

F.A.S.T.

1-800-327-8119

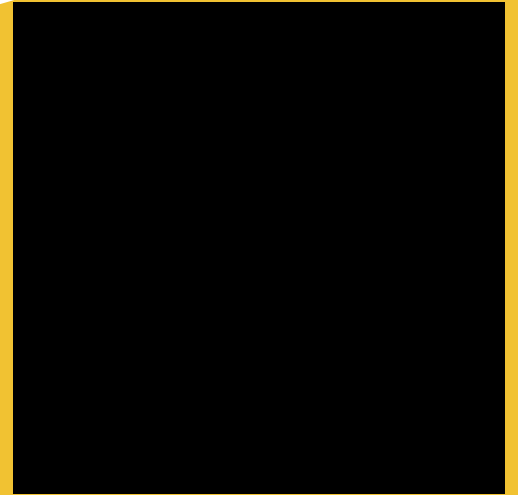
1-800-F.A.S.T.-119



Foster Allegations Support Team

FAST@floridafapa.org

In the QA area please tell me some of the things you know about Florida FAPA & what we do/provide



[Floridafapa.org](http://floridafapa.org)

[http://floridafapa.org/programs/
F.A.S.T.-allegation-support/](http://floridafapa.org/programs/F.A.S.T.-allegation-support/)

The screenshot shows the website for floridafapa.org. At the top, the URL 'floridafapa.org' is displayed. Below it, a red banner reads 'Facing An Allegation or Abuse Report? CONTACT FAST 1-800-327-8119'. The main header features the 'FLORIDA FAPA' logo, which includes a sun icon with a person inside, and the tagline 'Support | Educate | Advocate'. A search bar with the text 'search here ...' and a 'Go' button is located below the header. A dark navigation bar contains the text 'FAST – Allegation Support' and a hamburger menu icon. The main content area has a white background and features the title 'FAST – Allegation Support' in large orange letters. Below the title, a paragraph states: 'No matter what and when, The Foster Allegation Support Team is here for you! Call 800.327.8119 or email fast@floridafapa.org. Looking for a future F.A.S.T. training — check the calendar ... or email us.' Below this paragraph is a section titled 'Purpose' in orange. The text under 'Purpose' reads: 'Our goal is to provide support to the foster, adoptive or kinship parents when allegations have been, or might be brought against them. It is important to keep them informed of the procedures and the process through which an allegation will take them'.

floridafapa.org

Facing An Allegation or Abuse Report?
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FLORIDA FAPA
Support | Educate | Advocate

search here ... Go

FAST – Allegation Support

FAST – Allegation Support

No matter what and when, The Foster Allegation Support Team is here for you! Call 800.327.8119 or email fast@floridafapa.org. Looking for a future F.A.S.T. training — check the calendar ... or email us.

Purpose

Our goal is to provide support to the foster, adoptive or kinship parents when allegations have been, or might be brought against them. It is important to keep them informed of the procedures and the process through which an allegation will take them

DISCLAIMER! Throughout the state everything is a bit different



different

THE TAKEAWAY OF TODAY IS:
to be reminded of the importance of

DOCUMENTATION

Purpose of F.A.S.T.

- To provide support to the foster parent when an allegation has been or might be brought against him or her.
- To provide an immediate response to the foster parent.
- Keep foster parents informed of procedures and the process *when* an allegation is made.

F.A.S.T. is to prepare you *if* an allegation is filed on you.

NOT IF,
WHEN

The dreaded words:

It's not IF it's

WHEN

People who have been accused of abuse often experience the same types of symptoms as those who have actually been abused.

Anger

Frustration

Violated

Shame

Abused

Unappreciated

Assault on Integrity



Wait there's more impact!

BETRAYAL

Foster parents feel their main source of support can no longer talk to them.

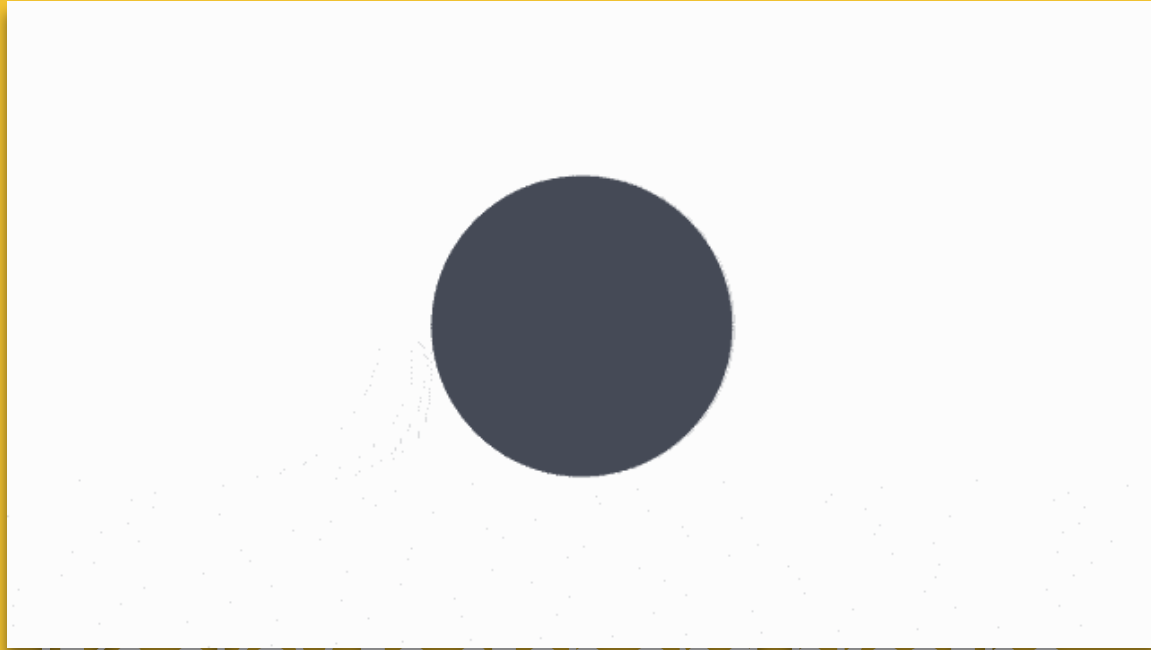
STIGMA

Foster parents report feelings of shame, humiliation, inadequacy and a decline in self-esteem.

Trauma

Foster parents express shock and disbelief.

Call the F.A.S.T. hotline for support!



It's okay to stop and breathe.

- Insist on full participation during the investigation.
- Be sure to get the name and email of everyone involved in the investigation
- Staffings
- Communications

CF OPERATING PROCEDURE
NO. 170-5

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
TALLAHASSEE, January 15, 2019

CHILD PROTECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS

This operating procedure describes policy for conducting child protective investigations in the state of Florida. Procedural requirements necessary for the comprehensive assessment and determination of child safety are covered in depth. This operating procedure also provides directives on the assessment of risk and the use of family support services to prevent children at risk of maltreatment from being harmed in the future.

This operating procedure applies to all child protective investigators, case managers and child welfare professionals in Florida.

BY DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY:

(Signed original copy on file)

JOSHONDA GUERRIER
Assistant Secretary for
Child Welfare

CFOP 170-5

- Foster Family Request QA Review
- Two Week Staffings
- Ongoing Communication From DCF
- Limitations on law enforcement

So What Does F.A.S.T. Do?

F.A.S.T. supports foster parents through the pain and fear of the allegation, clarifies the process, provides clearer communication, with the ultimate goal of helping to retain foster homes.

Communicate.

Even when it's uncomfortable or uneasy. One of the best ways to heal, is simply getting everything out.

F.A.S.T. volunteers have a firm commitment to maintain the confidentiality of the reports.



**Obtain full
information
about the
child
proposed for
placement,
such as...**

- What's the process in your area?
- Who are the people that can support you?
- What rights do you have?
- Is every area different?

F.A.S.T. volunteers keep you informed of the procedures and the processes a foster parent can expect during an investigation.



**KEEP
CALM
AND
STAY
INFORMED**

F.A.S.T. volunteers work toward better investigations, more compassion, tolerance and respect for foster parents, children and families.

CF OPERATING PROCEDURE
NO. 175-9STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
TALLAHASSEE, September 17, 2015

Family Safety

INTERNAL REVIEW OF VERIFIED FINDINGS

1. Purpose. This operating procedure describes the policies and procedures for conducting an internal review of a verified finding pursuant to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

2. Scope. The policies and procedures within this operating procedure apply to staff of the Department who conducts internal reviews of verified findings.

3. Authority. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) as amended 42 U.S.C. ss. 5106a(b)(2)(B)(iv)(II), provides authority to conduct internal reviews of verified findings. Section 39.202(7), Florida Statutes, provides authority to retain investigative reports with verified findings of maltreatment in FSFN until the youngest victim turns 30 years of age.

4. Definitions.

a. Caregiver Responsible. An individual who is named as the responsible person in a child protective investigation with a verified finding.

b. Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN). The Department's Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS). FSFN serves as the statewide electronic case record for all child abuse investigations and case management activities in Florida for the Department of Children and Families.

c. Internal Review. A review conducted by the Department to ensure policy, rule and statute were followed when making a determination of a verified finding in a child protective investigation.

d. Verified Finding. A finding made by the child protective investigator that a preponderance of credible evidence exists to support the allegations of abuse, neglect or abandonment.

5. Internal Review Requirements.

a. Only the "caregiver responsible" may request an internal review.

b. An internal review involves the examination of the information contained in FSFN, the hardcopy investigation file, other pertinent documents (if any are available) particular to the specific case such as police reports, and any documents provided by the requestor along with interviews of staff involved in the investigation, if they are still employed by the Department.

c. The internal review will not reinvestigate the allegations, but will consider whether a preponderance of the evidence supports the verified finding based on the investigative process and information provided by the requestor.

d. The internal review will be completed by the Regional Family and Community Services Director or his or her designee. The person completing the internal review must not have been involved in any stage of the investigation.

OPR: PD/FS

DISTRIBUTION: X: OSES; OSGC; ASGO; PD/FS; Region/Circuit Child Welfare staff.

Giving - Speak
Search results...
Stuck At Prom...
HomCom 45" T...
My Drive - Goo...
FAST Virtual Co...
My Drive - Goo...
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About the IG

Appeal Hearings

- Authorities and Resources
- Request a Public Assistance Fair Hearing
- Self-Help Forms
- Frequently Asked Questions

Internal and Single Audit

Investigations

Publications and Reports

Office of Inspector General

Appeal Hearings

Authorities and Resources

This information is being provided by the Appeal Hearings Section to assist with understanding the administrative hearing process used by hearing officers of the Department. It is important to remember that the information presented is general and does not cover all situations that may arise in a case.

Jurisdictional authority for the Appeals Hearing Section to conduct administrative hearings is provided by §§ [409.285\(1\), F.S.](#), [120.80\(7\), F.S.](#), [400.0255\(8\), F.S.](#), and [393.125, F.S.](#).

Authority for administrative hearings conducted by the Appeal Hearings Section include the Florida Administrative Procedures Act ([Chapter 120, F.S.](#)), the Uniform Rules ([Rule 28-106, F.A.C.](#)), the Appeal Hearings Rules of Practice and Procedure ([Rule 65-2, F.A.C.](#)), and state and federal program regulations.



“The 120 Hearing”

QPI is “best practices” & is recognized as experts throughout the country in foster care needs and issues



Maintaining Respectful Partnerships in a Time of Crisis: Investigations

Carol Edwards - Consultant, Quality Parenting Initiative | Attari Hall - Child Safety Specialist, Florida Department of Children and Families | Coleen LaCosta - F.A.S.T. Coordinator, Florida Foster Adoptive Parent Association

April 25, 2019

Maintaining Respectful Partnerships in a Time of Crisis: Investigations

04/25/2019

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Florida Department of Children and Families

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F.A.S.T. Coordinator
Florida Foster Adoptive Parent Association



Your quiz link
will be
available here
at the end of
the training:

- Florida (CWP)
- Florida (FP)

**Quiz Tip
Sheet**

English
Español

Collaboration!

Collaboration!

Collaboration!

Collaboration!

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