

Law Enforcement Interview Questions

Introduction

1. Is your concern about a child (person under age 18) currently in Arizona?
2. What is your name and badge number? What department are you with? What is your phone number?
3. How did you get involved with the child or caregivers? Is this your first interaction with the family? Who have you had contact with and where?

Information Collection to make safety decisions

Family Composition and Demographic Data

1. Who is living in the home? (Ask for the child's parents' names if the child does not live with their parents.)
2. Do you know any identifying information about the family and others living in the home (i.e. dates of birth, ages, social security numbers, and ethnicity)?
3. What is the primary language of the family?
4. If the parents do not live together, do you know the custody and visitation arrangements?
5. What is the family's home address and phone number? (Include the name of the apartment complex and trailer park, apartment or space number and directions, if needed. Verify if phone number is home or cellular.)
 - If the home address is not known, is there any other way to locate the family (i.e. school, day care, a relative's home, or caregiver's place of employment)?
 - If the child or caregiver is currently at another location (i.e. police, relative, medical facility), where is the child and/or caregiver currently located? (Include name of person and address or facility name, including room number and the expected discharge date.)
 - If the family is Native American, do you know the tribal affiliation and if they live on the Reservation?
6. Where does the child go to school and/or daycare? (Ask only if the child was interviewed at the school or the reporter is a school resource officer.)
 - Gather school dismissal time if the situation may require an immediate response.

What is the extent of current maltreatment and circumstances surrounding the maltreatment?

1. What is your concern for the child?
 - Do you believe the caregiver is meeting the basic needs of the child? If no, describe.
 - If the reporter has been in the home, do you have concerns about the child's living environment?

Exhibit 2

Law Enforcement Interview Questions

2. Did the child get injured? If yes, describe the child's injury. (Include the location, size, shape and color.)
3. Does the child need or has the child received medical treatment?
 - If treatment is needed, what type of medical care is needed (i.e. physical or mental health treatment)?
 - If treatment was received, when and where did this occur?
4. What was the child's statement(s) about the injury, incident or their home situation?
5. When and where did the incident occur?
6. Who caused harm to the child? What is the caregiver's explanation of the injuries or incident? Does the alleged perpetrator have access to the child or other children outside of the home? If yes, when and how often?
7. Are the parents or other adults in the household aware of the incident? If yes, has any adult in the household intervened to protect the child?
8. Are you aware if incidents like this have occurred before? If yes, describe.
 - Do you have a DR number? Has an arrest been made? What has the perpetrator been charged with?

What is the level of child functioning and adult functioning within the family?

1. Can you describe the child's overall appearance, health and well-being?
2. Does the child have any behavioral, mental, emotional, intellectual or physical conditions?
3. Has the child expressed concern about being at or going home? Do you have concerns about the child going home? If yes, describe.
 - If yes, what has the child done or said to indicate concern?
4. Does the caregiver have any behavioral, mental, emotional, intellectual or physical conditions?
5. Are you aware if anyone in the home abuses drugs or alcohol?
 - If yes, who is using, what type of drugs, and does the child have access to the drugs or drug paraphernalia?
 - Do you suspect drug sales or manufacturing in the home? If yes, describe.
6. Is there domestic violence going on among the adults in the home?
 - Can you describe the domestic violence? Do you know who the abuser and victim are?
 - Have there been injuries to the adults and/or the child? If yes, describe.

Conclusion

Do you need immediate assistance from DCS?

Social Worker Safety Concerns

Exhibit 2

Law Enforcement Interview Questions

Are you aware if there are any safety concerns such as pets, weapons, violence or illegal activity that may threaten a social worker's safety if they visit the home?

Reporting Source Safety Concerns

May I document/(and have) your name and phone number as the reporting source?

- **If no:** State law requires all callers to identify themselves. DCS will keep your identity confidential unless a Court orders its release or if it is needed by law enforcement for an investigation or it is necessary to provide for the immediate safety of a child. Would you be willing to provide your information? If no, no further questions needed. **If yes,** proceed to next question.
- **If yes:** It is important that we document any concerns you may have regarding substantial risk of harm to you, someone else or the public if your name is disclosed. Do you have any concerns?