**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

**Office for Civil Rights – Civil Rights Division**

**OCR National Civil Rights Conference Call**

**November 12, 2014**

**Agenda**

**Time:** 3:00pm (Eastern); 2:00pm (Central); 1:00pm (Mountain); 12:00pm (Pacific)

**Where:**  Meeting via telephone; Regional and HQ staff will reserve space as required for the call.

**Call-In Number:** 1-866-807-9591--Participant code 1886821

1. **Welcome and Announcements** (3 minutes)

Peggy Schmidt, Civil Rights Analyst & Call Coordinator

1. **Overview of Child Welfare Activities** (5 minutes)

Robinsue Frohboese, Deputy Director for Civil Rights

1. **Barrier to Birthmother’s Access to Services – Local Agency Failure to Provide Language Access Services:** Mississippi Department of Human Services (aka “Baby Ruby”) (09-99895/10-109106)

Case Background (10 minutes)

Beatriz Romero-Escobar, Equal Opportunity Specialist, Region IV

ACF Program Violations (10 minutes)

Esther Sherrard, Child Welfare Program Specialist, ACF Children’s Bureau

Collaboration with DOJ re Concerns about the Court’s Conduct (10 minutes)

Kevonne Small/ Mike Mule, FCS Attorneys

1. **Barrier to Birthmother’s Access to Services – Local Agency Reliance on Stereotypes regarding Individuals with Disabilities:** Haines v. Massachusetts Department of Children and Families, (14-182176)

Case Background (15 minutes)

Susan M. Pezzullo Rhodes, Regional Manager, Region I

David Corbett, Equal Opportunity Specialist, Region I

1. **Wrap Up** (2 minutes)

Peggy Schmidt, Civil Rights Analyst & Call Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS: ACF Violation Letter (09-99895/10-109106); OCR/DOJ letter and Data Sharing Agreement (14-182176); Link to NCD’s *Rocking the Cradle*; Introduction to *Rocking the Cradle*.