



State of Delaware  
Office of the Governor

Ruth Ann Minner  
Governor

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7**

WHEREAS the safety of at-risk children in Delaware is one of the top priorities of the Governor's office; and

WHEREAS front-line workers responsible for child safety should not receive conflicting messages with respect to their mission; and

WHEREAS the Delaware General Assembly has attempted to clarify the mission of front-line child protection workers through legislation; and

WHEREAS the Division of Family Services, in the course of fulfilling its mission to protect children, interacts with a variety of other state and local agencies who desire to know the Division's precise mission;

I, Ruth Ann Minner, on this Eleventh Day of January, 2001, hereby

**ORDER:**

1. Within 45 days of this order, the Secretary of the Department of Children, Youth and their Families shall provide to all employees of that Department a succinct statement of policy of this administration regarding child safety. That statement shall explicitly state and emphasize that it is the policy of this

administration that efforts to preserve the family of an abused or neglected child should be taken only when reasonable and credible assurance has been given that an abused or neglected child will not be subject to further abuse or neglect.

2. Copies of the statement of policy referred to in paragraph 1 of this order shall be distributed to all members of the Child Protection Accountability Commission, in order to ensure that all other state and local agencies are aware of the state's policy with respect to child safety.

  
Ruth Ann Minner

Attest:

  
Harriet N. Smith Windsor  
Secretary of State

