



## Michigan Supreme Court

State Court Administrative Office  
Michigan Hall of Justice  
P.O. Box 30048  
Lansing, Michigan 48909  
517-373-0128

Thomas P. Boyd  
State Court Administrator

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 11, 2022

TO: Family Court Judges  
Circuit Court Administrators

FROM: Thomas P. Boyd, State Court Administrator

SUBJECT: Drug Testing in Abuse and Neglect Cases Following MDHHS Communication  
Issuance 22-025


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Several judges have contacted the State Court Administrative Office concerning drug testing in abuse and neglect cases after the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) distributed the attached Communication Issuance 22-025 on March 7, 2022.

While the judicial role in determining the admissibility of evidence is limited to proofs offered in court, I understand the level of confusion in this regard may have been an obstacle to cases moving forward. Therefore, I have requested and received the attached clarification from Demetrius Starling, Executive Director of the Children's Services Agency, MDHHS.

The bottom-line is that, during the 90-day period beginning March 7, 2022, each MDHHS county and district office has funds for drug testing and staff expertise in place to get them done.

Attachments

 <p><b>Children's Services Agency</b></p> <p><b>Communication Issuance</b></p> <p><b>22-025</b></p>	Subject/Title	Substance Use Testing
	Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Informational Memorandum <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program Instruction <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Guide
	Issuance Date	3/7/2022
	Obsolete Date	6/6/2022
	Contact Name	Sarah Goad
	Email	<a href="mailto:GoadS@Michigan.gov">GoadS@Michigan.gov</a>
	Phone	N/A
Due Date	N/A	
Due to	N/A	
<i>Distribution</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CSA Central Office Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MDHHS BSC and County Directors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MDHHS Juvenile Justice Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MDHHS Child Welfare Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Tribes <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Workforce Development and Training <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Agency Child Welfare Managers/Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residential Abuse/Neglect Managers/Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residential Juvenile Justice Managers/Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

The Children's Services Agency (CSA) has determined that effective immediately, CSA will discontinue the use of Averhealth for substance use testing. Staff must access other local providers for testing for the next 90 days.

### Substance Use Testing Liaison

Each county/district office and private agency provider has established a substance use testing liaison to assist with the substance use contract service. The liaison is responsible for identifying local substance use providers.

Substance use testing liaisons will receive a meeting notice from Amanda Doane by Monday, March 14, 2022, to discuss tracking requirements in greater detail and allow an opportunity for questions to be addressed.

### Court Ordered Drug Testing

While the local substance use testing liaisons work to set up substance use testing with local substance use testing companies, please work with clients who are court ordered to test to ensure they have the information and resources they need to comply with the court's order.

### Payment and Tracking Process for Substance Use Testing Providers

The cost of drug testing will be covered by the CSA during this 90-day period unless testing is ordered by the court.

Services must be paid using the paid case service process in MiSACWIS. Child welfare caseworkers should verify the provider is registered in SIGMA, enrolled in Bridges, and shows as an active medical services provider in MiSACWIS. Ensure that the case service and paid service authorizations are

approved by a supervisor prior to case closure. Questions regarding the payment process should be sent to the FCD mailbox: [MDHHS-FederalComplianceDivision@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-FederalComplianceDivision@michigan.gov).



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH HERTEL  
DIRECTOR

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**DATE:** April 8, 2022

**TO:** State Court Administrative Office

**CC:** Health, Education, & Family Services Division of Office of the Michigan Attorney General

**FROM:** Demetrius Starling, Executive Director of the Children's Services Agency, MDHHS

**SUBJECT:** Substance Use Testing

The purpose of this email is to notify the State Court Administrative Office of updates to our substance use testing services.

Effective March 7, 2022, the Children's Services Agency (CSA) directed all staff to discontinue use of Averhealth substance use testing services for a period of 90 days. Please see the attached CI 22-025 \*revised. Every MDHHS county and district office has a substance use testing liaison to assist local MDHHS offices in securing alternative testing. During this 90-day period, the cost of drug testing will be covered by CSA.

Please direct all questions about this memorandum to my Special Advisor, Shayne Machen at [MachenS@michigan.gov](mailto:MachenS@michigan.gov).



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