



Learning from the past to protect the future.

**Alabama Department of Public Health
State Team Meeting Minutes
Montgomery, Alabama
Via Conference Call
July 22, 2021**

State Team Members Present for Meeting via Conference Call:

State Team Members:

Sergeant Jeremy Baker (ALEA)
David Rydzewski, M.D. (Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences)
Michael Taylor, M.D. (Private Citizen, UAB Pediatrics)
Michael Jackson (Alabama District Attorney's Association)
Bruce Wilson (Alabama Coroner's Association)
Ilecia Smith, M.D. (Proxy for Commissioner of Alabama Department of Mental Health)
Marsha Raulerson, M.D., FAAP (Alabama Academy of Pediatrics)
Chief Justin Lovvorn (Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police)
Candice Dye, M.D. (Health Professional with Child Abuse/Neglect expertise)
Shaundra Blakemore, M.D. (State of Alabama Medical Association)
Robert Hinds (Private Citizen Appointee)
Bill Yates (Proxy Dr. Gregory Davis, Jefferson County Coroner, Medical Examiner)

Staff:

Kimberly Gordon (Proxy Dr. Harris Alabama State Health Officer, ADPH)
Gloria Davis (ADPH)
Nicole P. Lovvorn (ADPH)
Stuart Hoyle (ADPH)

Call to Order:

On July 22, 2021 at 1:00 PM via Zoom call hosted through Dr. Candace Dye, the Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) State Team meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kimberly Gordon.

Welcome of Members and Guests:

Mrs. Gordon welcomed State Team Members, guests and Central Office staff.

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes:

A quorum was not present to approve April 22, 2021 minutes.

Case Status Updates:

Mr. Stuart Hoyle provided an epidemiology update. He advised that 2019 case status reports were currently at 78.6 % and he is currently working on the 2019 Progress Report. Mr. Hoyle reported that reviews are still coming in slowly due to Covid delays. Mr. Hoyle advised that 2020 reviews are already at 13.6 % even though their reviews are not due at this time.

Local Team Reviews Update:

Mrs. Nicole Lovvorn reviewed that efforts to maintain contact with all 41 circuits remain ongoing and mostly successful. Local team are returning to reviews. Mrs. Lovvorn continues to travel to circuits willing to complete reviews and continues to encourage and participate in circuits reviewing by phone or web services. Mrs. Lovvorn advised that 3 teams that have never had a documented review meeting, have met since the last State Team meeting: Monroe, Crenshaw and Lawrence Counties. Mrs. Lovvorn reviewed that Wilcox is another team with no history that now has a review scheduled for 07/29/2021. Mrs. Lovvorn shared that Circuit 34, Franklin county, continues not to participate or correspond with CDR. New team member and Alabama District Attorney's Association, Mr. Michael Jackson, took Lawrence County's information and advised the State Team that he would follow up with them to encouraged CDR participation. Chief Justin Lovvorn offered continued support and advised that he would assist Mr. Jackson if needed.

NCFRP/American Academy of Pediatrics Grant update

Ms. Linda Lee reviewed that Alabama Chapter of the Academy of Pediatrics continue to work with their grant and have reached out to more than 30 pediatricians and several family physicians state wide in a continued effort to educate them on Child Death Review and improve participation in meetings and outcomes on a local level. At this time, they have reached more than 30 pediatricians/family physicians to participate in the process of Child Death Review. Their next meeting is on 08/04/2021.

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation Training

Mrs. Gordon reviewed that SUIDI training CEUS have been approved for APOST, nursing, social work, EMS, attorneys, medicolegal investigators, and coroners. The Birmingham dates are full (75) and the Montgomery site has 46 out of 75 spots taken.

New Business:

New State Team Members

Mrs. Gordon introduced three new members to the State Team: Mr. Bruce Wilson is replacing Jerry Williams as Alabama Coroner's Association Representative. Mr. Wilson introduced himself to the team. He is based in Dekalb County. Michael Jackson is replacing Chris Connolly as the Alabama District Attorney's Association Representative. He is the District Attorney for Dallas County. Mr. Jackson reported that he is pleased to serve on the CDR State Team. Lastly, Colonel James Helms has replaced Colonel Charles Ward as ALEA Department of Public Safety Director. His proxy, Sergeant Jeremy Baker spoke on his behalf. Mrs. Gordon reported that Chris Newlin and Sallye Longshore's terms on the State Team have expired, but Crys Fuller and Tonita Phipps's names have been submitted to the Governor's Office for approval to take their respective places. Ms. Fuller is employed with the 12th Judicial Circuit's office and Ms., Phipps is the Madison County DHR Director.

Open Discussion:

Dr. Michael Taylor inquired about a CDR pamphlet on the achievements of Child Death Review both on the national, state, and local level. Mrs. Gordon reported that she would look into it to see if such a pamphlet exists. Mrs. Lovvorn agreed to continue to encourage local teams to share their stories to report back to the State Team. Mr. Bill Yates reported that his office is working on the OB2 Grant with ADPH in hopes of creating a statewide database for Coroner's to log on and create electronic death records. The database is still in its infancy, but the process is moving quickly. This database should foster uniform reporting for all counties across the state. It is free for the coroners to use. Mr. Yates encouraged State Team members to have conversations on a local level and encourage coroners to participate. Mrs. Gloria Davis suggested a fact sheet together for coroners to encourage their participation.

Proposed Meeting dates for 2021

October 21, 2021

Executive Session (if necessary):

An executive session was not called during this meeting.

Adjourn:

There being no further items on the agenda and no further discussion requested, without objection, the meeting was adjourned.