

**Texas State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT) Committee
FINAL Meeting Minutes
10:00 a.m., August 11, 2023**

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

Hybrid TEAMS/Onsite Meeting

Table 1: Texas SCFRT Committee attendance at the August 11, 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 (joined at 10:28 a.m.) | X | |
| Dr. Owais Khan | X | | | | |

Agenda Item 1: Welcome, Roll Call and Quorum Establishment

Chief Michael Baldwin, Chair, convened the SCFRT meeting at 10:00 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.

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of May 12, 2023, draft meeting minutes

Chief Baldwin called for any edits or changes to the draft May 12, 2023, meeting minutes. Receiving no edits or changes, Chief Baldwin called for a motion to approve the draft.

MOTION:

Dr. Kenton Murthy moved to approve the May 12, 2023, draft meeting minutes as written. Dr. Kim Cheung seconded the motion. The motion was approved with 16 yeas (S. Abraham, M. Baldwin, K. Cheung, T. Das, K. Elliott, C. Forbis, S. Garza-Cox, M. Hayes, K. Judice, O. Khan, L. Matthews, K. Murthy, J. Ross, K. Sibley, L. Thompson, J. Von Stultz), two abstentions (M. Fletcher, D. Macleod), and no nays.

Agenda Item 3: Overview of new Child Fatality Team resources

Ms. Sarah Blezinger, DSHS Injury Prevention Coordinator, reviewed two documents, "Child Fatality Review Team Operations Protocol" and "Child Fatality Review Team Establishment

Protocol,” and provided a real-time navigation of the new online CFRT Lookup Tool. Key points included:

- Overview of the CFRT Operations and Establishment protocols.
- Overview of the CFRT lookup tool, including a live demonstration to the committee on tool functions, including searching for CFRTs by county and by city name, CFRT leadership information, and call to action information for counties currently not covered by a CFRT.

Agenda Item 4: Presentation: Dallas County Child Death Review Team

Ms. Esther Mwaura, Parkland Health and Hospital System, Dallas County Child Death Review Team, reviewed the PowerPoint presentation, “CDRT Child Death Review Team Dallas County.” Key points included:

- Introduction to Dallas County Child Death Review Team.
- Message about community resource collaborations.
- Overview of Dallas County injury death data by race/ethnicity, year, manner of death, and cause.
- Overview of infant injury deaths in 2021, including information on unsafe sleep environments and factors present in these environments.

Agenda Item 5: Review of 2022 Biennial Report recommendations

Chief Baldwin opened the review of the 2022 Biennial Report recommendations for member discussion. Key points included:

- Recommendation 1 (Motor Vehicle Safety): the committee discussed methods for gaining support for this recommendation and updating it for inclusion in the 2024 SCFRT biennial report, including the need for new data to support this recommendation.
- Recommendation 2 (Motor Vehicle Safety): the committee had no input on this recommendation.
- Recommendation 3 (Drowning Prevention): the committee discussed the challenges associated with this recommendation and potential areas of focus when updating this recommendation for inclusion in the 2024 SCFRT biennial report.
- Recommendation 4 (Drowning Prevention): the committee discussed existing water safety campaign provided by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). The committee also discussed how this item may be more of a focus for local communities, the need for potential funding to provide this education, and updating this recommendation for inclusion in the 2024 SCFRT biennial report.
- Recommendation 5 (Suicide Prevention): the committee discussed how to update this recommendation for inclusion in the 2024 SCFRT biennial report.
- Recommendation 6 (Suicide Prevention): the committee discussed current practices related to this recommendation, including how child suicides are currently reported and what may be the best approach to reporting in the future. The committee discussed the collaboration of multiple agencies in this effort, including law enforcement, medical examiners, justices of the peace, and DFPS and how to update this recommendation for inclusion in the 2024 SCFRT biennial report.
- Recommendation 7 (Other Recommendations): the committee discussed how important this recommendation is and how to determine a “who” in order to determine where to focus this recommendation. The committee discussed how to update this recommendation for inclusion in the 2024 SCFRT biennial report.
- Recommendation 8 (Other Recommendations): the committee discussed how to update this recommendation for inclusion in the 2024 SCFRT biennial report, including determining where this recommendation came from and how to proceed with it going forward.

In general, Committee members recommended updating data, discussed strategies to obtain legislative support for the 2024 recommendations, and possible changes to recommendations if the 2022 recommendations are selected for the 2024 report.

Agenda Item 6: Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Agenda Item 7: Adjourn

Chief Baldwin noted the next SCFRT meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. November 17, 2023. Chief Baldwin reminded committee members that attendance is important at the November SCFRT committee meeting. Sarah Blezinger provided a reminder that local CFRT recommendations and data are due in September and October, respectively. Chief Baldwin asked Ms. Blezinger to send a reminder to local teams and she agreed that she will send a reminder. Chief Baldwin adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Please click on the link to the archived HHSC video to view, and listen to, the entirety of the August 11, 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](#)