**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner**

**Richmond, Virginia**

Meeting of the State Child Fatality Review Team

**May 13, 2016**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

**Beitz, Lisa**, Hanover County Community Services Board

**Blumberg, Michael**, Medical Society of Virginia

**Cardounel, Humberto,** Henrico County Police

**Coyle, Betty Wade**, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia

**Gormley, William, Chair,** Chief Medical Examiner

**Hunter, Katharine,** Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

**Katzman, Rita,** Virginia Department of Social Services

**Milteer, Regina,** Virginia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

**Parr, Nancy**, Commonwealth’s Attorney, City of Chesapeake

**Phipps, Deron¸** Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice

**Rose, Rutherfoord**, Virginia Poison Center

**Saimre, Maribel**, Virginia Department of Education

**Sobey, Kimberly**, Bland County Department of Social Services

**Sonenklar, Neil**, Virginia Treatment Center for Children

**Wilson, Mary,** Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

**Members Absent:**

**Board, Heather**, Virginia Department of Health

**Foster, Robin,** Virginia College of Emergency Physicians

**Pickett, Jessica,** Fairfax County Fire & Rescue

**Rainey, Janet**, Division of Vital Records

**Romero, Frank,** Southeastern Emergency Equipment

**Invited Guests:**

**Blondino, Courtney,** Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

**Jansson, Alexandra**, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

**Kinnison, Elizabeth**, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

**Kurtz, Judy**, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

**Staff:**

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

Virginia Powell called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and went over the agenda for the day.

**Announcements and Business**

Minutes from the March 11, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Katharine Hunter announced that the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services submitted a grant in April to improve the system of care in Virginia. The grant draws on the High Fidelity Wraparound model and proposes to expand mental health services across the state.

The Team selected the following dates for its 2017 meetings: January 13, March 10, May 12, July 11, September 12, and November 14.

Finally, the Team said good-bye and best wishes to Chief Humberto “Hum” I. Cardounel, Jr. from the Henrico County Police Department, and to Mr. Frank Romero representing local emergency medical service providers. Hum and Frank were appointed to the Team by Governor Bob McDonnell and served on the Team for six years. Their terms will expire on June 30, 2016. The Team recognized both Frank and Hum’s professionalism and their expertise, and thanked them for their service on behalf of Virginia’s infants and children. Six years is a long time to do this hard work. They were commended for their bravery in taking on the work of child death review, and for their substantive contributions to the Team’s work.

**Child Protective Services Update**

Rita Katzman provided preliminary information on child fatalities investigated by CPS for fiscal year 2015. The majority of cases continue to be infants and toddlers, and more than half were related to unsafe sleep related infant deaths. These cases are being reviewed by regional fatality review teams. The Team will receive a full report on these cases when these reviews are completed.

**Drowning Review**

Dr. Elizabeth Kinnison from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner trained the team on critical dimensions of drowning deaths from the perspective of the medical examiner. Like unsafe sleep deaths to infants, autopsies in these deaths are largely negative. A complete death investigation depends on complete scene investigation and an understanding of circumstances surrounding the death.

**Poisoning Review: Discussion and Recommendations**

The Team went into confidential session to discuss and finalize their recommendations.

The next Team meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 12, 2016.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Virginia Powell*