



STATE OF GEORGIA
Division of Family and Children Services

Nathan Deal
Governor

Bobby D. Cagle
Director

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Child Placing Agencies, Child Caring Institutions, Foster Parents and
DFCS Child Welfare Staff

FROM: Virginia "Ginger" Pryor, Deputy Division Director of Child Welfare

DATE: February 24, 2017

RE: Maintaining Confidentiality for Children in Foster Care

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ginger Pryor", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

I wanted to take a moment to reiterate the Division's expectations regarding the importance of safeguarding the confidentiality of children in foster care. It was brought to my attention that a child in our care was identified as a foster child during a recent public legislative hearing at the Georgia State Capitol. Please know that this is unacceptable and violates federal law in addition to several policies outlined in the FY17 Room, Board and Watchful Oversight Minimum Standards; the Foster Parent Manual; the County Placement Agreement; and the Child Welfare Policy Manual. Even more importantly, a violation of confidentiality can be detrimental to the children and families we serve. For convenience of review, the policy documents referenced are enclosed with this memo.

Moving forward, if there are confidentiality violations of any child in our care, this will result in disciplinary action being taken against any individual and/or organization involved in the violation. It is an honor and privilege to be entrusted with the responsibility of caring for our most vulnerable citizens, and we must continually strive to do all we can to maintain that trust. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for all that each of you do to serve the children and families of Georgia!

Committed to Excellence,

Virginia "Ginger" Pryor

cp

Enclosure

cc: Bobby D. Cagle