

(I) A CASEWORKER IS PROMPTLY ASSIGNED TO AND ACTIVELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CASE AT ALL TIMES;

(II) THE IDENTITY OF THE CASEWORKER HAS BEEN PROMPTLY COMMUNICATED TO THE COURT AND THE PARTIES; AND

(III) THE CASEWORKER IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE CASE AND HAS RECEIVED ON A TIMELY BASIS ALL PERTINENT FILES AND OTHER INFORMATION AFTER RECEIVING THE ASSIGNMENT FROM THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT;

(3) FOR A HEARING UNDER § 3-823 OF THIS SUBTITLE, WHETHER A LOCAL DEPARTMENT HAS PROVIDED APPROPRIATE SERVICES THAT FACILITATE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A PERMANENCY PLAN FOR THE CHILD;

(4) WHETHER THE CHILD'S PLACEMENT HAS BEEN STABLE AND IN THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE SETTING APPROPRIATE, AVAILABLE, AND ACCESSIBLE FOR THE CHILD DURING THE PERIOD SINCE THE MOST RECENT HEARING HELD BY THE COURT;

(5) WHETHER A LOCAL DEPARTMENT NOTIFIED THE COURT AND ALL PARTIES BEFORE ANY CHANGE OF PLACEMENT FOR THE CHILD, OR, IF EMERGENCY CONDITIONS MADE A CHANGE NECESSARY, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE CHANGE OF PLACEMENT;

(6) ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT OF MALTREATMENT OF A CHILD OCCURRING WHILE THE CHILD IS IN THE CUSTODY OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT, WHETHER THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT PROVIDED THE APPROPRIATE PARTIES, INCLUDING THE CHILD'S ATTORNEY, A REPORT OR NOTICE OF A REPORT OF THE SUSPECTED MALTREATMENT OF THE CHILD AND OF THE DISPOSITION OF THE INVESTIGATION WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED BY REGULATION AND COURT ORDER; AND

(7) WHETHER A LOCAL DEPARTMENT HAS PROVIDED APPROPRIATE AND TIMELY SERVICES TO HELP MAINTAIN THE CHILD IN THE CHILD'S EXISTING PLACEMENT, INCLUDING ALL SERVICES AND BENEFITS AVAILABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW, REGULATIONS, STATE AND FEDERAL COURT ORDERS, STIPULATED AGREEMENTS, OR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS REGARDING THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS.

(D) IN MAKING A FINDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A COURT MAY NOT CONSIDER A POTENTIAL LOSS OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PLACEMENT OF A CHILD THAT MAY RESULT FROM A DETERMINATION THAT REASONABLE EFFORTS WERE NOT MADE.

(E) A COURT SHALL MAKE THE FINDINGS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION IN WRITING IF IT FINDS THAT REASONABLE EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE FOR A CHILD, BUT ALSO FINDS THAT AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS EXISTS: