

Department Of Human Services Information Bulletin

To: Agency Providers, Distribution
From: Kathy Patrick, Director of the Office of Licensing
Date: 08/27/18 Replaces 07/31/18
Subject: **Direct Care Staff Member training on the Stephen Komninos' Law**

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 30:6D-9.5, "Stephen Komninos' Law", effective May 1, 2018, provider agencies are required to ensure that direct care staff members receive training in their obligations under the law, in a timely manner.

Background

The standards for *Community Residences for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities*, **N.J.A.C. 10:44A**, and for *Community Residences for Persons with Head Injuries*, **N.J.A.C. 10:44C**, both require at 2.7(a) that staff complete training programs provided by the Department of Human Services to ensure staff competency, and at 2.7(d)3 that records of that training shall be maintained.

Guidelines

The Office of Licensing requires documentation that all staff successfully complete the Stephen Komninos' Law training provided through the College of Direct Supports, within the following timeframes:

- All existing direct care staff members shall successfully complete the Stephen Komninos' Law employee training through the College of Direct Supports within 60 days of June 1, 2018.
- All staff members hired after June 1, 2018 shall successfully complete the training through the College of Direct Supports prior to working with individuals.

Documentation of the successful completion of this training shall be maintained.

In addition, each employee shall sign and date an acknowledgement that they have been advised of the requirements for compliance with random and for-cause drug testing.