## **Present Danger Assessment and Protective Action Guide**

Maltreatment	Child	Parent/Caregiver
□ Maltreating Now	□ Child Under10 Unsupervised	□ Parents Are Unable to Perform Parental Responsibilities Now
☐ Injuries to Face/Head	<ul><li>Child Needs Medical Attention</li></ul>	<ul><li>Parents Described as Dangerous</li></ul>
□ Serious Bodily Injury	☐ Parent/Caretaker Viewpoint of Child Is Bizarre	□ Parent Behavior Is Out of Control Now
□ Premeditated	□ Child Fearful	☐ Parent Intoxicated or Under Significant Influence of Drugs
□ Several Victims		☐ Domestic Violence Present with Child Maltreatment
<ul><li>Life-Threatening Living Arrangements</li></ul>		□ Parent/Caregiver Will Flee with Child
□ Unexplained Injuries		
☐ Bizarre Cruelty		
<ul> <li>Sexual Abuse and Accessible to Maltreater</li> </ul>		

# **Present Danger Threats**

The identification of one of these threats constitutes present danger.

## Maltreatment

Maltreating Now	The parents' mistreatment of the child is occurring right now. The maltreatment will typically be physical, verbal or sexual in nature.
Face/Head/Torso	This includes bruises, cuts, abrasions, swelling or any physical injury alleged to have occurred as a result of caregiver maltreatment.
Serious Bodily Injury	Typically, this would include bone breaks, deep lacerations, burns, diagnosable malnutrition, etc. Also included is multiple serious injuries to a single child, i.e.) severe burn and broken arm.
Premeditated	These are injuries to a child or conditions allegedly resulting from a deliberate, preconceived plan or thinking by the caregiver. Examples include: immersion burns, intentional starvation or dehydration, intentionally causing a medical condition or illness.
Several Victims	This refers to the identification of more than one child who currently is being maltreated and the children are in immediate danger.
Life Threatening Living Arrangements	This is based on specific information which indicates that a child's living situation is an immediate threat to his/her safety. This would include the most serious health circumstances: buildings capable of collapse, exposure to extreme weather conditions, fire hazards, electrical wiring exposed weapons accessible and available, open sewage, etc.
Unexplained Injuries	This refers to a serious injury which caregivers cannot, will not, or do not explain.  A child may be injured supervised by the caregiver but the caregiver does not offer an explanation. Medical providers may express that the caregiver's explanation does not match the injury.

Bizarre Cruelty

Examples include locking or tying up children, torture, exaggerated emotional abuse, forcing children to stand in place for long periods of time, forcing children to eat materials that cause

extreme pain or illness.

Sexual Abuse

Report of sexual abuse by a caregiver who has current or immediate access to the child.

### Child

Child Is Under10 Unsupervised or Alone for Extended Period This present danger threat only applies if the child is without any care or supervision. It does not apply if the caregiver has arranged for care of the child and has not returned at the agreed upon time. Examples include children who are found wandering or unaccompanied without a caregiver in the area, children who have been

picked up by law enforcement because they have no caregiver available.

Child Needs Medical Attention

Medical care immediately necessary and if not provided will seriously, and possibly permanently, affect the child's health and well-being. This includes extreme dental conditions and threats to mental health including suicidal or homicidal ideation or gesture with immediate ability to follow-through.

Parent's Viewpoint Of Child Is Bizarre

This is the extreme viewpoint and not a negative attitude toward the child.

Examples include the child is possessed by the devil, has special powers, presents an extreme threat to the caregiver beyond developmental caregiver-child disruption or conflict, child is

seductive or complicit in sexual abuse

Child Fearful

This refers to unusually, extreme fear. Children who are described as being obviously afraid of: their present circumstance, the home situation, or a person because of a concern of personal threat would fit this threat. This is fear not always expressed verbally. Children may beg to be removed from a home, not left alone with a caregiver, and may demonstrate symptoms of fear (screaming, trembling, and becoming immobile).

#### **Parent**

Parents Are Unable to Perform Parental Responsibilities This refers to parental duties and responsibilities consistent with providing basic care or assuring safety. The inability to provide basic care leaves the child in a threatened state.

Parents Described As Dangerous Caregivers are described as physically/verbally intimidating and threatening, brandishing weapons, known to be dangerous and aggressive, currently behaving in attacking or aggressive ways, etc.

Parent Out-of-Control

These caregivers cannot focus themselves or manage their behavior in ways to properly perform their parental responsibilities. Their actions or lack of actions may not be directed at the children, but may impact them in dangerous ways. This may be observed as behavior, caused by emotional or apparent mental health conditions.

Parent Intoxicated or Out of Control

The caregiver is reported to be drunk or under the influence of drugs now. The state of the parent's condition is more important than the use of a substance. The parent/caregivers incapacity has a direct effect on their judgment and behavior, affecting the child's safety. Examples include a caregiver who is detained by law enforcement because they are driving while intoxicated, a caregiver who is passed out or incapacitated due to drugs or alcohol. This may include certain prescription drugs that are being used beyond the prescribed amount or combined with other intoxicants.

Spouse Abuse Present This considers family situations in which both child maltreatment and spousal abuse are reported to be occurring in the present time.

Family Will Flee

The caregiver(s) have rejected child protection intervention, are not allowing access to their child for an evaluation of the child's safety, and have indicated that they will leave.