

OCA Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes – November 25, 2025

OCA Staff: Christina D. Ghio, Acting Child Advocate

Members Present: Shelley Geballe, Terry Nowakowski, Edwin Colon, Danielle Cooper, and Jeanne Milstein

Members Not Present: Lisa Seminara, Zakkyya Williams

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October 28, 2025 need to be approved. Members reviewed the minutes. Terry Nowakowski moved to approve; Shelley Geballe seconded. Jeanne Milstein and Danielle Cooper abstained. Remaining members voted in favor.

2. OCA 30th Anniversary

Discussed the OCA's 30th year anniversary planning. OCA is planning for this event to take place at the legislative office building on January 30, 2026 or January 23, 2026. The plan is for the event to take place at 12:30. Members discussed that the purpose of the event is to reinforce the importance of independent oversight. Members discussed the need to share the impact that OCA has had over the years on children in Connecticut, not just with respect to DCF but with respect to other areas impacting children. Examples include back to sleep campaign, bullying laws that came out of OCA's fatality work, and juvenile justice. Members discussed who should be invited. OCA will create a master list to ensure that everyone who should be invited is invited.

3. Annual Evaluation

OCA will provide the Advisory Committee an updated version of last year's evaluation as a starting point. The Advisory Committee will update the document with its performance review. Members discussed the need for a strategic plan for OCA going forward.

4. Investigation Updates

Motion for executive session by Jeanne Milstein to discuss confidential investigations; seconded by Terry Nowakowski. All voted in favor. Investigation updates were provided in executive session. Danielle Cooper moved to end executive session; seconded by Terry Nowakowski. All voted in favor.

5. Scheduling

Next meeting was scheduled December 23, 2025 at 5:30.

Meeting Adjourned.