

When a Family Services Division Social Worker Visits Your Home



You have the right to:

- Ask to see a *State Employee Identification Card* before letting a worker into your home;
- Call the appropriate Family Services Division (FSD) office to confirm the worker's identity;
- Ask questions if you don't understand what the worker is doing or asking you to do;
- Say no and then ask to speak to the worker's supervisor if you are uncomfortable with what you're being asked to do;
- Ask to see a court order if the worker wants to remove your child from your home; and
- Call 911 or local police if you suspect the person is impersonating an FSD social worker.

You can expect the following:

- If the worker is required to tour your home, he or she will ask you for permission. If you are not comfortable with this, the worker will talk to you about possible next steps.
- The worker may ask you questions about extended family members, friends, and others who may be able to help and support you.
- The worker may ask that a piece of the child's clothing be moved or removed to see a bruise or physical injury on the child. This will be done in the presence of another adult. The worker may ask that you take the child to see a doctor.
- The worker may want to talk privately with your child about how things are going. The worker *does not* have to be alone with your child. They may, for example, sit on the porch or somewhere else where you can see your child while not overhearing the conversation.

Family Services District Offices

Barre: (802) 479-4260

Bennington: (802) 442-8138

Brattleboro: (802) 257-2888

Burlington: (802) 863-7370

Hartford: (802) 295-8840

Middlebury: (802) 388-4660

Morrisville: (802) 888-4576

Newport: (802) 334-6723

Rutland: (802) 786-5817

Springfield: (802) 885-8900

St. Albans: (802) 527-7741

St. Johnsbury: (802) 748-8374

After hours, on weekends, or on state holidays, call 1-800-649-5285.

<http://dcf.vt.gov/fsd>