



**Child Fatality Review Panel  
Meeting Minutes/Held Via Secure Zoom  
March 23, 2022**

**Members**

Kirsten Bechtel, Co-Chair, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital  
Faith Vos Winkel, Office of the Child Advocate  
Steven Rogers, Injury Prevention, Connecticut Children's Medical Center  
Brett Salafia, Assistant States Attorney  
Pina Violano, Community Health, Healthcare Consultants, LLC  
Gregory Vincent, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner  
Angela Jimenez, Department of Public Health  
Ted Rosenkrantz, UCONN Health Center

**Excused**

Seth Mancini, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection  
Rosemary Wieworka, Department of Children and Families  
Michael Soltis, Pediatrician, Connecticut Children's Medical Center  
Andrea Barton Reeves, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority  
Kai Belton, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
TJ Michalski, Village for Families and Children  
Sarah Eagan, Office of The Child Advocate

**Vacant**

Law Enforcement  
Psychologist

**Guests**

Dr. Declan McGuone, Neuropathologist (SUDC)  
Anya Jones, OCME, Fellow  
Dr. Erin Bowen, Pediatrician (SUDC)

**OCA Staff**

Brendan Burke  
Lucy Orellano

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Gregory Vincent to approve the minutes for February 25, 2022. A second to the motion was made by Brett Salafia. Vote taken to approve-All in favor. Abstentions- Gregory Vincent, Ted Rosenkrantz and Angela Jimenez.

## **Virtual Packet**

Meeting Agenda

February 25, 2022, Draft Minutes

Case Chart

## **Public Report Alex M.**

Report on Alex M's death was released. Teen in Foster Care died because of MVC while foster father was under the influence. Concerns were found during investigation that family was previously licensed by DDS, who had concerns regarding foster father's substance misuse, that were not addressed or communicated upon licensure by DCF. There is ongoing conversation between agencies on how to rectify this concern.

### **Discussion-**

Pedestrian vehicle deaths are up in CT. It is a multi-faceted issue; enforcement is ongoing issue complicated with State Police staffing issues. There is hope that staffing will be back to normal by 2023. Courts are opening back up and processing the back log. MVC's affect the entire state, not just pockets and are a health issue for all.

### **Presentation-**

SUDC, Dr. Declan McGuone, Neuropathologist and Dr. Erin Bowen, Pediatrician

- Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is a category of death in children between the ages of 1 and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough investigation, including an autopsy.
- Only a medical examiner or coroner could rule a child's death SUDC when s/he completes a thorough evaluation and finds no other cause of death.
- There is no known cause for SUDC.
- More research is needed to identify risk factors and prevention strategies.
- Standardized approach for information collection is needed.
- SUDC foundation provides resources and supports to families affected by SUDC.
- Referrals to SUDC foundation can be made by anyone, the goal is to have law enforcement and medical personnel refer families.
- Once referred families can receive supports while furthering SUDC research.

## **Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood | SUDC Foundation**

### **Legislative Update-**

Will be provided by the OCA via email.

### **New Business**

None

### **Old Business**

Safe Sleep Discussion and Update tabled for April 27,2022.

**Next meeting-** April 27, 2022- Microsoft Teams invite sent out.

**Adjournment-** Motion to adjourn made by Ted Rosenkrantz and seconded by Pina Violano.