

Testimony 3/26/18

As a member of RIBCO that represents the Training School's professional unit, I have a concern that all members of DCYF are not being held to the same standard when it comes to background checks.

In 1.6 General Administration C of Proposed RITS rule:

The policy change appears to be isolated only to "All Training School employees, and all contractors and consultants who do business at or in any components of the Training School. "

In reality, I believe it should be all DCYF staff, since currently we have DCYF staff from all Departments that regularly meet with RITS residents inclusive of; FSU, probation, CPI, and Administrators, all who could fall under PREAs guidelines for those who meets the standard of direct or indirect contact. There are transition probation officers who are assigned to residents of the RITS that meet with residents several times per week, and probation officers and Probation supervisors who are in the facility frequently. This regulations also appears to hold staff to sanctions, and mandatory regular checks that are not being done in any other area of the Department on a specific time table? While this particular policy is set in place to address PREA mandates it would be prudent that all DCYF staff be held to the same standards of having a mandated screening date set. I'm sure we are all in agreement that safety is the number one goal for all DCYF employees.

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