

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



**Sarah Healy Eagan, J.D.
Child Advocate**

OCA Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes – January 23, 2024

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

Members Present: Edwin Colon, Shelley Geballe, Amanda Meeson, and Rudolph Brooks

Members Not Present: Jennifer Collins, Jeanne Milstein

1. Minutes

December meeting minutes reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Shelley Geballe. Second by Rudy Brooks. All in favor. None opposed. Amanda Meeson abstained. Minutes for the December meeting approved.

2. OCA Staffing Updates

OCA continues to work with HR to hire an ACA.

3. OCA Advisory Committee's Annual Review Report

OCA has provided a draft for the Committee to use to develop an annual review. Shelley Geballe stated that OCA is the only entity in the state providing oversight of child welfare. The Juan F. monitor is no longer involved. The Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee no longer exists. Shelley Geballe suggests that the statute should be included in the annual review to ensure people understand the charge and language for the conclusion in the annual review. There was a discussion about the mandates of the office and the resources needed to do the work. Edwin Colon will create a document to circulate between the Advisory Committee members to edit and comment.

4. Legislative Updates

OCA is drafting legislation to implement recommendations of several reports, including the report regarding the fatality of Liam R., a critical incident involving DDS, DSS, DCF, and OCPD, and an upcoming report related to an APSEPs. OCA will also propose a working group within the ADPC regarding infant and toddler fentanyl intoxication. OCA will also propose changes to OCA statute to

include that changing the mandate for the report on the conditions of confinement for individuals under the age of 22 to be within available appropriations as it is not possible for the office to complete these reports in a timely fashion with current resources.

5. Investigation Updates

Motion to go into executive session to discuss confidential OCA investigations by Rudy Brooks, seconded by Shelley Geballe. All voted in favor.

Executive Session held.

Motion to end executive session by Shelley Geballe. Seconded by Edwin. All voted in favor.

6. Scheduling

Next meeting: February 27, 2024 at 5:30

Meeting Adjourned.