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## Child Support Enforcement Move Prompts Asbestos Removal at Bradford Center

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County has found a home for its newest department, Child Support Enforcement. The county takes control over the state-operated agency on July 1 and will be moving the department from its current leased location at Eutaw Shopping Center to offices on the third and fourth floors of the Mental Health Center's facility on Bradford Avenue.

In preparation for the move, the county is replacing the carpet on the fourth floor of the Bradford location and removing asbestos tile discovered underneath the carpet. Employees in the building received an e-mail today explaining the asbestos removal process, which will start this afternoon and continue for about 10 days.

The tile on the fourth floor is more than 50 years old and contains a type of asbestos. As long as the floor remains intact, the asbestos is harmless. However, in the process of removing the tile, it is subject to breakage, and asbestos can be released in that process.

Therefore, the county must remove this asbestos through a government approved asbestos abatement plan. Asbestos removal is a highly regulated, controlled and safe process when done by professionals. The county has contracted with Environmental Concerns of Fayetteville to handle the asbestos tile removal.

In order to ensure the safety of all our employees and clients, Environmental Concerns will be taking precautions to completely seal off the fourth floor. The fourth floor will also have a separate air handling system so the air up on that floor will in no way mix with our air handling system. The windows and doors will be sealed according to government approved standards as will the elevator door to that floor. The elevator will not stop on the fourth floor during the abatement process.

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"Again, let me assure you that every precaution is being exercised to make this process perfectly safe for our employees and clients," said John Holmes, the Mental Health Center's human resources director, in the e-mail sent to employees today.

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