

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 11, 2014 8:05:18 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 6:03 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 - 06:03

Agency: DEPARTMENT FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES DFPS

First Name: James

Last Name: Huggler

Title: Attorney

Organization you are affiliated with: Law Offices of James Huggler

City: Tyler

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: DFPS is out of control in Smith County with removals being filed for everything. However, the largest problem with DFPS now is that caseworkers are not responsible for their decisions or cases. Everything is decided by staff committees or teams. This leads to a culture where no staff accepts responsibility for decisions. Children are bounced from person to person for a host of issues and one on one contact appears to be down.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: A caseworker should be assigned to a child, and the team approach, used as a bureaucratic cover, and to bully parents into safety plans should be eliminated. If a child is transferred or placed in another part of the state, they should have a local DFPS caseworker assigned.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree