

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>  
To: Wingo, Karen <Karen.Wingo@dss.sc.gov>  
CC: Matheus, Marilyn <Marilyn.Matheus@dss.sc.gov>  
Pisarik, Holly <HollyPisarik@gov.sc.gov>  
Date: 3/15/2016 12:06:10 PM  
Subject: RE: Media Request FW: Reuters question on deadline this morning

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Thank you.

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From: Wingo, Karen [mailto:Karen.Wingo@dss.sc.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 12:05 PM  
To: Symmes, Brian  
Cc: Matheus, Marilyn; Pisarik, Holly  
Subject: RE: Media Request FW: Reuters question on deadline this morning

Spoke w/ Duff just after we got the email; advised him we would get him something by the end of the day, but work to get something sooner. He was agreeable to that timeline, though he preferred it earlier. I have briefed Susan and spoken with Taron Davis and got information to prepare a response. I will draft shortly and circulate it internally for final approval by Taron. Once it has that approval, I will send to Holly and you.

Karen

Karen Luchka Wingo  
Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs  
South Carolina Department of Social Services  
1535 Confederate Avenue  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Office Phone: (803) 898-8030  
Email: karen.wingo@dss.sc.gov  
[www.dss.sc.gov](http://www.dss.sc.gov)



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From: Symmes, Brian [mailto:BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 12:03 PM  
To: Wingo, Karen <Karen.Wingo@dss.sc.gov>  
Cc: Matheus, Marilyn <Marilyn.Matheus@dss.sc.gov>; Pisarik, Holly <HollyPisarik@gov.sc.gov>  
Subject: RE: Media Request FW: Reuters question on deadline this morning

Additionally, if you haven't already, I would call Duff to make sure he feels acknowledged and let him know that you're working on getting some information for him.

If you guys are going to respond, you should do your best to keep him from running without a response from the agency.

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From: Symmes, Brian  
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 11:55 AM  
To: 'Wingo, Karen'  
Cc: Matheus, Marilyn; Pisarik, Holly  
Subject: RE: Media Request FW: Reuters question on deadline this morning

I'm looping Holly in on this.

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From: Wingo, Karen [<mailto:Karen.Wingo@dss.sc.gov>]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 10:38 AM  
To: Symmes, Brian  
Cc: Matheus, Marilyn  
Subject: FW: Media Request FW: Reuters question on deadline this morning  
Importance: High

Brian,  
Making you aware of this media inquiry. Duff is the reporter that ran the story on drug-dependent newborns. I believe his email below is correct and that after the story ran, we were notified that we were being placed on a PIP. We are trying to verify the information below and determine what can be released, if anything, with program staff. However, we may not be able to meet the 12pm deadline. It appears that Duff will run the story regardless, so I wanted to make you aware of it. Give Marilyn or me a call if you have questions or need more info after Marilyn talks with program staff and Duff.

K

Karen Luchka Wingo  
Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs  
South Carolina Department of Social Services  
1535 Confederate Avenue  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Office Phone: (803) 898-8030  
Email: [karen.wingo@dss.sc.gov](mailto:karen.wingo@dss.sc.gov)  
[www.dss.sc.gov](http://www.dss.sc.gov)



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From: Matheus, Marilyn  
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 10:16 AM  
To: Wingo, Karen <[Karen.Wingo@dss.sc.gov](mailto:Karen.Wingo@dss.sc.gov)>  
Subject: Media Request FW: Reuters question on deadline this morning  
Importance: High

[See below.](#)

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From: [Duff.Wilson@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Duff.Wilson@thomsonreuters.com) [<mailto:Duff.Wilson@thomsonreuters.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 10:11 AM  
To: Matheus, Marilyn <[Marilyn.Matheus@dss.sc.gov](mailto:Marilyn.Matheus@dss.sc.gov)>  
Subject: Reuters question on deadline this morning  
Importance: High

Marilyn,

HHS says it has an investigation of South Carolina over CAPTA funded plans of safe care for substance-exposed newborns. SC was the only state HHS cited in a letter to Congress that committee chairman Rep. Kline released today. I've attached the letter. Here's the excerpt:

Most recently, ACF investigated South Carolina after becoming aware that the state is not properly implementing the CAPTA-required plans of safe care for substance-exposed newborns. ACF has sent a letter to the state and made contact with officials to discuss and verify the facts of the situation. ACF is now in the process of placing South Carolina on a PIP to address the important CAPTA requirements. As we do when any state is placed on a PIP, we plan to work closely with the state's leadership, providing the necessary technical assistance to support the state as they implement the appropriate policies and practices.

Could we talk by noon EST to review this and get any details or explanation the state could provide? What's going on?

It's a story on deadline because of a congressional hearing on CAPTA this morning.

Please call if I can clarify. Thanks,

Duff

Duff Wilson  
Reporter/ Associate Editor  
Reuters  
Ph. 646-223-6224