**Consent to Release Information**

**Why Should My Baby Have a Hearing Screening?**

Good hearing is necessary for the development of speech and language. If a child has hearing loss and it is not detected early, significant delays may occur in speech, language, emotional, and educational development. Early identification of hearing loss allows for appropriate treatment to begin, so that the child has the opportunity for normal development.

**What are the risks of Hearing Screening?**

There are no risks from the hearing screen. There are two types of tests used to evaluate an infant's hearing. Both tests are painless, have no risks or side effects, and usually take a few minutes to perform. Your baby may have one or both tests.

**Why is Giving Consent to Release Information Important?**

Giving consent to release information helps ensure your baby gets needed treatment and follow-up care and you get the resources you might need. Follow-up care may consist of an additional hearing screening, a diagnostic audiology assessment, a medical evaluation by a specialist, and early childhood intervention.

**Consent to Release Information**

I give my consent to release my child _________________________’s hearing/intervention outcomes and individually identifying information to the Department of State Health Services Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (TEHDI) Program, and the Statewide Outreach Center at Texas School for the Deaf. This information will be shared to coordinate services and provide resources, if needed, for my child and our family. This information will not be shared with any parties not involved in hearing screening follow-up and/or intervention process. I understand that I may revoke my consent in writing at any time.

Signature of a Parent or Guardian                                                                 Date