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Cafcass National Office  
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London  
WC1B 3HF

**Your ref: CAF 15-42**  
**Our ref: Gov/CAF 15-42**

Tel 0300 456 4000

7<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your email of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Please see below for our responses to your requests for information.

Please detail how Cafcass formally defines 'parental alienation' as referenced in its Operating Framework.

This scope of this request is substantially similar to part of your previous request made recently in CAF 15-35 which Cafcass has already provided an answer to. In the short time elapsed between these requests there has been no change in the position of Cafcass and a response to this repeated request is therefore exempt under Section 14(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

[14 Vexatious or repeated requests.](#)

*(2)Where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.*

Please detail (giving name, year and any references) what research (formal or informal, and historical or current) underpins Cafcass's definition of 'parental alienation' as referenced in its Operating Framework.

The scope of this request is substantially similar to part of your previous request made recently in CAF 15-35 which Cafcass has already provided an answer to. In the short time elapsed between these requests there has been no change in the position

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of Cafcass and a response to this repeated request is therefore exempt under Section 14(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Please detail when and where Cafcass first used the phrase 'parental alienation' within formal documentation circulated to staff.

This information is not held by Cafcass.

Please detail what formal guidance Cafcass gives staff to recognise 'parental alienation' as referenced in its Operating Framework.

The scope of this request is substantially similar to part of your previous request made recently in CAF 15-35 which Cafcass has already provided an answer to. In the short time elapsed between these requests there has been no change in the position of Cafcass and a response to this repeated request is therefore exempt under Section 14(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

We hope that you feel your question has been answered effectively. If you are unhappy with the decisions made in relation to your request, you may ask for an internal review to be undertaken. If you are dissatisfied with the way the internal review is handled or with the final decision made at that review about the information released, you are free to contact the Information Commissioner's office ([www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)):

**Post**

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

**Fax**

01625 524 510

**Tel**

0303 123 1113

**E-mail**

[casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Governance Team

Cafcass

[Governance@cafcass.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Governance@cafcass.gsi.gov.uk)

Baroness Tyler of Enfield Chair  
Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive

