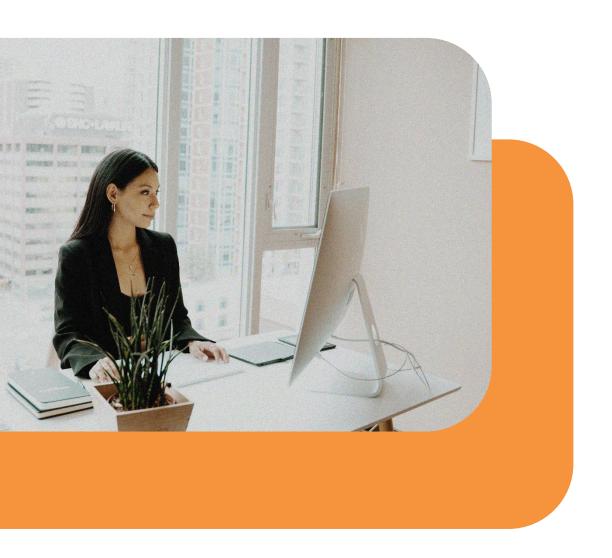# ANSWER KEY

WebSDM New User Assessment Training

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

February 2025

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ABOUT EVIDENT CHANGE

Evident Change promotes just and equitable social systems for individuals, families, and communities through research, public policy, and practice. For more information, call (800) 306-6223 or visit us online at EvidentChange.org. Find us on social media by visiting Linktr.ee/EvidentChange.

CONTENTS

This guide contains answer keys that participants can use to practice completing assessments on the WebSDM training site. The answer keys mimic the Common Core Structured Tools and Assessments training case examples.

Note: Not all assessments from the case examples are covered in this set of answer keys.

HOTLINE TOOLS

HEADER

- **Date Completed:** Today's date
- **Is there any information that indicates that a child in the household is, or may be, an Indian child?** No, not at this time.

STEP I: PRELIMINARY SCREENING

Nothing selected; proceed to Step II.

STEP II: APPROPRIATENESS OF A CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORT FOR RESPONSE

Does the report contain allegations of abuse or neglect in out-of-home care to a dependent or ward child/youth? Select one.

No.

PART A: SCREENING CRITERIA

Physical Abuse	Non-accidental or suspicious injury → Other injury
Emotional Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Abuse	*Nothing selected*

PART B: SCREENING DECISION

Recommended Screening Decision	In-person response (automatically calculated by WebSDM)
Screening Criteria Allegation Type(s)	Physical abuse (automatically calculated)
Overrides	No override
Final Screening Decision	Screen in (automatically calculated)
Is cross report required?	No

STEP III. RESPONSE PRIORITY

PART A: DECISION TREES

First two items	*Nothing selected*
Physical Abuse decision tree	Allegation of physical injury to non-mobile child . . .

PART B: OVERRIDES

Overrides	No override
Final response priority	24 Hour (automatically calculated)
Do reported concerns involve a dependent or dual-status child/youth in out-of-home-care?	No

STEP IV: PATH OF RESPONSE DECISION (FOR PATH COUNTIES ONLY)

- **Apply Automatic Path 3?** No. (Note: 24-hour response priorities generally merit a Path 3 response; but for training purposes, this example uses Path 2.)
- **Select Yes for the following items.**
  - » *Prior investigations*: One or two.
  - » *Prior child protective services*.
  - » *Primary caregiver has a history of abuse/neglect as a child*.
  - » *Prior injury to a child due to abuse or neglect*.
- **Path Decision:** Path 2.

REFERRAL SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Tammy Jefferson Household

HEADER

Assessment Date	*Today's date*
Household Name	Tammy Jefferson
Names of Children Assessed	Joshua Baxter
Assessment Type	Initial
Allegations in this household?	Yes

IS THERE ANY INFORMATION THAT INDICATES THAT THE CHILD/YOUTH IS, OR MAY BE, AN INDIAN CHILD/YOUTH?

Yes; Reason to believe *(based on father's answer)*

Were tribal social workers or representatives consulted . . . ?

No; Contact with tribe(s) not attempted

FACTORS INFLUENCING CHILD VULNERABILITY

Age 0–5 years

SECTION 1: SAFETY THREATS

1. Yes, Serious injury or abuse to the child other than accidental.
2. No
3. No
4. No
5. No
6. No
7. Yes
8. No
9. No

10. No

SECTION 1A: CAREGIVER COMPLICATING BEHAVIORS

Nothing selected.

SECTION 2: HOUSEHOLD STRENGTHS AND PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

Nothing selected.

SECTION 3: IN-HOME PROTECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

Nothing selected.

SECTION 4: PLACEMENT INTERVENTIONS

11. A warrant or detention order will be sought per local policy. *This results in "Unsafe" (automatically displayed by WebSDM).*

Comments—Staff Person Comments

Document that despite selecting item 11, we will assess whether a safety plan can be developed with the father prior to seeking a warrant.

REFERRAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Tammy Jefferson Household

HEADER

Assessment Date: *Today's date*

PRIOR INVESTIGATIONS

1. a.
2. c.
3. b.
4. b., both subitems

CURRENT INVESTIGATION

5. b.
6. a.
7. a.

FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

8. b.
9. a.
10. a.
11. a.
12. a.
13. b.
14. a.
15. a.
16. b.

SCORING AND OVERRIDES

SCORED RISK LEVEL	**Neglect**	Moderate (automatically calculated by WebSDM)
	Abuse	High (automatically calculated)
	Scored	High (automatically calculated)
OVERRIDES	**Policy**	. . . Child under 2 . . . (select)
RECOMMENDED DECISION	**Recommended Decision**	Promote (automatically calculated)
	Planned action	Promote
	Planned Action (next section)	Open for Child Welfare Services Case: Out of home

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

Not covered during P&P training. Refer to the case example or simply record the following responses.

1. a.
2. a.
3. c.
3a. c.
4. a.
5. b.

REUNIFICATION ASSESSMENT

Tom Baxter Household

HEADER

- **Assessment Date:** Today's date
- **Household Name:** Tom Baxter

CLIENTS AND ROLES

- **Joshua Baxter:** Focus child (automatically noted)
- **Tom Baxter:** Primary (select)
- Unselect Tammy and Juan

Note: The training exercise goes through a few scenarios before resulting in this final selection.

A. REUNIFICATION RISK REASSESSMENT

R1. c.

R2. a.

R3. a.

RISK LEVEL AND OVERRIDES

Scored Risk Level	Moderate (automatically calculated by WebSDM)
Overrides	No, No, No, No, and No override
Final Risk Level	Moderate (automatically calculated)

B. VISITATION PLAN EVALUATION

Frequency	Routinely
Quality	Adequate
Override	No override
Compliance	Acceptable (automatically calculated)

C. REUNIFICATION SAFETY ASSESSMENT

1. No. *Text*: Father is sober and has a job and housing.
2. No.

Safety Decision: Safe (automatically calculated)

D. PLACEMENT/PERMANENCY PLAN GUIDELINES

Age at Removal	Under 3
Hearing	6 months or before
Override	No override
Initial Recommendation	Return Home (automatically calculated)

RISK REASSESSMENT

Tom Baxter Household

Navigate to Joshua Baxter's case assessment list and select the assessment from the Other Assessments list.

HEADER

- **Household Name:** Tom Baxter
- **Assessment Date:** Today's date

CLIENTS AND ROLES

- **Joshua Baxter:** Focus child (automatically noted)
- **Tom Baxter:** Primary (select)
- Unselect Tammy and Juan.

RISK REASSESSMENT ITEMS

R1. a.
R2. a.
R3. b.
R4. a.
R5. a.
R6. c.
R7. a.
R8. b.
R9. a.
R10. a.

SCORING AND OVERRIDES

Scored Risk Level	Low (automatically calculated by WebSDM)
Overrides	*None*
Final Risk Level	Low (automatically calculated)
Recommended Decision	Close (automatically calculated)
Planned Action	Close (select)