

CG=Caregiver
CH=Child



PENNSYLVANIA SAFETY THREATS



DV=Domestic Violence
AP=Alleged Perpetrator

SAFETY THREAT	EXPLANTATION	CRITERIA
1.CG intended to cause serious physical harm to CH	Acts were intentional; Objective was to cause pain & suffering; Nothing/no one in the household could stop the behavior; No remorse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG wants to inflict pain &/or injury to teach CH a lesson; discipline is not the primary reason - The nature of the incident/use of an instrument can be reasonably assumed to heighten the level of pain/injury (e.g. cigarette burns) - CG does not acknowledge and guilt or wrongdoing & they intended to hurt CH - CG feels justified, expresses CH deserved it & they intended to hurt CH - CG can reasonably be assumed to have had some awareness of what the result would be prior to the incident
2.CG is threatening to severely harm CH/is fearful that he/she will maltreat child	Threat to severely harm/expressed anxiety is sufficient to conclude that CG might react toward CH at any time & it could be in the near future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG states he/she will maltreat - CG's threats are plausible, believable, may be related to specific provocative CH behavior - CG talks about being worried about/fearful of/preoccupied with maltreating CH - CG is distressed/"at the end of his/her rope" & is asking for some relief in either specific (e.g. "take the child or general (e.g. "please help me before something awful happens") terms
3.CG cannot/will not explain injuries to CH	CG is unable/unwilling to explain maltreating conditions/injuries consistent with facts; Unexplained serious injury/condition is a present danger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG acknowledges the presence of injuries/conditions, but pleads ignorant as to how they occurred - CG expresses concern for CH's condition, but is unable to explain it - CG accepts the presence of injuries/conditions, but does not explain them/seem concerned - History & circumstantial information are inconsistent with CGs explanation of the injuries/conditions - CG's verbal expressions do not match their emotional responses & there is not a believable explanation - Facts related to the incident/injury/condition contradict CG's explanations
4.Sexual abuse suspected/ occurred; Circumstances suggest abuse is likely to occur	Sexual abuse always presents serious harm to CH; Concern relates to whether/not sexual abuse is imminent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG does not believe CH's disclosure of sexual abuse even when there is a preponderance of evidence & this affects CHs safety - Sexual abuse has occurred in which family circumstances (e.g. opportunity) may be consistent with sexual abuse - CG denies the abuse/blames CH/offers no explanation/explanation is unbelievable - Sexual abuse is suspected & circumstances suggest continued abuse is likely to occur - AP has access to CH - CG has forced/encouraged CH to engage in sexual activities - Non-offending CG is unable/unwilling to prevent AP from having access to CH - CG cannot control his/her sexual impulses
5.CG is violent/acting dangerously	Includes both behaviors & emotions which may be immediately observable/frequently occurring/occur in future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Violence includes hitting/beating/physically assaulting/verbally assaulting CH/other family member - Violence includes acting dangerously toward CH/others, including throwing things, taunting weapons, driving recklessly, aggressively intimidating, & terrorizing - Presence of DV where violence involves physical/verbal assault on adult CG in presence of CH; CH's exposure to DV causes fear for self/others - DV is occurring & CH is assaulted/attempting to intervene/inadvertently harmed even though not the actual target of the violence - CG is impulsive, exhibiting physical aggression, having temper outburst/unanticipated & harmful physical reactions (e.g. throwing things) - CG's behavior outside the home (e.g. drugs, violence, aggressiveness, hostility) creates an environment within the home with threatens CH safety (e.g. drug parties, drive-by shootings)
6.CG cannot/will not control their behavior	Lack of CG self-control which jeopardizes safety of CH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG is acting bizarrely/delusional/experiencing hallucinations - CG is under the influence of some substance/is chemically dependent & unable to control effects of the addiction - CG is seriously depressed/unable to control emotions/behaviors & is functionally unable to meet CH's basic needs - CG makes impulsive decisions & plans which leave CH in unsafe situations (e.g. unsupervised, supervised by an unreliable CG) - CG is emotionally immobilized, chronically/situationally (e.g. paralyzed by fear as a result of DV) - CG has addictive patterns/behaviors (e.g. addiction to substances/gambling/computers) that are uncontrolled & leave CH in unsafe situations (e.g. failure to supervise/provide other basic care)
7. CG reacts dangerously to CH's serious emotional symptoms/lack of behavior control/self-destructive behavior	CG can be so provoked by CH's behavior that he/she reacts dangerously; CH's behavior so out-of-control that CG cannot safely manage it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CH is confrontational/insulting/challenging... - CH is highly aggressive & acting out repeatedly... - CH threatens to run away... - CH abuses substances... ...so that CG's lose patience/impulsively strike out at CH/isolate CH/totally avoid CH in an extreme manner

8.CG cannot/will not meet CH's special/physical/emotional/medical/behavioral/needs	The needs of CH are acute & require immediate & constant attention by CG; Attention & care specific & related to severe results when left unattended; Imminence is obvious; Severe effects would be immediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG does not seek treatment for CH's immediate & dangerous medical conditions - CG's failure to give prescribed medication endangers CH's life/causes his/her condition to worsen - CH complains to extreme pain & CG does not seek medical/dental attention - CH is suicidal/self-mutilating/exhibiting other harmful behaviors (e.g. substance abuse), but CG does not take protective action - CG's expectations of CH are totally unrealistic in view of CH's condition - CH is a physical danger to others - CH's basic needs exceed normal expectations because of unusual conditions (e.g. disabled CH) & family unable to adequately address
9.CG is not performing duties & responsibilities that assure CH safety	Refers only to adults; Duties & responsibilities are at critical level that if not addressed represent specific danger/threat to vulnerable CH; Lack of meeting these basic duties could result in CH being seriously injured/kidnapped/seriously ill/dying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG is unable to perform basic care duties/fulfill essential protective duties - CG is incapacitated/incarcerated/hospitalized/on vacation/absent from home/current whereabouts unknown - CG does not attend to CH; the need for care goes unnoticed/unmet (e.g. CH wanders outdoors alone, plays with dangerous objects, plays on unprotected window ledge, exposed to other serious hazards) - CG leaves CH alone, not considering length of time alone & CH's age/development - CG leaves CH with other inadequate/inappropriate CG's - CG is unable to care for CH due to trauma or recent assault, repeated incidents of violence, including DV - CG has abandoned CH, including situations in which he/she flees for his/her own safety due to DV
10.CG's lack of parenting knowledge/skills/motivation presents immediate threat of serious harm to CH	Refers to basic parenting that directly affects CH's safety; Extreme inability/unwillingness to meet basic needs creates CH safety concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG does not know what basic care is/how to provide it (e.g. how to feed/diaper, how to protect/supervise according to CH's age) - CG's expectations of CH are unrealistic & far exceed CH's capacity thereby placing CH in unsafe situations - CG avoids parenting & basic care responsibilities - CG does not know/apply basic safety measures (e.g. keeping medications/sharp objects/household cleaners out of reach of small CH) - CG places his/her own needs above CH's needs thereby affecting CH's safety - Living conditions severely endanger CH
11.Doesn't have/use resources necessary to meet CH's immediate basic needs & presents immediate threat of serious harm to CH	Lack of resources so acute that their absence could have an imminent severe effect on CH; Could cause serious injury/serious medical problems/serious physical health problems/starvation/serious malnutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family has no food/clothing/shelter - Family finances are insufficient to support needs (e.g. medical care) that, if unmet, could result in a threat to CH safety - Family is routinely using their resources for things (e.g. drugs, electronics, vacations) other than their basic care & support thereby leaving them without their basic needs being adequately met
12.CG perceives CH in extremely negative terms	Perception so negative that, when present, creates CH safety concerns; These types of perceptions must be present & inaccurate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CH is perceived to be the devil/demon-possessed/evil - CG's perception of CH is extremely negative (e.g. deformed, ugly, deficient, embarrassing) - CG perceives CH having taken on same identity as someone CG hates/is fearful of/is hostile toward & CG transfers feelings/perceptions to CH - CH is considered by CG to be punishing/torturing them - CG is jealous of CH & believes CH is a detriment/threat to CG's relationship & stands in the way of his/her best interests - CG sees CH as an undesirable extension of self who needs purging/punishing - CG sees CH as responsible & accountable for CG's problems, blames CH, behaves/acts out toward CH as a result based on a lack of reality/appropriateness because of their own needs/issues
13.CG overtly rejects CYS intervention/refuses access to CH; Indication that CG's will flee	Rejection far more than failure to cooperate/open anger & hostility about CYS involvement/general resistance & reluctance; Indications that family will change residences/leave jurisdiction/refuse access to CH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CG refuses to allow CYS in the home/access to certain parts of the home - CG refuses to allow CYS to see/speak with CH; does not inform CYS where CH is located - Family is highly transient/has little attachments (e.g. job, home, property, extended family)/there are other circumstances prompting flight (e.g. warrants, false identities uncovered, criminal convictions, financial debt) & behaviors suggest flight for purpose of avoiding CYS involvement - CG has demonstrated behaviors of avoidance/flight - CG's overt behavior prevents CW from assessing CH's living condition (e.g. refusing to talk to CYS, avoiding contact with CYS, making excuses for not participating, missing appointments, other evasive/manipulative/suspicious behavior)
14.CH is fearful of home situation, including people in home	CH's fear obvious, extreme, & related to some perceived danger CH feels/experiences; Cause of CH's fear is active, currently occurring, & immediate concern of CH; Imminence applies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CH demonstrates extreme emotional/physical responses (e.g. crying, inability to focus, nervousness, withdrawal, fear of going home) indicating fear of the living situation/people within the home - CH expresses fear & describes people & circumstances which are an obvious/serious threat - CH recounts experiences which form the basis for fear - CH's fearful response escalates at the mention of home/people/circumstances associated with reported incidents - CH describes personal threats which seem clear, serious, & believable