

July  
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## Did You Know? Safety Assessments

The Structured Decision Making (SDM) Safety Assessment focuses exclusively on immediate child safety.

- When staff determine a prevention plan is necessary and the child is otherwise safe, the SDM selection should be “safe”.
- Choosing "safe with a safety plan" is reserved only for situations where specific, immediate interventions are necessary to prevent harm.
- The distinction helps to ensure our documentation reflects the true safety status of the child and allows us to use prevention strategies to support families.

If you have further questions related to the child protective services investigation you may reach out to William (E.J.) Smith by email.