

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ROY COOPER, GOVERNOR

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH  
SECRETARY

WAYNE E. BLACK  
SR. DIRECTOR FOR SOCIAL SERVICES  
AND COUNTY OPERATIONS

August 15, 2017

To: County Directors of Social Services

Attention: All Administrators, Managers, Supervisors and County Attorneys

Subject: Memorandum of Agreement between  
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and  
the Consulate General and Notice of Training Webinar

Dear County Directors of Social Services, Administrators, Managers, Supervisors and County Attorneys:

The purpose of this Letter is to provide information regarding the recently renewed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Consulate General of Mexico and the State of North Carolina through Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services. This MOA has implications for all county child welfare agencies within North Carolina.

Both the Bilateral Convention and the Vienna Convention provide for consular notification and access in cases where foreign nationals are involved in legal proceedings. These treaties place a special responsibility on the receiving State's authorities, in this case, the Director of the Division of Social Services to treat cases of foreign national minors with particular care.

North Carolina is home to many Mexican citizens. The Department and the Consulate recognize that protecting and assuring the proper care of Mexican minors is essential to the maintenance of Mexican culture, traditions and values. Therefore, this Memorandum of Agreement, provides a method of early identification of Mexican minors and their families in order to provide services which assure all the protections afforded by the Vienna Convention, the Bilateral Convention and all other applicable treaties and laws.

A County shall inquire, at the time the decision to take protective custody is made, whether a minor has any Mexican parentage. The duty of the County to identify Mexican parentage shall continue as long as the child welfare case is open.

WWW.NCDHHS.GOV  
TEL 919-527-6335 • FAX 919-334-1018  
LOCATION: 820 S. BOYLAN AVE. • MCBRYDE BUILDING • RALEIGH, NC 27603  
MAILING ADDRESS: 2401 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-2401  
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This Memorandum has already been signed and is currently in effect. The Memorandum contains a wealth of information in regards to the different situations in which the Mexican Consulate can assist local child welfare agencies. This includes information about home studies in Mexico and special services minor children may be eligible to receive.

In partnership with the Consulate General of Mexico, the Division of Social Services will host a technical assistance webinar regarding this Memorandum. **The technical assistance webinar will take place on September 28, 2017 from 10:00a.m. to 12 noon. The presenter from the Consulate General of Mexico will be Deputy Consul Patricia Perez Galeana.**

Please register using the following information:

**Register now!**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7234071113264177666>

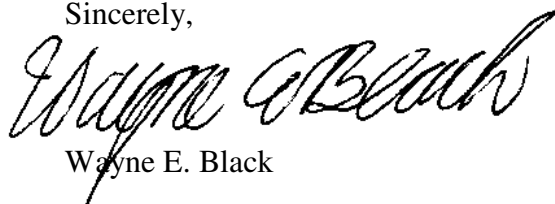
Mexican Consulate MOA Meeting (You can Login at 9:30 AM the Webinar will start at 10 AM)  
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

[View System Requirements](#)

Attached is the signed Memorandum Agreement, and a Summary of Services provided by the Consulate General of Mexico and International Process of Service.

Should you have any questions, please contact Rogelio Valencia, the Division's Latino Ombudsman at 919-527-6423 or [Rogelio.Valencia@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Rogelio.Valencia@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,



Wayne E. Black

Attachments

cc: Carlotta Dixon  
Rogelio Valencia

DIR-05-2017