due to Co-Monitors (and Children's Rights attorneys) CONFIDENTIAL October 28

Yesterday, our co-monitors requested that DSS provide relevant information as soon as possible for their review. Under the current Interim Order, a budget is due in a few days. However, they have indicated their inability to submit a budget given the lack of information upon which to formulate a budget. Judge Duffy's lawclerk noted that this is a matter in which we need to discuss an extension with Judge Duffy. Therefore, we would encourage that as much information as possible be sent to our monitors and CR by week's end. Among the items requested:

1. The briefing materials provided to the Legislature which detail an overview of the DSS system; size of the System; information on the QA system
2. Casey Workload Study
3. Current information on the number of case workers and their current workload cases
4. Any DSS employment strategies in place to improve retention..salary increases; reduced caseloads; Career ladder program
5. Any data on current sibling placements; family visitation...CR questioned that best practices are being followed by DSS
6. The monitoring team needs to be formalized as the Monitors are anxious to begin internal discussions to better under the current system. They want to know their contact(s) should additional information be needed. Although they were advised of the DSS stakeholders' meeting on December 4, they noted they want earlier contact and perhaps even a visit to South Carolina before December 4.
7. They questioned about the number of kids from out of state who are in the SC DSS system. The co-monitors noted they want to interview foster parents; providers, etc
8. The co-monitors noted they'd like to review the tape of the proceedings before the Legislature. Do we have copies of any public appearances in which Director Alford has provided information? Judge Duffy found them very enlightening.
9. Need to provide the State policy on expenses...travel, etc as the monitors will do their best to stay in line with the stated policy
10. Andy discussed staffing in other states in which he's been involved. The numbers are significant and warrant discussion among the defense team today

Look forward to seeing you later this morning. B



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