Dear Parent or Legal Guardian:

You have chosen to have your child cared for in a licensed Family Child Care Home where there is a swimming pool or spa. In order to become licensed, your caregiver had to meet the following safety regulations that are in effect any time that children are in care:

- Minimum 4’ barrier surrounding the pool. A pool alarm is required when an exterior wall of the home has ingress and egress and the wall serves as one side of the required barrier.
- When required, the pool alarm must be operable at all times while children are in care.
- All doors and/or gates leading to the pool must be locked with locks that are not accessible to children.
- Spas must have a locked cover or be within a 4’ barrier.
- The swimming pool or spa is off-limits to all children, including child care children, and the caregiver when child care children are present.
- If other household members or guests (over the age of 18) are in the pool enclosure during child care hours, all access to the pool must be locked.
- The pool shall be maintained so that the bottom of the pool is clearly visible.
- If the pool is deeper than 4’, a “shepherd’s crook” is required. The shepherd’s crook must be prominently and appropriately mounted at pool side for ready accessibility.
- Each pool more than six feet in width, length or diameter must be provided with a ring buoy and rope, a rescue tube, or a throwing line.
- The provider and all substitutes are required to complete the Child Care Water Safety Course or a current equivalent course for a home with a swimming pool. (This course not required if the home has a spa only.)

These regulations have been adopted to protect children. The Pinellas County License Board recommends that all Family Child Care Home providers discuss this information with parents/guardians.

My caregiver has shown me the safety features with regards to the pool/spa in her/his home that will help protect my child.

________________________________________  ______________________
Parent/Guardian Signature                                                                  Date

Child's Name:________________________________________________________________________

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