STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE CHILD ADVOCATE 165 CAPITOL AVENUE, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106



OCA Advisory Committee Meeting March 28, 2023 Minutes

OCA Staff: Sarah Eagan, Child Advocate; Christina D. Ghio, Associate Child Advocate

Members Present: Shelley Geballe, Rudolph Brooks, Toni Boucher, Jennifer Collins, and Edwin Colon

Members Not Present: Jeanne Milstein

1. Update on Membership/Introductions

2. Brief Orientation on OCA Responsibilities and Advisory Committee Responsibilities

Sarah Eagan shared the OCA statute related to advisory committee. Advisory Committee must meet three times per year and complete an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the Child Advocate.

Sarah Eagan reviewed all of the responsibilities of the Office of Child Advocate under 46a-13l.

Discussion of significant responsibilities and limited staffing.

Review of Child Fatality Review Panel statutory structure and responsibilities.

Review authority to access information, including subpoena authority.

3. Summary of Recent OCA Activities

Sarah Eagan reviewed current activities in intake, mental health, conditions of confinement, education, child welfare, and child fatality review.

In relation to Kaylee S, a member of the advisory committee asked questions about leaving children at home versus removing children into foster care. Discussion about the importance of keeping children in the home where it can be done safely and the importance of quality assurance to ensure that safety practices are effective.

4. Meeting Scheduling

Statute requires 3 meetings per year. Committee members requested to meet again in April. A meeting will be scheduled in April.