**PROTECTION AND PERMANENCY TRANSMITTAL LETTER, 13-04**

**TO:** Service Region Administrators

 Service Region Administrator Associates

 Service Region Clinical Associates

 Regional Program Specialists

 Family Services Office Supervisors

**FROM:** Michael Cheek, Director

 Division of Protection and Permanency

**DATE:**  March 29, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Special Immigrant Juvenile Status for Abused and Neglected Children

Please review [SOP 4.1 Native American Child/Maintaining Cultural Connections](https://manuals.sp.chfs.ky.gov/chapter4/09/Pages/41NativeAmericanChildMaintainingCulturalConnections.aspx) to view the addition of information regarding Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) status for children involved with the Cabinet. Beginning in 2011, children who are not US citizens were made eligible to receive a green card under certain circumstances. Specific information has been added to SOP regarding this matter, along with a link to the [United States Citizenship](http://www.uscitizenship.info/index.html?r=ga-cpc-uscis_us-uscis:m=e&gclid=CJKwyNHe97UCFQoFnQodvxsA0g) website in order to offer guidance to staff when pursuing this option for children.

If you have any questions regarding this transmittal letter, please contact via e-mail Gretchen.marshall@ky.gov, or by telephone at (502) 564-7635, ext. 3587.