

**Alabama Child Death Review System  
State Team Meeting Minutes  
February 22, 2007**

**State Team Members Present:**

Robert Brissie  
Gerone Grant  
Steve Lafreniere  
Michael Sparks  
Don Williamson (Proxy – Thomas Miller)  
Shirley Scanlan  
Olga White  
Bobby Timmons  
Hoyt Childs  
Beverly Jordan  
Linda Tilly  
J.R. Sample  
Jim Grigg  
Cheryl Outland

**Absent:**

Jean Brown  
Frank DeGraffenried  
Gerald Dial  
Bill English  
Steve Giddens  
Randy Thomas  
Tara Kyser  
James Hayes  
Tara Johnson  
Kenneth Snell  
Linda Coleman  
Mike Millican  
Jay Wolf  
Beth Twitty

**Guests/Staff Present:**

Bob Hinds  
Tirrell Martin  
Tarina Moores  
Dianne Sims  
Al Stone  
Nancy Wright  
Olivia Smith  
Marie Crew  
Julie Farmer  
Sandy Powell  
Brad Holley  
Albert Woolbright

**Call to Order**

On February 22, 2007 at 12:45 PM on the campus of Auburn University at Montgomery, Alabama, the Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) State Team meeting was called to order. Mr. Bob Hinds called the meeting to order and welcomed new members and guests.

**New Members and Guests**

Invited guests in attendance were: Brad Holley, Julie Farmer

**Guest Speaker**

Brad Holley with the Alabama Department of Transportation's Pupil Transportation Division came to speak with the team about safety on school buses. He offered some valuable advice and information about the new laws associated with stopping for school buses.

Mr. Holley provided the team with brochures and CDs containing all the new information about stopping for school buses. He also discussed the pros and cons of having safety belts on school buses.

**Booster Seat Advocacy Program**

As announced at the August 2006 meeting, the ACDRS is in the process of forming a partnership with the Southeast Regional Child Safety Institute, VOICES for Alabama's Children, the ADPH Injury Prevention Division and possibly other private businesses/organizations to implement a Booster Seat Advocacy Program. The purpose of the program will be to highlight the new Child Safety Restraint Law and provide training on how to properly use a required booster seat. The new Alabama law is a step in the right direction but it is essentially inadequate protection for our children. This new partnership is an effort to expand the message provided in the new law.

Julie Farmer provided an update to the team on the 10 possible sites that will be chosen to distribute the booster seats. There has been positive confirmation on some of the sites while we are still waiting to hear from some of the others. There will be training provided for properly installing and using the booster seats with the assistance of the Local Teams.

## **Unfinished Business:**

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes for the February 2006, May 2006, August 2006 and November 2006 meetings could not be approved because there was not a quorum present.

### **State Team Membership Update**

Mr. Hinds announced that there are three new vacancies coming up with the State Team. This brings the total number of vacancies to six. The Governor will be asked to fill these vacancies as soon as possible.

### **Status of Cases Report/Comparison**

Mr. Hinds reported that as of this month the ACDRS has achieved the enviable goal of 100% Team formation for the entire State. This means that every Judicial Circuit in Alabama has formed a CDR Team and that every child in our State is now represented by a Local Team. Few, if any, other states can claim such a record. Our Local Teams have reviewed 93% of our cases for 2004 which is very close to the 100% goal.

### **Cribs for Kids Expansion Update**

Mr. Hinds read a report from Martha Jinright about "Cribs for Kids" expanding into Baldwin and Escambia counties.

New Business:

### **ACDRS Budget Issues**

Mr. Hinds was happy to report that ACDRS will possibly receive matching funds from Medicaid. He said that the exact details are still in the works, but the possibility of this happening is still very promising.

The budget for ACDRS is still in good shape after the hit that the program suffered last year from the funds the Children Trust Fund lost to the Alabama General Fund.

### **Alabama High School Athletic Association Update**

Mr. Hinds gave an update on the possible partnership between ACDRS and the Alabama High School Athletic Association to provide education on preventing deaths among high school athletes. We have not been able to get in contact with anyone from the organization. However, ACDRS is still interested in forming a partnership and will continue to make attempts to contact the organization.

### **New Educational Brochures**

Mr. Hinds announced that the ACDRS was looking for new ideas on educational brochures and training. He told the team about the ideas the staff at ACDRS had about creating educational brochures on how to prevent drowning.

### **Open Discussion:**

Bob Hinds announced that a trend analysis is being developed for the 2005 Annual Report. This will give ACDRS a better idea of what effect the program is having on preventing child death in Alabama.

Mr. Hinds also announced that this will be his last meeting with the ACDRS. He has accepted another position as Director of the Newborn Screening Division that was recently developed.

### **Executive Session:**

Without objection the Team agreed to move to Executive Session. Upon completing discussions on several topics the team agreed to return to Open Session.

**Next Meeting Scheduled**

Our next regularly scheduled ACDRS State Team meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 24, 2007. Location and time TBD.

**Adjournment**

There being no further items on the agenda and no further discussion requested, without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

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