

Date:

Name, Address:

RE:

Recognizing the importance of family and its meaning in the lives of children, federal and state law now require expanded opportunities for adult family members to participate in the care and placement of related children who are in the custody of the Department of Children and Families. This focus recognizes that, where possible, a child's best interests are served by remaining in the context of family, culture, and community. The Department of Children and Families is required to exercise due diligence to identify adult relatives of children who come into our care, and to provide the adult relatives with resource information about the programs and services available to relatives.

In addition, in most cases, the Superior Court for Juvenile Matters, which has jurisdiction over your case, will also require you to provide contact information for adult relatives who may be placement resources. This is done through court orders known as "Specific Steps" which is included with the legal documents provided to you.

I am writing to request that you identify all adult relatives that you would like DCF to consider as possible placement resources for your child. Please contact me as soon as possible and provide the requested information.

I may be reached at _____ I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

SW Name:

Phone:

E-mail:

cc: Assistant Attorney General