

“No effort on behalf of children is ever wasted.”

Attachment # 4

November 20, 2007 Page 1 of 1



Embracing Children.
Inspiring Lives.

Commissioner Ed DePuy
Leon County Board of Commissioners
301 S. Monroe Street, 5th Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Commissioners:

Children's Home Society of Florida currently has a contract with Leon County Board of Commissioners for the provision of medical examinations of abused children. The contract is for \$15,000 and in part meets the requirement of Florida State Statute 39.304 (5) Photographs, medical examinations, X rays, and medical treatment of abused, abandoned, or neglected child. The section states "The county in which the child is a resident shall bear the initial costs of the examination of the allegedly abused, abandoned, or neglected child; however, the parents or legal custodian of the child shall be required to reimburse the county for the costs of such examination, other than an initial forensic physical examination as provided in s. 960.28, and to reimburse the department for the cost of the photographs taken pursuant to this section. A medical provider may not bill a child victim, directly or indirectly, for the cost of an initial forensic physical examination."

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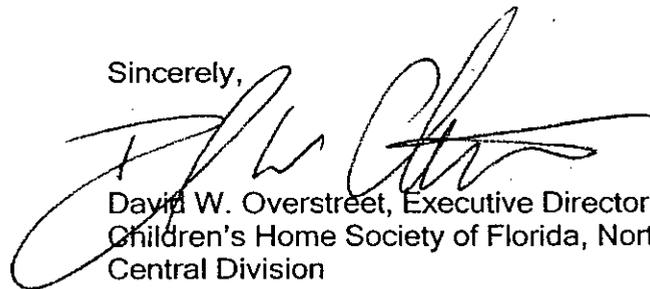
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The issue of concern is that while the number of examinations has increased over the years, the funding has not. For example last year from July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007 our agency performed 183 examinations at a cost of \$250 per examination. The expense of \$45,750 leaves the contract well short of funds to cover the required services.

We would like to meet to correct this oversight and discuss the most effective means for rectifying this situation. I would appreciate a response to set up a meeting as soon as possible. I can be reached at (850) 921-0772.

Sincerely,



David W. Overstreet, Executive Director
Children's Home Society of Florida, North
Central Division

David W. Overstreet
Executive Director

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cc: Tom Snyder, Director of Child Protection Teams
~~Frederick Pearson Jr, Leon County Human Services Analyst~~

