

February 28, 2018

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO.17-123

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
ALL TITLE IV-E AGREEMENT TRIBES
ALL CHILD WELFARE SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGERS

SUBJECT: **RELEASE OF REVISED CALIFORNIA MANUAL OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, DIVISION 31 REGULATIONS SECTION 31-137 (TRANSITIONAL CARE PRIOR TO PLACEMENT)**

REFERENCE: [TRANSITIONAL CARE PRIOR TO PLACEMENT REGULATIONS](#)
ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) [17-32](#); ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE (ACIN) NO. [I-26-06](#); ACIN NO. [I-07-14](#);

The purpose of this ACL is to inform county child welfare services (CWS) and probation agencies of the immediate release of the revised Division 31 Regulations regarding transitional care prior to placement. The revision to Division 31 Regulations adds Section 31-137, Transitional Care Prior to Placement Regulations (TC Regulations), which ensure appropriate care of a child while in transitional care, the period between detention and placement. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is aware that there can be a delay in between the detention and placement of a child. In an effort to ensure that a child is provided adequate levels of care and safety, regardless of a delay in locating placement, the TC Regulations establish standards during the transitional care period regardless of a child's physical location. The TC Regulations were effective upon their release on October 1, 2017.

Revised Division 31 Regulations

The CDSS is dedicated to the safety and well-being of children during periods of transitional care and has set requirements for county CWS and probation agencies in

the TC Regulations that require added safeguards to ensure a child is being provided with suitable care in a safe environment. The TC Regulations also establish requirements regarding documentation, including documentation of placement barriers resulting in transitional care periods lasting more than the allowed 24 hours.

The ACL No. [17-32](#) rescinded CDSS' previous guidance provided in ACIN Nos. [I-26-06](#) and [I-07-14](#) to the extent that they set a "24-hour rule" regarding licensure requirements. The CDSS is requiring licensure for any facility that provides and/or has the ability to provide 24-hour care. Thus, the TC Regulations affirm transitional care is for less than 24 hours, and the Regulations seek to ensure a child's well-being and safety during the transitional period that occurs prior to placement.

The CDSS' objective is to ensure that the needs of a child are met to the best extent possible during the transitional care period. Further, the Children and Family Services Division will investigate reports regarding violations to the TC Regulations pursuant to Division Section 31-137.4-.5.

Ultimately, the TC Regulations will ensure that the safety and care provisions are adhered to for each child in transitional care. For further inquiries regarding Transitional Care Regulations, please contact the Child Welfare Policy and Program Development Bureau at (916) 651-6160.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

GREGORY E. ROSE
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division