

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

LASHAWN A., *et al.*, )  
 )  
 Plaintiffs, )  
 ) Civil Action No. 89-1754 (TFH)  
 v. )  
 )  
 ADRIAN M. FENTY, *et al.*, )  
 )  
 Defendants. )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

**NOTICE OF FILING**

The District of Columbia respectfully submits the attached status report on the 2009 Annual Plan (plan) filed with this Court on March 13, 2009. The status report tracks each provision of the plan through its ending date – December 31, 2009, following which a brief status of the targeted outcome or identified strategy is provided.<sup>1</sup> This status report, along with those filed on September 2 and November 23, 2009, are filed in further support of the District of Columbia’s Motion To Establish A Definitive Timeline For Termination Of The Consent Decree, filed on February 6, 2009, and argued on July 20, 2009. This motion is pending decision in this Court.

The status report indicates that the District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) continues to implement a broad array of strategies designed to improve; (1) frontline practice with children and families; (2) the quality and functioning of hotline investigations; (3) timely permanence for children in foster care; (4) placement stability; (5) the provision of medical, dental and mental health services; and (6) staff and management’s quality and effectiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> The Court Monitor, who was given a copy of this report simultaneous with its filing, has not verified the data the Child and Family Services Agency submits herein.

Moreover, CFSA has substantially achieved the goals it set for itself including;

(1) maintaining an increased percentage of child/parent and separated sibling visitation; (2) maintaining appropriate caseload standards for investigations, and in-home and out-of-home services; (3) completing 83 quality service reviews in 2009; (4) ensuring that supervisors in case-carrying units have responsibility for no more than six workers, including case aides, or five caseworkers, and that cases are not unassigned for more than five days; (5) completing investigations timely and minimizing any daily backlog; (6) reviewing, through December 31, 2009, 722 youth with a goal of APPLA and reducing the number of youth with an APPLA goal by 14%; (7) initiating within 45 days legal action to free children who had a goal change to adoption between August 17 and November 16, 2009 in 87% of cases; (8) reducing the number of young children placed in congregate care settings; (9) expanding the array of mental health services; (10) opening an on-site clinic to complete the pre-placement and replacement health screening, and the initial comprehensive medical evaluations; and (11) finalizing 128 adoptions in calendar year 2009, 26 more adoptions than were finalized in 2008. An additional two petitions were pending before the Family Court as of December 31, 2009

Many of CFSA's accomplishments over the past year, and priorities and strategies for continuing to enhance excellence and ensure safety, permanency, and well-being are set forth in the attached draft written testimony of Director Gerald for presentation to the United States

Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia.<sup>2</sup>

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>2</sup> Due to a winter storm, the Subcommittee hearing, originally scheduled for February 9, 2010, has been rescheduled to March 16, 2010.