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|  | <b>INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES<br/>CHILD WELFARE POLICY</b>                  |                                    |
|   | <b>Tool:</b> Suggested Interview Questions for the Alleged Domestic Violence Offender | <b>Effective Date:</b> May 1, 2009 |
|   | <b>Reference:</b> 4.E ( <a href="#">4.11 – Interviewing the Alleged Perpetrator</a> ) | <b>Version:</b> 1                  |

### Suggested Interview Questions for the Alleged Domestic Violence Offender

The purpose of interviewing the alleged perpetrator is to assess dangerousness, not to elicit a confession. Do not confront the alleged perpetrator with information obtained from the child or non-offending parent. If at any point during the interview you feel that the alleged perpetrator is too dangerous, close the interview and consult with a Supervisor regarding what steps to take next.

1. Tell me about your relationship.
2. Describe your relationship with your children.
3. There are disagreements in all relationships. What happens when you and your partner disagree?
4. How do decisions get made?
5. What do you do when you do not get your own way?
6. Have you ever been so angry that you wanted to hurt someone? Have you ever tried to hurt someone?
7. Do you or your partner use alcohol or drugs? How often?
8. Do you own or have access to weapons?
9. Have you ever been told that violence/fighting is a problem for you? By whom?
10. Have you ever pushed, pulled, hit, kicked, slapped or punched anyone in your family? In what way?
11. Does your partner ever seem afraid of you? Do your children ever seem afraid of you?
12. On a scale of 1-10 (where 10 is very safe all the time and 1 is not safe at all), how safe do you feel in your family? How safe do you think your partner feels? Your children?
13. If you could change one thing about your partner, what would it be?
14. If we could offer you or your partner any services or information to help strengthen your family what would those be? To make one or both of you better parents?
15. If we could offer your child(ren) any services or information, what would they be?
16. The worker should also note their observations of alleged perpetrator's behavior during the interview.