

**Texas State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT) Committee  
APPROVED Meeting Minutes  
9:00 a.m., November 17, 2023**

**Physical Location: Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)  
Robert D. Moreton Building, Room M-100, First Floor  
1100 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78756**

**Hybrid TEAMS/Onsite Meeting**

**Agenda Item 1: Welcome, Roll Call and Quorum Establishment**

Chief Michael Baldwin, Chair, convened the SCFRT meeting at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed attendees. Ms. Francesca Kupper, Project Manager, Advisory Committee Coordination Office (ACCO), Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), provided logistical announcements, conducted the roll call, and noted a quorum was present.

Table 1: Texas SCFRT Committee attendance at the November 17, 2023 meeting.

| MEMBER NAME                   | YES | NO | MEMBER NAME                                | YES | NO |
|-------------------------------|-----|----|--|-----|----|
| Dr. Simi Abraham              | X   |    | Ms. Diane Macleod                          | X   |    |
| Chief Michael Baldwin, Chair  | X   |    | Ms. Letty Martinez                         | X   |    |
| Judge Shane Brassell          |     | X  | Ms. LaViza Matthews                        | X   |    |
| Dr. Kim Cheung                | X   |    | Dr. Kenton Murthy, Vice Chair              | X   |    |
| Dr. Tara Das                  | X   |    | Ms. Angelica Powers                        | X   |    |
| Ms. Kristi Elliott            | X   |    | Dr. Jennifer Ross                          | X   |    |
| Ms. Madelyn "Maddie" Fletcher | X   |    | Ms. Kathryn Sibley                         | X   |    |
| Sheriff Christopher Forbis    | X   |    | Ms. Amy Smith                              | X   |    |
| Ms. Lori Gabbert Charney      |     | X  | Captain Steven Tellez                      | X   |    |
| Dr. Sanjuanita Garza-Cox      | X   |    | Dr. Lawrence Thompson, Jr.                 | X   |    |
| Captain Michael Hayes         | X   |    | Dr. Jeannine Von Stultz                    | X   |    |
| Ms. Kerrie Judice             | X   |    | The Honorable State Representative Gene Wu |     | X  |
| Dr. Owais Khan                | X   |    |  |     |    |

**Agenda Item 2: Consideration of August 11, 2023, draft meeting minutes**

Chief Baldwin referred members to the draft minutes emailed by the program liaison and called for any edits or changes to the draft August 11, 2023, meeting minutes. Receiving no edits or changes, Chief Baldwin called for a motion to approve the draft.

**MOTION:**

Ms. Amy Smith moved to approve the August 11, 2023 draft meeting minutes as written. Captain Michael Hayes seconded the motion. The motion was approved with 21 yeas (S. Abraham, M. Baldwin, K. Cheung, T. Das, K. Elliott, C. Forbis, S. Garza-Cox, M. Hayes, K. Judice, O. Khan, D. Macleod, L. Martinez, L. Matthews, K. Murthy, A. Powers, J. Ross, K. Sibley, A. Smith, S. Tellez, L. Thompson, J. Von Stultz), one (1) abstention (M. Fletcher), and zero (0) nays.

Motion carried and the August 11, 2023, minutes were approved.

### **Agenda Item 3: Presentation: 2020-2021 Child Fatality Data**

Chief Baldwin introduced Ms. Juliana Bushnell, Texas Department of State Health Services, Injury Prevention Unit Epidemiologist, who provided a PowerPoint presentation, "2020-2021 Child Fatality Data." Key points included:

- Texas child mortality trends from 2011-2021, including all cause mortality, external cause mortality, and natural cause mortality.
- 2020-2021 Leading causes of Texas child mortality.
- 2020-2021 Texas child mortality broken down by race and sex.
- 2020-2021 Five leading causes of Texas child mortality by age group for all causes, external cause mortality, and unintentional mortality.

Ms. Bushnell answered SCFRT Committee member questions. Chief Baldwin thanked Ms. Bushnell for her presentation.

### **Agenda Item 4: Review of 2022 Biennial Report and 2023 Local Child Fatality Review Team recommendations**

Chief Baldwin opened the review of the 2022 Biennial Report recommendations and 2023 Local Child Fatality Review Team recommendations for member discussion. The committee reviewed 40 recommendations under the following categories:

- Motor Vehicle Safety – seven (7) recommendations;
- Child Abuse Prevention – four (4) recommendations;
- Drowning Prevention – five (5) recommendations;
- Suicide Prevention:
  - Lethal Means Restriction – five (5) recommendations
  - Mental Health Services – ten (10) recommendations
  - Texas Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS) – one (1) recommendation;
- Safe Sleep – three (3) recommendations; and
- Other Recommendations – five (5) recommendations.

After careful discussion and deliberation, the SCFRT Committee selected the following recommendations for the 2024 SCFRT Committee biennial legislative report:

- Three (3) suicide prevention / mental health recommendations;
- One (1) safe sleep recommendation; and
- One (1) general (other) recommendation.

### **MOTION:**

Chief Baldwin called for a motion. Dr. Murthy made a motion to approve the select recommendations with edits discussed. Ms. LaViza Matthews seconded it. The motion to approve recommendations with edits discussed for the 2024 biennial report was approved with 19 yeas (S. Abraham, M. Baldwin, K. Cheung, K. Elliott, C. Forbis, S. Garza-Cox, M. Hayes, K. Judice, O. Khan, D. Macleod, L. Matthews, K. Murthy, A. Powers, J. Ross, K. Sibley, A. Smith, S. Tellez, L. Thompson, J. Von Stultz), one abstention (M. Fletcher), and no nays.

### **Agenda Item 5: Public Comment**

No public comment was received.

### **Agenda Item 6: Adjourn**

Chief Baldwin noted the next SCFRT meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. February 9, 2024. Ms. Carol Harvey, Interim Injury Prevention Coordinator, announced the 2024 member solicitation will be released in early December 2023. Chief Baldwin adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

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***Please click on the link to the archived HHSC video to view, and listen to, the entirety of the November 17, 2023, State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT) meeting. This video will be available for approximately two years from the date the meeting video is posted in accordance with the HHSC records retention schedule:***

**[Texas State Child Fatality Review Team Committee](#)**