



**Child Fatality Review Panel
Meeting Minutes/Held Via Secure Teams
January 25, 2023**

Members

Kirsten Bechtel, Co-Chair, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital
Sarah Eagan, Office of the Child Advocate
Brett Salafia, Assistant States Attorney
Angela Jimenez, Department of Public Health
Ken Mysogland, Department of Children and Families
Gregory Vincent, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Liz Corley, Clifford Beers
SGT. Christine Jeltema, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Pina Violano, Community Health, Healthcare Consultants, LLC
Steven Rogers, Injury Prevention, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
TJ Michalski, Village for Families and Children

Excused

Tonya Johnson CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Ivis Arroyo, Hartford PD
Michael Soltis, Pediatrician, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
Andrea Barton Reeves, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority
Ted Rosenkrantz, UCONN Health Center

Guests

Kimberly Karanda, DHMAS
Rosemary Wieworka, DCF
Jaclyn Meserole, OCME
Ed Stannard, Hartford Courant via bot and teams
Ada Booth, MD CCMC
Tracy Davis, DCF
Geoff Ryan, CCMC

OCA Staff

Brendan Burke
Lucy Orellano

Minutes

A motion was made by to approve the minutes Pina Violano for December 21, 2022. A second to the motion was made by TJ Michalski. No abstentions made.



Risk factors for suffocation.pdf

Sharing of CDR data/Infant Toddler Report- Brendan Burke-

Data is currently being collected by the OCA on all child fatalities of children under the age of 3 that were referred to the OCME for the year 2019 through August of 2022. Data has been requested from several state agencies who touched the lives of these children. For the 103 children in the sample, the average age was 6 months, and the median age was 3 months. Preliminary research indicates that there is a high incident of children who die within the first two months of life, were in unsafe sleep environments, and that they are being cared for by a parent at the time of death. Toxicology information upon autopsy that showed that 94% of infants had a negative tox screen, with the only intoxication deaths of young children being attributed to Fentanyl. DCF conducted investigations on 88 of the deaths, 30 of those investigations resulted in substantiation for abuse/neglect. Data collected thus far indicated that 7 of the children's families were known to DHMAS and that there were B23 referrals made in some of these cases. The OCA is currently awaiting more information from partnering agencies and will report back to this panel with their findings prior to publication of report.

Link to recording:

https://ctvideo.ct.gov/oca/Child_Fatality_Review_Team_20230125_090958-Meeting_Recording_Jan_25,_2023.mp4

Executive Session- Guests were asked to leave. Motion to go into executive session made by Pina Violano and seconded by Andrea Barton Reeves.

Legislative Update-

A new session will begin soon.

Old Business-

Legalization of marijuana sales
Intoxication incidents

New Business-

None

Next meeting-

February 22, 2023