



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

COMMISSIONER
Anne Heiligenstein

Department of Family and Protective Services Completion of Major Senate Bill 643 and Department of Justice Settlement Agreement Activities

Major Senate Bill 643 Activities

Private ICF-MR Investigations - DFPS completed all tasks necessary to begin completing Private ICF-MR investigations on June 1, 2010. Training of investigative staff and providers has been provided around the state to facilitate implementation.

Between June 1, 2010 and June 20, 2010 APS received at least 37 private ICF-MR intakes.

Interagency MOU - An MOU was signed by DFPS, DADS, DSHS, OIG, the HHSC and the Independent Ombudsman on June 2, 2010 to delineate the roles and responsibilities for each agency involved in abuse, neglect and exploitation investigations in State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs), including the ICF-MR component of the Rio Grande State Center (RGSC). The MOU involved three major areas:

- Investigations, protection of clients, necessary referrals and interagency exchange of information on allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation (ANE), and coordination of parallel investigations;
- Referral and investigation of rights violations of SSLC residents;
- Review of existing DFPS investigator forensic training and recommendations for enhancement of training on identification of ANE that may constitute criminal conduct.

Combined Database - DFPS is consulting with DADS on the development of a database that will contain APS ANE investigation and DADS regulatory information on investigations of providers of mental retardation services.

Major DFPS DOJ Settlement Activities

10-Day Investigations - APS began completing investigations in SSLCs in 10 days (instead of 14 or 21) on June 1, 2010.

Approximately 95% of SSLC ANE investigations completed between June 1 and June 22, 2010 met the new 10-day investigation standard.

Past History Checks - As part of investigations, APS began reviewing prior case history of alleged victims and alleged perpetrators on June 1, 2010.

Supervisor Review - APS supervisors began reviewing and approving all SSLC investigations on June 1, 2010.