

## School-Aged Placement Exercise

(6 to 11 years)

Mother: Crystal, age 28; Cindy, age 6; father Randall (separated from mother); Jesse (current paramour)



PCSA receives an Abuse and Neglect report listing Mother and Jesse as alleged perpetrators and Cindy as the alleged child victim – 6-year-old has bruises on her arms. RS reports Cindy stated the bruises were caused by “Uncle Jesse.” RS reports there has been an increase in aggressive behavior from Cindy lately. Cindy has hit peers during school hours. RS reports parents have been contacted but have not returned communication to set up a meeting to discuss the issues. RS states Cindy stated she is fearful to return home. No further information is available on what she is scared of.

Caseworker Gibson makes face to face contact with mother, Jesse Sanchez and the ACV within 48 hours. The caseworker observed bruises on Cindy’s arms and legs. Mother would not allow Cindy to be interviewed alone. During the interview, Jesse does not allow mother to fully answer the questions asked in regards to the observed bruises. Jesse becomes angry during the interview and states he has to leave for work. When Jesse leaves the home, Cindy reports to the caseworker her Uncle Jesse had caused the bruises. Mother reports she is scared of what Jesse might do to her and Cindy if she cooperates with the caseworker. The caseworker consults her supervisor and determines mother should stay somewhere else to ensure the safety of Cindy. Mother states she has stayed with maternal grandmother (MGM) in the past when she fought with Jesse. MGM agrees to allow them to stay there.

The caseworker is contacted the next day by MGM who states mother immediately called Jesse to tell him where they were staying when the caseworker left the home the previous day. MGM reports Jesse came to the home and attacked mother, striking her several times in the face. MGM reported Cindy had attempted to intervene in the physical altercation and Jesse had struck her in the back of the head. MGM reports there is now a warrant for Jesse’s arrest as he fled the home prior to the police arrival.

MGM reports she does not feel safe for herself, her daughter, or her granddaughter. Mother states Cindy’s father is incarcerated.

Your safety assessment found an active safety threat, you have to determine a safety response/placement decision.

Assign your group members a role below then initiate and implement Cindy’s safety plan/placement in front of the rest of the training class.

Roles: Crystal, Jesse, Cindy, Maternal Grandmother, Caseworker, Kin/Foster Caregiver?

Optional roles: Narrator and/or Supervisor