



CONNECTIONS Build Bulletin

CONNECTIONS Build: Sex Trafficking Screening: Implemented Friday, December 18th

The new Sex Trafficking Screening window was implemented into CONNECTIONS on Friday, December 18th, during the normal morning maintenance window, and is now available to users.

Update—A revised version of the document distributed yesterday, titled “Updates to the Permanency Hearing Report,” is now available on the [Intranet](#) and [Internet](#). The document provides details on the documenting requirements and questions that have been added to the Permanency Hearing Report (PHR) in response to the reasonable and prudent parenting stipulations within the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L.113.183). The revised version of this document features additional assistance for filling out questions regarding the Adjustment & Functioning section of the PHR.

The **Sex Trafficking Screening** window is the first of several changes that will be made to CONNECTIONS in response to the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113.183). The act introduces new policies and procedures for identifying, documenting, and determining appropriate services for children and youth who are sex trafficking victims or are at risk of sex trafficking. The act also introduces the standard for reasonable and prudent parenting. The Sex Trafficking Screening window will be used to document when and what type of screening (Quick Screening or Comprehensive Screening) was completed regarding a specific child.

The initial screening window will be required for **all children in receipt of preventive, foster care, or child protective services**, and will be accessible from any Investigation (INV), Family Assessment Response (FAR), or Family Services Stage (FSS with stage types CWS, CCR, and ADVPO only). The remaining changes related to this legislation will be implemented in CONNECTIONS during the first half of 2016.

A **Quick Start Guide**, intended to provide an overview of the Sex Trafficking Screening window in CONNECTIONS, along with step-by-step directions for accessing and completing the window, is now available on the [Intranet](#) and [Internet](#).

Detailed information about the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113.183), including a Frequently Asked Questions document, a PowerPoint presentation, a timeline, and other helpful documentation is available on the OCFS Strategic Planning and Policy Development website at the following link: http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/sppd/federal_acts.asp