

Conflict of Interest for Foster Care, Kinship Care and Adoption

SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

ORC: 5103.02, 5103.03, 5103.0324 OAC: 5101:2-5-20 USC: N/A CFR: N/A	ORIGINAL: 05/07 REVISIONS: 01/09, 5/31/2016 RELATED FORM(S): N/A RELATED PROCEDURE/POLICY(IES): N/A
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal
<input type="checkbox"/> Safety & Security
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Services - All Departments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Services - Foster & Adoption |
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All Staff Bargaining Unit Non-Bargaining Management

POLICY:

Summit County Children Services (SCCS) Foster Care, Adoption and Kinship Care programs adhere to all applicable laws for assessment, certification and approval of a caregiver home. In the event an agency employee expresses interest in becoming a foster, adoptive, or kinship caregiver SCCS refers them to an outside agency to avoid a conflict of interest.

PROCEDURE:

For purposes of this procedure, a relative is defined as a spouse, significant other, parent, child, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or cousin whether through birth or adoption. An administrator is defined as the executive director, chief operating officer, deputy directors, division directors, or department directors.

To avoid a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest, a SCCS assessor shall not conduct or approve a home study or home study update for him or herself, or any person who is a relative, friend or neighbor of the assessor.

The following parties may not serve as foster, kinship (blood and/or non-blood) or adoptive caregiver for SCCS:

- Any current SCCS employee.
- A relative of an SCCS administrator.
- A member of the SCCS Board of Trustees.
- A person known to SCCS as a relative of the SCCS Board of Trustees.

In the event the above parties request to be considered for a kinship placement, the Executive Director or designee shall review and approve or disapprove such requests on a case-by-case basis.

Inquiries received from parties referenced above must be referred to another agency where there is no such appearance of a conflict of interest.

If SCCS becomes aware that one of the parties referenced above is a foster or adoptive caregiver, SCCS shall take the necessary steps to initiate a transfer of the home study and will immediately place no more children in the home. The transfer must be accomplished within thirty (30) days of the discovery.