



# Emergency Protective Custody: DSS and Law Enforcement Protocol

**Who should attend:** Richland County law enforcement officers and DSS human services staff

**Overview:** This training was developed in an effort to enhance collaboration between DSS and law enforcement to prevent emergency protective custody when children can safely remain in their homes and/or their communities. Data regarding the extent of emergency placements of youth in Richland County and across the state will be presented as well as information on the potential negative impacts of foster care on youth. An explanation of a trauma-responsive system and its importance will be provided. Finally, the training will focus on the legal restrictions and requirements of taking a child into Emergency Protective Custody in South Carolina and the process as it is outlined in the DSS and Law Enforcement Protocol for Richland County.

**Lunch will be provided, courtesy of Annie E Casey Foundation.**

**Location:** Children's Law Center Training Center, 1114 Pickens Street, Columbia, SC 29201

**Date:** Monday, June 30, 2025

**Course Times:** 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

**Fee:** There is no charge for this training.

**Continuing Education Credits:** This training has been submitted for 3 hours of continuing education by the SC Criminal Justice Academy.

**For more information:** Contact Margaret Bodman at [margaretbodman@sc.edu](mailto:margaretbodman@sc.edu) or 803-576-7236.

**To register:** Go to the Children's Law Center registration system:  
<https://sc.edu/clc/public/index.php>.