

DCF Policy #84-010

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EMERGENCY JUDGES AFTER COURT HOURS POLICY

This policy specifies procedures for contacting emergency judges after court hours, in accordance with the judicial response system established by Chief Administrative Justice of the Trial Court. For the purposes of this policy, the term "Social Worker" refers to the Department or Hotline Social Worker or Supervisor who is dealing with the emergency situation.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Department that when an emergency arises that requires judicial intervention after court hours, the Social Worker utilizes the following procedures.

PROCEDURES

1. **Emergency Determination.** The Social Worker, in consultation with the Supervisor or management staff of the Area Office, if available, determines that emergency judicial intervention is necessary.

2. **Initiating Contact.** The Social Worker calls the appropriate region of the State Police:

<u>Dispatch Site</u>	<u>Telephone Number</u>	<u>Region</u>
• Danvers	(978) 538-6000 or (978) 538-6020	Essex & Norfolk Counties & Newton
• Framingham	(508) 820-2121	Middlesex & Suffolk Counties
• Cheshire	(413) 743-4700	Berkshire County
• Northampton	(413) 587-5500	Franklin, Hampshire & Hampden Counties
• Holden	(508) 829-8326	Worcester County
• Middleborough	(508) 923-4000 or (508) 923-4014	Bristol, Plymouth & Barnstable Counties & Islands

3. **Information Shared.** The Social Worker tells the State Police Communications Officer:

- the name of the Department Office or Hotline,
- the name of the Social Worker to be contacted, and
- the telephone number where the Social Worker can be contacted.

The State Police contact the appropriate emergency judge, who returns the telephone call directly to the Social Worker.

The Social Worker remains at the telephone to receive the judge's call and informs the judge of the nature of the emergency.