

**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 – August 20, 2024

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

Members Present: Edwin Colon, Amanda Meeson, Shelley Geballe, Jennifer Collins, Jeanne Milstein, Danielle Cooper, Shelley Geballe

Members Not Present: None

1. Approval of Minutes

June minutes need to be approved. Danielle Cooper is listed twice in members present and this will be corrected. Jennifer Collins moved to approve; Danielle Cooper seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed.

2. Committee Process for Interviewing Successor Candidates

Sarah Eagan explains the appointment process for a successor candidate. The advisory committee did propose changes to the process last year, to ensure the independence of the Office of the Child Advocate. That did not pass. Identification of successor will move forward under existing process. Sarah explains posting process that was used the last time that the position needed to be filled. A sub-committee should be created. Then there would need to be decisions on circulating the posting, screening candidates, and interviewing candidates.

Jeanne Milstein suggests there should be a chair of the advisory committee to receive the resumes. Shelley Geballe agrees that this is essential. Jeanne Milstein proposes that Edwin Colon be the co-chair. He is willing to do that but would need a co-chair due to his other time commitments. Shelley Geballe and Jeanne Milstein can provide assistance but do not have capacity to co-chair. The Committee discussed the process details on the process for interviewing.

Subcommittee will be: Jeanne Milstein, Shelley Geballe, Edwin Colon, Amanda Meeson. Jeanne Milstein and Edwin Colon will co-chair in the fall and Shelley Geballe and Edwin Colon will co-chair in the Spring.

Subcommittee will review the description and make changes to that description. Christina Ghio will confirm with DAS what level of flexibility the Committee has in making changes.

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3. Investigation Updates

Conditions of confinement report expected to be distributed soon. OCA continues to work on existing investigations and trying to wrap up several investigation reports before Sarah Eagan leaves.

4. Scheduling

Next meeting: September 24, 2024 at 5:30

Meeting Adjourned.