

# ~The CONNECTIONS WEEKLY~

## January 13 ~ 20, 2006



### **CONNECTIONS Build 18.7.2...**

CONNECTIONS Build 18.7.2 will be implemented tomorrow, Friday, January 13, 2006, from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. The downtime for implementation of this Build is two hours. We ask that users log out of the application by 5:45 PM. Please note that the fix implemented with this Build will correct the error users have been receiving upon submission of a Plan Amendment or FSS stage for closure with an in-process Plan Amendment. The Release Notes for this Build are posted on the CONNECTIONS intranet website on the Implementation and News for Users pages.

### **Secure Socket Layer/ Virtual Private Network (SSL/VPN) Access to the CONNECTIONS Intranet...**

Those agencies that access the CONNECTIONS application through SSL/VPN now have access to the CONNECTIONS intranet. The URL option, once connected to the SSL/VPN network interface, is: <http://ocfs.state.nynet/connect>.

### **“Did You Know”...**

#### **FASP Timeline**

The due date for the first reassessment FASP (for all program types: placement, preventive, protective) has been changed to day 210 from the CID. This is in order to bring the completion of this FASP into compliance with the timeframe prescribed in the permanency law. This changes the FASP cycle as we currently know it. The initial FASP is due 30 days from CID (unless indication of a CPS report is the CID trigger, then it is due seven days from CID). The Comprehensive FASP is due 90 days from CID. The first Reassessment FASP is due 210 days from CID. The second Reassessment FASP is due 6 months from the first Reassessment FASP. All subsequent FASPs are due every six months thereafter. The first Service Plan Review for children in foster care and for children placed by a court, directly in the custody of a relative or other suitable person pursuant to Article 10 of the Family Court Act, is to be held in conjunction with the Comprehensive FASP (if the CID was triggered from a removal) or in conjunction with the 90 Day Update Plan Amendment (if a removal occurred after the CID

was established). A permanency hearing satisfies the requirements for a Service Plan Review if the permanency hearing is held and completed within six months of the previous Service Plan Review.

### **“Quick Tip”...**

#### ***Progress Notes Event Dates***

Multiple Progress Notes entered with the same Event Date, with no event time, display in random order when the user searches on that Event Date within the Progress Notes window. It is recommended the user enter approximate times for each Event Date entry to create the preferred order of display.

### ***Model Voluntary Placement Agreement...***

A **Model Voluntary Placement Agreement**, reflecting Chapter 3 Amendments (English version) is now available on the OCFS internet website. It is a fillable template with both a spell check button and "add a row" functionality. Please note that a Spanish version of this document will be available shortly and you will be advised when this document is posted to the website.

The template can be accessed from the ***OCFS internet site***. The address of the site is: [www.ocfs.state.ny.us](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us).

#### ***Instructions for accessing the template from the OCFS internet site.***

1. Access the OCFS internet site at [www.ocfs.state.ny.us](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us);
2. on the left under "Resources & Information" click on "Legislation and Regulatory Agenda";
3. from that page, click on "Permanency Bill - Chapter 3 of 2005";
4. from that page, on the left click on "Voluntary Placement Agreement (model Form)".

#### ***Instructions for accessing the template from the OCFS intranet site Home page.***

1. click on OCFS;
2. from that page click on OCFS internet at the top right;
3. follow the instructions 2 –4 under the internet site instructions above.

If you have any questions about working with the templates, please call the OFT Enterprise HELP Desk at 1.800.697.1323.

Please note that, the Final Administrative Order of the Chief Administrative Judge of the Unified Court System Promulgating Family Court Rules implementing Chapter 3 of the Laws of 2005 has also been added to the website.

### ***Update to the Posting of Chapter 3 of the Laws of 2005 (Permanency Bill) Regulation Package...***

Please note that the regulation package is posted to both the OCFS internet site, as well as the CONNECTIONS intranet website/Implementation page.

This regulation package was filed with the Department of State on Thursday, December 29, 2005, on an emergency basis to implement Chapter 3 of the Laws of 2005 (Permanency Bill). **These regulations are in effect.** They will also go through the normal publication process, with a comment period before final promulgation.

***Instructions for accessing the Chapter 3 of the Laws of 2005 (Permanency Bill) Regulation Package from the OCFS internet site.***

1. Access the OCFS internet site at [www.ocfs.state.ny.us](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us);
2. on the left under "Resources & Information" click on "Legislation and Regulatory Agenda";
3. from that page, click on "Permanency Bill - Chapter 3 of 2005";
4. from that page, on the left click on "Emergency Regulations to Implement Chapter 3 of the Laws of 2005".

***When CONNECTIONS Will Be Unavailable...***

- ***Friday, 1/13/05*** from 5:00AM - 7:00AM
- ***Friday, 1/13/06*** from 6:00PM - 8:00PM  
(For the implementation of CONNECTIONS Build 18.7.2)
- ***Wednesday, 1/18/06*** from 5:00AM - 7:00AM
- ***Friday, 1/20/06*** from 5:00AM - 7:00AM