

**RULES
OF
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**CHAPTER 0250-07-01
PROCEDURES FOR PERMANENCY PLANS**

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0250-07-01-.01 PURPOSE OF THIS CHAPTER.

The purpose of these rules is to effectuate the provisions of subsection with T.C.A. § 37-2-403(a)(2)(A), particularly for defining the required elements of a permanency plan.

Authority: T.C.A. § 37-2-403 and 37-5-105. **Administrative History:** Emergency rule filed May 12, 2010; effective through November 8, 2010. Original rule filed May 25, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

0250-07-01-.02 DEFINITIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS CHAPTER.

- (1) Department or DCS means the Department of Children's Services.
- (2) Plan or Permanency Plan means a written plan for a child placed in foster care with the Department of Children's Services.

Authority: T.C.A. §37-2-403 and 37-5-105. **Administrative History:** Emergency rule filed May 12, 2010; effective through November 8, 2010. Original rule filed May 25, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

0250-07-01-.03 PERMANENCY PLAN REQUIREMENTS.

- (1) The Plan shall be a written document, which is a discrete part of the case record, in a format determined by the Department, which is developed jointly with the parent(s) or guardian of the child in foster care;
- (2) The Plan shall be developed within a reasonable period, to be established by the Department, but in no event later than 60 days from the child's removal from the home;
- (3) The Plan shall include a discussion of how the case plan is designed to achieve a safe placement for the child in the least restrictive (most family-like) setting available and in close proximity to the home of the parent(s) when the case plan goal is reunification and a discussion of how the placement is consistent with the best interests and special needs of the child;
- (4) The Plan shall include a description of the services offered and provided to prevent removal of the child from the home and to reunify the family; and
- (5) The Plan shall document the steps to finalize a placement when the case plan goal is or becomes adoption or placement in another permanent home in accordance with sections 475(1)(E) and (5)(E) of the Social Security Act. When the case plan goal is adoption at a minimum, such documentation shall include child-specific recruitment efforts such as the use of State, regional, and national adoption exchanges.

(Rule 0250-07-01-.03, continued)

Authority: T.C.A. § 37-2-403, 37-5-105 and 45 C.F.R. 1356.21(g). **Administrative History:** Emergency rule filed May 12, 2010; effective through November 8, 2010. Original rule filed May 25, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.