

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Social Services Division
Child Welfare Services Branch
1010 Richards Street, Room 216
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

August 1, 2022

Highlights of the Hawaii Child Welfare Services Protocol for
Unknown Perpetrator with Serious Harm Cases

The Child Welfare Services (CWS) protocol for Unknown Perpetrator with Serious Harm has been developed as a guide for CWS caseworkers to support assessment and decision-making and to promote consistency in practice, as applicable.

The protocol was developed in consultation with the National Resource Center for Child Protective Services in 2014.

Unknown Perpetrator Cases are defined as cases with serious harm to a child by one or both of the child's parents and/or individuals who had access to the child and the perpetrator has not been identified at the time the intake was accepted for CWS assessment.

Serious Harm is defined as Harm in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) 587A; for purposes of the protocol, serious harm is the non-accidental death of a child; non-accidental injuries and/or harm to a child that requires medical attention (bone fractures, burns); non-organic failure to thrive, etc.

The protocol covers the following, including but not limited to:

- Information gathering and understanding the family;
- Child Safety Assessments, Comprehensive Strengths and Risk Assessments, Analysis for In-Home Services, In-Home Safety Plans or removal, reunification, permanency, and case decision-making;
- Service planning and identifying measures for behavioral change; and
- Monitoring progress in services.

CWS engages parents and caregivers to understand their strengths and needs and to identify services and supports to promote safety, permanency, and well-being of families.