



Learning from the past to protect the future.

**Alabama Department of Public Health
State Team Meeting Minutes
Montgomery, Alabama
Via Conference Call
October 21, 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)

Bruce Wilson (Alabama Coroner's Association)

Marsha Raulerson, M.D., FAAP (Alabama Academy of Pediatrics)

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)

Scott Belton (Proxy Angelo Della Manna, Director Alabama Department of Forensics)

Max Capouano, M.D. (Alabama Academy of Family Physicians)

Tonita Phipps (Private Citizen, Madison County DHR)

Tim Davis (Private Citizen)

David Peebles (Private Citizen/Clergy)

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 October 21, 2021, at 1:00 PM via conference call hosted through ADPH, 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 or July 22, 2021 minutes.

Case Status Updates:

Mr. Stuart Hoyle provided an epidemiology update. He advised that 2019 case status reports were currently at 83.95 % and he is currently working on the 2019 Progress Report. Mr. Hoyle reported that reviews are still coming in slowly due to Covid delays and staffing issues. Mr. Hoyle advised that 2020 reviews are already at 38.33 % and expected to improve as 2020 reviews are underway.

Local Team Reviews Update:

Mrs. Nicole Lovvorn reviewed that efforts to maintain contact with all 41 circuits remain ongoing and mostly successful. Mrs. Lovvorn continues to travel to circuits and participate local team meetings. 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 she has 4 reviews scheduled for October and 5 already scheduled for November. Mrs. Lovvorn shared that Circuit 34, Franklin county, continues not to participate or correspond with CDR. New team member, Ms. Tonita Phipps advised that she will try to make contact through DHR to see if there is any assistance they can provide. Mrs. Lovvorn reviewed that Mobile/Circuit 13 did a news report on a local television station to raise awareness about the number of sleep related deaths in their area. She also reported that Birmingham/10A and Dale and Geneva Counties/Circuit 33 are now reviewing their Child Deaths quarterly. Mrs. Lovvorn also shared that Lawrence County/Circuit 36 were so pleased with the Child Death Review process, they are looking into reviewing all deaths by review team.

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation Training

Mrs. Gordon reviewed that the SUIDI were a success with approximately 50 attending in Birmingham and 30 in Montgomery. ACDRS is currently working on two additional SUIDI trainings for the Spring of 2022.

New Business:

Mrs. Gordon reviewed that ACDRS is currently working with the Director of APOSTC Law Enforcement Academy and Chief Lovvorn in a new initiative for SUIDI trainings in the state with a Train the Trainer approach. This approach will train local law enforcement SUIDI Investigation techniques through APOST who can go out and train others around Alabama. This will benefit the entire state as we will not be limited to one trainer coming from out of state. Mrs. Gordon reports that we are in the early stages of planning, but ACDRS plans to provide initial funding and supplies.

New State Team Members

Mrs. Gordon introduced two new members to the State Team: Ms. Tonita Phipps is replacing Chris Newlin as a private citizen. Ms. Phipps introduced herself to the team. She is currently the Director of Madison County DHR and looks forward to retiring in December. Ms. Crys Fuller is replacing Sallye Longshore as another private citizen. She is currently working with the 12th Judicial Circuit in Coffee County. Ms. Fuller was unable to join today's meeting, but plans to join us for the next meeting.

Open Discussion:

Dr. Shaundra Blakemore is a Pediatric ER doctor and inquired about receiving coroner reports after treating patients that die. She advised that ER doctors hardly ever hear the final outcomes from patient deaths. Dr. Michael Taylor suggested calling the local coroner's office and identifying herself to request final info be sent to her as well. Mr. Stuart Hoyle reviewed that her success would be better in some counties than in others as cooperation will vary from county to county.

Proposed Meeting dates for 2021

January 20, 2022

April 21, 2022

July 21, 2022

October 20, 2022

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.