



# PRESENT DANGER AND PROTECTIVE PLANNING LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

## JULY 2022: APPLICATION OF THE PRESENT DANGER CRITERIA

### Present Danger Threats Criteria

Each of the Present Danger Threats must be supported by using the definition of present danger from the Safety Intervention Standards to support a critical thinking process. By taking the steps to name the **Clearly Observable Family Condition** and justifying how it is **Significant, Immediate, and Likely to Result in Severe Harm** (or not), Child Welfare Professionals can make the sort between which are conditions that need intervention, and which do not.

### Immediate

Dangerous behaviors, conditions, or situations (observable condition) that is actively occurring or in process of occurring at the point of contact with the family.

### Actively Occurring

- Happening here, happening now
- Likely to see the danger with your own eyes
- Doesn't take much thought or critical thinking

### In Process of Occurring

- You may not see it, but the information says it's happening
- Likely to happen in the next few days - ripe to occur
- Because you may not have evidence, may take critical thinking regarding household information

### Tip

Examine the danger and timeframe in the household of origin, family intact without CPS intervention. Danger may be suspended but it still is in process of occurring if there is outside intervention providing safety.



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## REFLECTION ON CONTENT

How do you ensure you are thinking about "in process of occurring" even when you don't have black and white proof? You may have present danger at the point of contact with no information of maltreatment that has happened!

## ACTION ITEM

What does a deeper examination of present danger timeframes (immediate) mean for your CPS practice? What are steps you can take to distinguish between "in process of occurring" and other types of danger timeframes (Likely Impending Danger or Imminent in Danger Threshold)?