



Clark County Family Services

Stacie Dastrup, Director
Wonswayla Mackey, Deputy Director
Lisa Martinez, Deputy Director
Pamela Kowalski, Deputy Director
Robynn Bell, Deputy Director

Clark County Department of Family Services Policy

SUBJECT:

Present Danger Assessment and Planning

Effective Date	Amendment Number	Amendment Effective Date
August 20, 2026	N/A	N/A

SCOPE:

Assessing for present danger. If present danger is identified, process for present danger planning.

SPECIFIC LEGAL and OTHER REFERENCES:

Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) ([PL 150-89](#))

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) ([PL 93-247](#))

Confirming Safe Environments – Child Placement Assessment Policy and Procedures

Diligent Search Policy and Procedures

Nevada Initial Assessment Policy and Procedures

[NAC 432B](#)

[NRS 432B](#)

[NV DCFS Policy 0508 Nevada Initial Assessment](#)

Warrants Policy and Procedures

PROGRAMS IMPACTED:

Nevada Initial Assessment

Permanency

Placement

SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

New

Supersedes Present Danger sections from the Nevada Initial Assessment Policy and Procedures.

Clarifies updated UNITY Present Danger Plan options.

DEFINITIONS:

For a list of acronyms and a glossary of terms used throughout CCFS refer to Acronyms and Glossary located on DFSNet.

The following definition is specific to this Policy and Procedures (P&P).

Caregiver:

“Caregiver” is used throughout this Policy and Procedures to refer to any of the following individuals who are in a caregiving role:

1. Biological parent
2. Legal Parent
3. Legal Guardian
4. Non-custodial parent with occasional or routine contact with a child
5. Parent substitute
6. Stepparent
7. Extended family member who provides care for the child
8. Unrelated person living in the same household
9. Paramour/companion of parent

FORMS, PUBLICATIONS, AND INSTRUCTIONAL DOCUMENTS:

Child Placement Request & Well-being Information Form (in UNITY)

Confirming Safe Environments - Child Placement Assessment (FPI Library)

Diligent Search Request (in UNITY)

Present Danger Plan (PDP) (FPI Library)

POLICY:

I. Present Danger

- A. Present danger is an immediate, significant and clearly observable family condition or situation that is actively occurring or in the process of occurring and likely results in serious harm to a child.
- B. The Assigned Specialist must assess for present danger at the initial contact and ongoing contact with the children.
 - 1. All decisions regarding present danger must include supervisory consultation.

II. Present Danger Planning

- A. A Present Danger Plan (PDP):
 - 1. Must be established any time present danger is identified.
 - 2. Is an immediate (same day implementation), short term plan that provides a child with responsible adult supervision and care to allow time for the completion of a further comprehensive assessment.
 - 3. Is separate from the formal continuing Safety Plan that is established during the conclusion of a comprehensive safety assessment.
 - 4. Must be capable of being in operation the same day it is created. Before the Assigned Specialist leaves the home, the PDP must be active and confirmed.
 - 5. Must be specific; planned to control the identified present danger threats; and sufficient to control present danger until adequate information can be gathered and analyzed, to determine whether impending danger exists and a Safety Plan is required.
 - 6. Must be sufficient to manage safety until the NIA process is complete. The PDP is not intended to last beyond the complete comprehensive safety assessment, unless it is converted into the Safety Plan.
 - 7. Expires when the comprehensive safety assessment is complete.
 - 8. Must manage present danger and family conditions and behaviors associated with the present danger.
- B. PDPs involve the following seven (7) options:
 - 1. In-home
 - a. A responsible adult moves into the home 24/7
 - b. A responsible adult is in the home periodically
 - c. A responsible adult routinely monitors the home
 - d. Threatening person leaves the home
 - 2. Out-of-home
 - a. (Non-removal) -Child(ren) lives temporarily with a relative.
 - b. (Non-removal) -Child(ren) lives temporarily with fictive kin.
 - c. (Legal and physical removal) - Child placed legally with relative (Legal and physical removal)
 - d. (Legal and physical removal) - Child placed legally with fictive kin
 - e. (Legal and physical removal) Child placed in foster care
- C. CCFS regularly confirms that the PDP is working.
 - 1. The Assigned Specialist must verify that selected people are responsible, are available, are trustworthy, and are capable.
 - 2. The Assigned Specialist must confirm that parents are willing to cooperate with the PDP.
- D. Protective custody may be taken only when the child is vulnerable to present or impending danger within the home and the caregivers have insufficient caregiver protective capacities to manage or control the threats, making outside intervention necessary.

E. The Supervisor is responsible for review and approval of the PDA and if applicable, the PDP.

Stacie Dastrup, Director
Clark County Family Services

June 26, 2026

Approved Date