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Establishment of a Photo Listing Service for Children Legally Free for Adoption

Sec. 17a-42-1. Photo-listing service and registration book

The Connecticut adoption resource exchange (Undercliff Road, Building 2, White Hall, Meriden, CT 06450) of the department will operate and maintain a photo-listing service including a book containing a recent photograph and description of each child legally free for adoption as defined in 45a-725, and further defined in section 17a-42. In addition, the book will include a registration for families who agree to such registration approved for adoption placement by the department, by child-placing agencies licensed by the department for placement of children in adoption, and out-of-state agencies approved by the department for placement of children in adoption in Connecticut (for whom no child is available).

(Effective February 1, 1994)

Sec. 17a-42-2. Registration of children and content, maintenance and distribution of registry and photo-listing books

(a) All children residing in Connecticut legally free for adoption (as defined above) will be registered by the department and child-placing agencies through the submission of the department's registration forms to the adoption resource exchange within ten working days of becoming a child for whom such service may recruit an adoptive family. Such child will become so eligible if the child cannot be placed in adoption within three months after termination of rights. A recent photograph of the child should be submitted with the registration, but if such a photograph is not available, the adoption resource exchange will assist in securing the required photograph.

(b) All changes in the adoptive status of a registered child and/or family will be reported by the child-placing or child-caring agency to the Connecticut adoption resource exchange within five working days after such change has occurred.

(c) The photo-listing service will identify children remaining registered for a period in excess of twelve months and shall have their photographs and written descriptions updated within fifteen work days of the expiration of the twelfth month of their registration and every twelfth month thereafter.

(d) The photo-listing service will withdraw a child's registration upon receipt of written notification that the child has been adopted, has reached his or her fourteenth birthday and will not consent to the adoption plan, or has died. The registry book will be maintained and distributed by the Connecticut adoption resource exchange to all Connecticut child-placing agencies, to other organizations concerned with promoting adoptions of children, and to out-of-state agencies upon their request.

(e) The photo-listing book of children and approved adoption families (for whom no child is available) will be updated by the adoption resource exchange and the revised information will be distributed on a bi-monthly basis.

(f) The Connecticut adoption resource exchange will make periodic determination as to the status of the children and semi-annually distribute a report reflecting the adoption status and activity of the children included within the registry.

(Effective February 1, 1994)

Sec. 17a-42-3. Checking on status of children

The photo-listing service shall semi-annually check the status of photo-listed children for whom inquiries have been received. Periodic checks shall be made by such service to determine the progress toward adoption of such children and the

status of those children registered but never photo-listed because of placement in an adoptive home prior to or at the same time of registration.

(Effective February 1, 1994)

Sec. 17a-42-4. Referral, recruitment of family for and registration of unregistered child

Any child-care or child-placing agency may voluntarily refer any such child to the photo-listing service, or the photo-listing service may determine that the recruitment of an adoptive family through the photo-listing service is appropriate for a child not registered and the child-care or child-placing agency shall register that child with the photo-listing service.

(Effective February 1, 1994)

Sec. 17a-42-5. Deferral of photo-listing

(a) Deferral of the photo-listing of a child shall be for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) the child is in an adoptive placement but is not legally adopted;
- (2) the child's foster parents or other individuals are now considering adoption;
- (3) diagnostic study or testing is required to clarify the child's problem and provide an adequate description;
- (4) the child is currently in a hospital and continuing need for daily professional care will not permit placement in a family setting; or
- (5) the child is fourteen years of age or older and will not consent to an adoption plan.

(b) Request for deferral of the requirements for registration of a child legally free for adoption should be forwarded to the adoption resource exchange and will be granted by the commissioner or his designee. Approval of deferral of registration for reasons (2) and (3) (cited above) will be valid for a period not to exceed ninety days, and no subsequent deferrals will be granted for these reasons.

(Effective February 1, 1994)