

**Alabama Child Death Review System**  
**State Team Meeting Minutes**  
**October 23, 2008**

**State Team Members Present:**

Dr. Stephen Boudreau (Proxy-Michael Sparks)  
Aretha Bracy (Proxy-Representative Mike Millican)  
Joy Deupree  
Capt. Gerone Grant (Proxy-Col. J. Christopher Murphy)  
Steve Lafreniere (Proxy-Comm. John Houston)  
Johnny Long (Proxy-Dr. Robert Brissie)  
Steve Marshall  
Chief Ray Moore  
Dr. Cheryl Outland  
Dr. Gillis Payne  
Shirley Scanlan (Proxy-Comm. Nancy Buckner)  
Dianne Sims (Proxy-Senator Linda Coleman)  
Dr. Kenneth Snell  
Sheriff Bobby Timmons  
Amy Trammell

**Absent:**

Jannah Bailey  
Judge Jean Brown  
Judge Bill English  
Bill Harris  
Sheriff Herbie Johnson  
Dr. Beverly Johnson  
Dr. Karl Stegall  
Russell Thomas  
Linda Tilly  
April Holcomb Weaver

**Guests/Staff Present:**

Melanie Bridgeforth  
Richard Burleson  
Chris Haag  
Marian Loftin  
Theresa Wilson  
Dr. Dale Wisely

**Call to Order**

On October 23, 2008, at 1:00 PM at the Alabama Industrial Development Training (AIDT) Center in Montgomery, Alabama, the Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) State Team meeting was called to order by Richard Burleson.

**Welcome of New Members and Guests**

Richard Burleson welcomed everyone and introduced new state team members and invited guests. Invited guest speakers included Marian Loftin, Director, Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Dr. Dale Wisely, Student Services Director, Mountain Brook Schools.

**Old Business**

**Minutes**

A quorum of members being present, the minutes for February 2008, April 2008, and July 2008 meetings were approved as written.

**State Team Membership Update/Vacancies**

Mr. Burleson introduced the new state team members present for their first meeting: Steve Marshall representing the Alabama District Attorney's Association and Chief Ray Moore representing the Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police. Absent state team members recently appointed are Sheriff Herbie Johnson representing the Alabama Sheriff's Association and Jannah Bailey representing Alabama Network of Children's Advocacy Centers. The three vacancies are Governor appointments.

### **Annual Report Update**

Mr. Burleson reported that the process is underway for the University of Alabama to do the Annual Report for 2005 data

### **Status of Cases Report Update**

Mr. Burleson reported on the Status of Cases report that most of the non-performing counties had resumed their local review meetings. Efforts are still being made for Covington County to resume reviews.

### **2008 Training Conference Debriefing**

Mr. Burleson referred to the 2008 Training Conference evaluations in the handouts and reported that feedback from participants indicated that they were very pleased with the conference.

### **New Data System Update**

Mr. Burleson reported that they are awaiting signatures from the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) before going forward with the new online data reporting system.

### **New Business**

#### **SUIDI Training**

Dr. Kenneth Snell gave an update on the CDC SUIDI Initiative, designed to be a unified approach to investigate child death scenes. The target audience is law enforcement, district attorneys, medical examiners, hospital staff and child advocacy groups involved in the death of an infant. The Alabama SUID Team has developed a one-day training course where approximately fourteen trainers will give lectures and hands-on information on SUID, scene investigations, doll reenactments, interviews and photos. Training is scheduled to begin in January 2009.

#### **Teen Driver Issues**

Mr. Burleson reported on the progress of the teen driver initiative and the goal to create a brochure to focus on new drivers and a follow-up brochure for parents of teen drivers. Dr. Dale Wisely emphasized that our goal should be to empower parents, to reach the young drivers on the subject and address the disconnect between knowledge of risk and the change of behavior. Dr. Wisely is available for consultations around the teen driver initiative.

#### **Infant Vitality Legislation Efforts**

Ms. Marian Loftin presented information on the proposed Infant Vitality legislation from the past session which did not pass. She stated that efforts would continue for the next session.

#### **Fetal Infant Mortality Review**

Mr. Burleson reported that FIMR is on track and rules are in place to review fetal deaths beginning January 2009.

#### **Governor Recommendations**

Team members suggested that a formal comprehensive set of recommendations be compiled from local child death review teams and provided for the January meeting to prioritize and send to the Governor.

### **Open Discussion**

Mr. Burleson reported on the 2009 budget restrictions and that the program would use this time as an opportunity to focus on data system implementation; increase the local child death review team meeting visits; engage in grassroots activities and strengthen internal and systematic operations.

### **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.

ADB/TW