

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

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MEMORANDUM

- TO: KARIN CLARK Virginia Department of Social Services
- FROM: ALLEN T. WILSON Senior Assistant Attorney General
- **DATE:** November 29, 2011
- **SUBJECT:** Proposed Fast-Track Regulation 22 VAC 40-910-10 et seq. General Provisions for Maintaining and Disclosing Confidential Information in Public Assistance and Social Services Records

I have reviewed the above-referenced proposed fast-track regulation to determine if the State Board of Social Services ("State Board") has the statutory authority to promulgate the proposed regulation and if the proposed regulation comports with applicable state law.

It appears that the State Board has the authority to promulgate the proposed regulation, subject to compliance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order 14 (2010), and has not exceeded that authority.

It should be noted that if an objection to the use of the fast-track process is received within the public comment period from 10 or more persons, any member of the applicable standing committee of either house of the General Assembly or of the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules, the Department shall (i) file notice of the objection with the Registrar of Regulations for publication in the Virginia Register, and (ii) proceed with the normal promulgation process set out in the APA.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 786-0095.