Statement of Consideration (SOC)

PPTL 24-24 SOP 2.14. The following comments were received in response to SOP drafts sent for field review. Thanks to those who reviewed and commented. Comments about typographical and grammatical errors are excluded; these errors have been corrected as appropriate.

SOP 2.14

1. **Comment:** ~~The notification to the court and Protection and Advocacy (P&A) will be a written letter drafted by regional staff.~~ **A written notification letter, drafted by regional staff, shall be sent to the court and to Protection and Advocacy (P&A).**

   Would like to see an example in TWIST so the letter could be consistent statewide. Also, the request would be to stay with the FSOS assigned. Regional is not aware of the information for each court.

   Response: Each court has a unique court report process; therefore, a specific example may make the process more complicated. 'Regional staff' will be changed to service region administrator (SRA) or designee.

2. **Comment:**

   A. An infant is intoxicated at birth requiring treatment with Narcan or another reversal agent (unless the substance is legally prescribed to the mother).[1]
      1. Most treatment for withdrawal is provided for comfort and is not a life-saving measure. However, there are some substances, such as benzodiazepines, that create a potentially life-threatening withdrawal.
   B. Withdrawal from substances with known potentially life-threatening withdrawal symptoms, such as benzodiazepines (if not legally prescribed to mother).
   C. Complications from placental abruption, such as prematurity, anemia, and hypoxic injury, can be associated with acute use of a substance like cocaine or methamphetamine, with known toxic effects on the placenta.[2]

   Would like to add a medical statement stating the above is caused by the mother's substance use. It should not be up to CI staff to interpret. This would lead to inconsistencies across the state.

   Response: Edits have been added to include the following statement: **When screening substance-affected infant referrals, any of the following factors/circumstances support the application of the FNF designation when a physician certifies they are present.**

3. **Comment:**

   a. ~~The near-fatality designation is used in the intake when the child has a near-fatal condition as defined in KRS 600.020 (40) as an injury that, as certified by a physician, places a child in serious or critical condition. Staff shall use the Determining a Near Fatality Tip Sheet to decide if the child's condition meets the criteria for the near-fatality designation.~~

   Not sure why we are taking this piece out. Is this no longer needed?

   Response: The following has been added to replace the deleted text. **Designates the intake in TWIST as a fatality/near-fatality using the Determining Fatality, Near Fatality Designation Flow Charts to determine designation in accordance with Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), Chapter 67, subchapter 1 and KRS 600.020 (40).**

4. **Comment**:

   Procedure for Notifications of a Fatality on Pending Investigations or Active Ongoing Cases (Otherwise Known as an Active Fatality)

   1. When a fatality occurs on any pending investigation and/or active ongoing case, the following notifications occur:
      A. Active staff or supervisors immediately notify CI of the information received about the child's death, ==unless CI has already been notified==;

   The highlighted may be more appropriate to be removed or reworded to:

   "Unless a referral/intake, which addresses the entirety of the information received, has been entered into TWIST."

   The concern that the Central Intake Branch has on leaving this as CI already notified, is that the field may believe that another entity has notified CI without this occurring, i.e. Coroner, LE, Hospital, etc. Information that CI receives should be captured in TWIST either by a new referral- accepted or screened out, or by a modification of an existing referral, which would be updated in TWIST from being sent to the DPP Fatality Branch.

   Response: Edits have been made and the text highlighted above has been removed.