

**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Richmond, Virginia**

**Meeting of the State Child Fatality Review Team
July 9, 2013**

Draft Minutes

Members Present:

Barry, Wayne, Virginia Department of Education
Board, Heather, Virginia Department of Health
Cardounel, Humberto, Henrico County Police
Connal, Betty, SIDS Mid-Atlantic
Coyle, Betty Wade, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia
DiAngelo, Constance, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Foster, Robin, Virginia College of Emergency Physicians
Katzman, Rita L., Virginia Department of Social Services
Milteer, Regina, Virginia Pediatric Society
Rainey, Janet, Division of Vital Records
Rhodes, Jennifer, Medical Society of Virginia
Romero, Frank, Richmond Ambulance Authority
Rose, Rutherford, Virginia Poison Center
Wilson, Mary, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
Ziglar, Joan Commonwealth's Attorney, City of Martinsville

Members Absent:

Casteel, Tom, Virginia Department of Social Services
Gormley, William, Chief Medical Examiner
Hunter, Katharine, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
Moline, Kathleen, Virginia Department of Health
Sonenklar, Neil, Virginia Treatment Center for Children

Staff:

Powell, Virginia, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Womble, Emily, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Emily Womble called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and went over the agenda for the meeting.

Announcements and Business:

Team members welcomed Dr. Rutherford Rose, Director of the Virginia Poison Center and Professor and Chair in the Division of Clinical Toxicology in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Rose has joined the Team as a Special Advisor for the duration of the next review, which will focus on child deaths due to poisoning.

Minutes from the May 10, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

Team members confirmed the following meeting dates for 2014:

- Friday, January 10
- Friday, March 14
- Friday, May 9
- Tuesday, July 8
- Tuesday, September 9
- Tuesday, November 18

Rita Katzman announced that new CPS legislation went into effect July 1. This new legislation extends the time frame CPS has to complete its investigation of child sexual abuse and child fatalities. In these two types of cases, CPS may extend the 45-day deadline until receipt of outside records is complete. Outside records are those records that do not belong to social services, such as autopsy reports, law enforcement reports, etc.

Betty Wade Coyle alerted the Team that there is likely to be more legislation on Shaken Baby Syndrome in the next legislative session and urged the Team to push for the addition of safe sleep to these legislative initiatives.

Heather Board announced that the VDH Strategic Plan for Infant Mortality is in the process of review and will soon be released. The Plan specifically includes initiatives on Shaken Baby Syndrome and safe sleep. When the Plan is ready for release, Ms. Board will send to Emily Womble for distribution to the Team.

Child Protective Services Update

Rita Katzman presented the Regional Child Fatality Review Teams Final Report for Child Deaths for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. This report reflects the results of the regional teams' first year and pulled together the findings and recommendations of each team, as well as initiatives to be taken on by the Virginia Department of Social Services. This is the same report that was presented to the body mandating the formation of these teams, the State Board of Social Services. Copies of the full final report are available on the VDSS website, CPS Reports and Studies page: http://www.dss.virginia.gov/geninfo/reports/children/cps/all_other.cgi

Discussion of Recommendations Process for SIDS/SUID Review

Dr. Virginia Powell discussed the recommendations process and what Team members should expect during this phase of the review. Dr. Powell informed the Team that unsafe sleep is the leading cause of unnatural death in children, and stressed the importance of creating a safe sleep campaign in Virginia.

Emily Womble presented preliminary data results to the Team. The Team entered confidential session for the purposes of data and recommendations discussion. The Team approved dissemination of data, but did not approve the publication of risk factors. Team members began identifying priority areas for recommendations, and will continue this discussion at their next meeting in September.

Planning for Next Review

Ms. Womble discussed the format of the September meeting, at which the Team will review a single case of child death due to poisoning together.

The next Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, **September 10, 2013**.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Emily Womble.