

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

**Meeting of the State Child Fatality Review Team
September 13, 2011**

Minutes

Members Present:

Bush, Leah, Chief Medical Examiner
Board, Heather, Virginia Department of Health
Cardounel, Humberto, Henrico County Police
Casteel, Tom, Washington County Department of Social Services
Connal, Betty, SIDS Mid-Atlantic
Coyle, Betty Wade, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia
DeLuca, Steven, Hanover County Emergency Medical Services
DiAngelo, Constance, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Foster, Robin, Virginia College of Emergency Physicians
Hunter, Katharine, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
Katzman, Rita L., Virginia Department of Social Services
Moline, Kathleen, Virginia Department of Health
Rainey, Janet, Division of Vital Records
Romero, Frank, Richmond Ambulance Authority
Sonenklar, Neil, Virginia Treatment Center for Children
Wilson, Mary, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

Members Absent:

Barry, Wayne, Virginia Department of Education
Ferraro, Mark, Virginia SIDS Alliance
Milteer, Regina, Virginia Pediatric Society
Rhodes, Jennifer, Medical Society of Virginia
Ziglar, Joan Commonwealth's Attorney, City of Martinsville

Invited Guests:

Fuller, Caroline, Virginia Department of Education
Gillies, Olivia, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Staff:

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

Virginia Powell called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and went over the agenda for the meeting.

Announcements and Business:

Team members welcomed Mary Wilson and Olivia Gillies. Ms. Wilson, Children's Justice Act Coordinator, is a new member of the Child Fatality Review Team representing the Virginia

Department of Criminal Justice Services. Ms. Gillies, Family and Intimate Partner Homicide Surveillance Coordinator, attended the meeting to observe the Team's process of case review.

Minutes from the July 12, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

Betty Wade Coyle announced that there would be a one-day training on Child Death Review on November 29, 2011. She will send details for further distribution to Emily Gambill.

Child Protective Services Update

Rita Katzman provided the Team with the Department of Social Services' Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Plan and Virginia's Child Services Practice Model.

- The Plan includes emphasis in the following areas:
 - Improved ability to assess for safety and risk in all areas of abuse and neglect, domestic violence, mental health issues, and substance abuse.
 - Strengthened capacity in investigating children in out of family settings.
 - Statewide training in the area of assessment and the development of service plans.
 - Development and implementation of a plan for sustaining and supporting a consistent statewide approach to family engagement and kinship care.
 - Expansion of community services to support child-centered, family-focused and culturally relevant service provision.
 - Collaboration among CPS, domestic violence, substance abuse treatment, and other agency providers.
 - Enhancing current policies and protocols in child deaths.
- DSS worked with many child-serving agencies in the development of the Child Services Practice Model, which prioritizes the safety of children, the increased involvement of families in safety planning, permanency for children and youth, and collaboration and partnership to achieve these goals.
- Ms. Katzman will train Team members on the laws and policies surrounding the mandated reporting of child abuse and neglect at a future meeting.

Confidential Case Review

The Team went into confidential session for purposes of recommendations and case review. The Team reviewed five cases where an infant died from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome or Sudden Undetermined Infant Death. Unsafe sleep arrangements were a factor in many of these deaths. The Team also brainstormed issues related to substance abuse and appropriate prevention venues for at-risk families.

The next Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, **November 1, 2011**.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Emily Gambill, M.P.A.