

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND
DON KNABE**

June 24, 2014

Mandating Sex Trafficking Training for Foster Parent and Group Home Providers

At the March 25, 2014 Board of Supervisors' (Board) meeting, the Board directed the Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation, in consultation with County Counsel, to report back in 30 days with a feasibility plan along with any costs associated to train foster family agencies, group homes and certified foster parents on sex trafficking.

The Departments released its report on May 6, 2014, which indicated that both Departments could immediately implement training for foster parents, group homes and certified foster parents if and when directed by the Board. It is imperative that the County departments properly train group home providers and foster care parents as sex traffickers are using the child welfare system as a recruitment vehicle. DCFS estimates that a six-month contract amendment for foster family and group homes would enable the training. DCFS stated that they will work with colleges and universities to create the curriculum for training. The state budget provides \$5.0 million in FY 2014-15, and \$14.0

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million in FY 2015-16, to enable county child welfare agencies to serve child victims of commercial sexual exploitation. DCFS indicates that this funding would help county child welfare agencies serve child victims through social worker, foster parent and service provider training, and supportive services for victims. The County should move as quickly as possible to help safeguard the County's most vulnerable population from being sexually exploited.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: instruct the directors of the Departments of Children and Family Services and Probation to complete the following:

1. Develop a training curriculum on prevention and intervention strategies on child sex trafficking for foster care and group home providers;
2. Pursuant to the development of the curriculum, DCFS and Probation shall amend its agreements with foster and group home providers to mandate that all such providers be trained according to the developed curriculum;
3. Prepare an estimated budget for the cost required to implement county-wide this mandatory training; and
4. Report back within 60 days in writing on the training curriculum and a plan for county-wide implementation.

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