



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Office of the Commissioner

S. Duke Storen
Commissioner

November 1, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Ralph S. Northam
Governor of Virginia

Members, Virginia General Assembly

FROM: S. Duke Storen

SUBJECT: Report of Address Changes in Child Abuse & Neglect Investigations and Family Assessments

Chapter 436 of the 2019 Acts of Assembly added provisions to §§ 63.2-1505 and 63.2-1506 related to child protective services investigations and family assessments conducted by local departments of social services. The legislation requires that any individual who is subject of a child abuse or neglect investigation or family assessment must notify the local department prior to a change in residence and provide the address of the new residence.

The second enactment clause charged the Department of Social Services with reporting the number of individuals who notified a local department of social services of an address change and provided updated contact information between July 1, 2019 and July 1, 2020. Between those dates, 2,381 address changes were reported. Of the 2,381 reported address changes, 1,530 notifications were from individuals identified in the family assessment or investigation as the alleged abuser/neglector. The agency will continue to track the number of address changes reported to local departments in the child welfare information system. Please contact me if additional information is needed.

SDS:kc