

From: NYS OCFS FOIL Records Access Center <ocfsny@govqa.us>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 10:00 AM
To: elena@judgewidth.org
Subject: FOIL Records Request :: R000063-021224



Dear Elena Sassower,

This message confirms receipt of your request. Your request was received in this office on 2/12/2024 and given the reference number R000063-021224 for tracking purposes.

Records Requested: Social Services Law §371-B, ¶1, establishes “at least three citizen review panels” and states by its ¶3: “Each citizen review panel shall, by examining the policies and procedures of the state and social services districts and, where appropriate, specific cases, evaluate the extent to which the agencies are effectively discharging their child protection responsibilities in accordance with: (a) the state plan established pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §5106a(b); (b) the child protection standards set forth in 42 U.S.C. §5106a(b); and (c) any other criteria that the panel considers important to ensure the protection of children. Each panel shall meet not less than once every three months. Each panel may hold public hearings on issues within the panel’s jurisdiction.” Pursuant to FOIL, this is to request: (1) the referred-to “state plan established pursuant to “42 U.S.C. §5106a(b)” for each year since 2019 and for each of the five years after Social Services Law §371-B was enacted in 1999; (2) records of any “other criteria” that the panel considered “important” to the protection of children; (3) records of “public hearings”. As 42 USC §5106a(C), which underlies Social Services Law §371-B, states at its ¶(C) entitled “Public Outreach”: “Each panel shall provide for public outreach and comment in order to assess the impact of current procedures and practices upon children and families in the community and in order to meet its obligations under subparagraph (A)”, please also furnish, pursuant to FOIL: (4) all records as to the manner in which “Each panel” has provided for “public outreach and comment” throughout the more than 20 years since Social Services Law §371-B was enacted. Thank you.

We will provide you with an acknowledgment of your request within 5 business days.

Sincerely,

NYS Office of Children and Family Services

To monitor the progress or update this request, please log into the [FOIL Records Access Center](#)

