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STATE OF ALABAMA

**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
AND MENTAL RETARDATION**

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JOHN M. HOUSTON
COMMISSIONER

May 26, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: DMR Stakeholders

FROM: Fordyce Mitchel
Daphne Rosalis

RE: UPDATE TO MRSIS PROJECT

As all of you are aware, MRSIS (Mental Retardation Services Information System) has been scheduled to "go live" January 1, 2007. This week Harmony, HealthCare Perspective Inc., Division of Substance Abuse and Division of Mental Retardation met to discuss project milestones. The discussion resulted in a significant change in the project time-line for Substance Abuse and a slight change in the project time-line for Mental Retardation.

In order to bring the best product to our stakeholders we have decided to move the MRSIS "go live" date from January 1, 2007 to February 1, 2007. Moving our date back just one month, in combination with the move Substance Abuse is making, affords several advantages to everyone affected by the project. The first advantage is additional time that will be spent on testing the new software to insure that the implementation of MRSIS in no way adversely affects payments to our contractors. The second advantage is time to assure that everyone, including internal staff, receives adequate training, and that there is enough hands on practice to insure all end users are familiar and comfortable with the software. Finally, we felt that an additional month would allow everyone a more enjoyable Holiday Season without the interruption of having to be trained on a new information system.

The Division of Mental Retardation has been committed to maintaining a continuous dialog with our stakeholders and will continue to keep everyone abreast of project updates. As a reminder we have stakeholder conference calls every other Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m, with the following exception: we have cancelled the June 2nd conference call due to Division staff being out of town, but we will pick back up on June 16th. On that conference call we will discuss the changes to the project and the implementation schedule in more depth. For additional information about MRSIS please visit our web site at www.mh.state.al.us. Look for the [MRSIS](#) link.

If you have any questions feel free to call either of us.

Cc: Eranell McIntosh-Wilson, DMR Associate Commissioner
Kent Hunt, SA Associate Commissioner