



*Learning from the past to protect the future.*

**Alabama Department of Public Health  
State Team Meeting Minutes  
Montgomery, AL  
January 19, 2017**

**State Team Members:**

Harold Brown (Proxy-Commissioner Nancy Buckner-AL  
Dept of Human Resources)  
Jerry Williams (Private Citizen)  
Bill Yates (Proxy-Gregory Davis, M.D.- Jefferson County  
Coroner/Medical Examiner)  
Melanie Bridgeforth (Private Citizen)  
Sallye Longshore (Private Citizen)  
Sheriff Bobby Timmons (AL Sheriff's Association)

**Guests/Staff:**

Aretha Bracy (ADPH Staff)  
Joshlynn Edwards (ADPH Staff)  
Christy Cain (AL Children First)  
Bob Hinds (ADPH Staff)  
Andrea Love (ADPH Staff)  
Chief Hal Taylor (AL Law Enforcement  
Agency)  
Rhonda Mann (VOICES for AL Children)  
Xuejun Shen (ADPH Staff)

**Conference Call:**

Scott Belton (Proxy-Director Michael Sparks-AL  
Department of Forensic Sciences)  
Marian Loftin (Private Citizen )  
Debra Williams, M.D. (AL Academy of Pediatrics)  
Chris Newlin (Private Citizen)  
Representative April Weaver (Chair of House Health  
Committee)  
Chief Steven Parrish (AL Association of Chiefs of Police)  
Michael Taylor, M.D. (UAB Dept of Peds Child Abuse Peds  
Division)  
Richard Bureson (ADPH Staff) (Proxy-Thomas Miller,  
M.D.- State Health Officer)  
Mary Murphy (Private Citizen)  
Timothy Kimbrell (AL Coroner's Association)

**Call to Order**

On January 19, 2017, at approximately 1:00 PM at the Alabama Industrial Development Training Center in Montgomery, Alabama, the Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) State Team meeting was called to order by Aretha Bracy.

**Welcome of Members and Guests**

Ms. Aretha Bracy welcomed everyone and introductions were made by those in attendance and via telephone.

## **Old Business**

### **State Team Membership Update**

Ms. Bracy reported two vacant seats including representatives for the Alabama Department of Forensic Science and the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for the July 21, 2016 conference call meeting, the April 21, 2016 meeting and the November 17, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

### **Case Status and Team Performance Report**

Ms. Bracy provided team members an overview of the local review process and reported on the team's performance for 2013 with 270 qualifying cases and 76% case completion rate; 2014 has 270 qualifying cases and 25% case completion rate due April 2017; 2015 has 275 qualifying cases and 10% case completion rate due April 2018. The program staff plans to look at low performance teams and will continue to assist local review teams in the review and completion of their cases.

### **ACDRS Annual Report**

The Annual Report for 2012 Data was mailed out to state team members who did not attend the November 2016 meeting. The report was also sent to District Attorneys. The printing of the Annual Report for 2013 Data will be done in house and hopefully ready in the spring. The Annual Report for 2014 Data will possibly be printed by the end of the year.

### **Teen Driver Safety Summits**

Ms. Joshlynn Edwards reported on the proposed locations for the 2017 #UrKeys2Drv Event. Ms. Edwards also discussed the format of each of these events along with proposed dates.

### **CPS Clinics**

Ms. Edwards also reported on the child passenger safety clinics held at five fitting stations throughout the state and provided state team members with total number of installs from May – Dec from each site. Eligible families will continue to receive free child restraints and will be provided education on proper installation by CPS technicians.

### **2017 DRAFT Recommendations**

Ms. Xuejun Shen inquired about the restricted times for the GDL which was from 12am-6am. Jerry Williams asked about the proposed ages for ATV drivers and Bill Yates questioned about ATV use on private property and how this could be tied to a driver's license. After discussion the 2017 DRAFT Recommendations were approved as written.

## **New Business**

### **Legislative Update**

Ms. Christy Cain discussed the need for additional funding for Medicaid and CHIP and also talked about providing dental care for pregnant women to prevent dental issues in the long run. Mr. Bob Hinds also shared his concern about tobacco program receiving heaps of state money.

## **Child Death Investigation Training**

Ms. Bracy announced that three one day infant death scene investigation trainings would be held later in the year. The invitation will be extended to law enforcement officers, district attorneys and their staff, and Coroners/ Medical Examiners. More details to come.

## **Proposed 2017 Meeting Dates**

- Thursday, April 20, 2017
- Thursday, July 20, 2017 \* (conference call)
- Thursday, October 19, 2017

## **Open Discussion**

Ms. Bracy reported that she will be presenting at Coroner's Conference in April but will not present at International Symposium on Child Abuse. Mr. Hinds expressed how Indian Tribes want to know more about CDR and also may want to attend death investigation trainings.

## **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.