
State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT) Committee

Friday, May 9, 2025

10:00 a.m.

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Virtual: Teams Meeting Platform

In Person Meeting Site: Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Robert D. Moreton Building, Room M-100, First Floor

1100 49th Street, Austin, Texas 78756

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order, Roll Call, and Welcoming Remarks

Dr. Lawrence Thompson, Vice Chair, called the SCFRT Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Thompson welcomed committee members, staff, and members of the public in attendance.

Francesca Kupper, Advisory Committee Coordination Office, Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) read the logistical announcements and stated the meeting was being conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Ms. Kupper conducted the member roll call and announced the presence of quorum.

Table 1: SCFRT Committee member attendance at the May 9, 2025, meeting.

Member name	Attended	Member name	Attended
Ms. Lindsey Anzaldua	x	Ms. Natalie Lopez	x
Ms. Lauren J. Butschek-Neisler	x	Chief Onesimo Lopez	x
Dr. Tara Das		Dr. Savannah Jane Lusk	x
Ms. Lori Gabbert Charney	x	Ms. Letty Martinez	
Judge Joanne Garcia Flores	x	Mr. Sergio Martinez	x
Ms. Katia Gonzalez	x	Ms. LaViza Matthews	x
Ms. Donna Hansen	x	Ms. Maricela Morales	x

Member name	Attended	Member name	Attended
Chief Michael Hayes, Chair		Dr. Jennifer Ross	x
Stacey Head		Sheriff Brian Thomas	x
Sergeant Ryan Howard	x	Dr. Lawrence Thompson, Jr., Vice Chair	x
Ms. Wykesha Kelley-Dixon	x	Dr. Davlyn Tillman	x
Dr. Natalie Kissoon	x	The Honorable State Representative Gene Wu	

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of February 14, 2025, Draft Meeting Minutes

Dr. Thompson referred members to the draft minutes emailed by the program liaison and called for any edits. Hearing none, Dr. Thompson called for a motion to approve the February 14, 2025, meeting minutes.

Motion: Gabbert Charney moved to approve the February 14, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. Hansen seconded the motion. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 18 yeas (Anzaldua, Butschek-Neisler, Gabbert Charney, Garcia Flores, Gonzalez, Hansen, Howard, Kelley-Dixon, Kissoon, N. Lopez, O. Lopez, Lusk, S. Martinez, Matthews, Morales, Ross, Thompson, Tillman), 0 nays, and 1 abstention (Thomas).

Agenda Item 3: Consideration of Child Fatality Review Team Operations Protocol

Dr. Thompson tabled this agenda item.

Agenda Item 4: Reminder of SCFRT legislatively mandated report due April 2026.

Dr. Thompson announced this agenda item is to remind SCFRT members of the April 2026 legislatively mandated report and introduced the DSHS program liaison, Ms. Sarah Blezinger.

Ms. Blezinger provided an overview of the SCFRT legislatively mandated report and opened the floor for member discussion.

Dr. Thompson encouraged members to submit recommendations for this report.

Agenda Item 5: Child Safety Review Subcommittee update

Dr. Thompson announced this agenda item is to provide time for the Child Safety Review Subcommittee (CSRS) to report on their Subcommittee activities and introduced Ms. Blezinger.

Discussion: Ms. Blezinger presented the CSRS updates.

No Motion: CSRS will provide updates at the August meeting.

Agenda Item 6: National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention

Dr. Thompson introduced Dr. Abby Collier, National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention Director, and Mr. Joshua Thomas, National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention Senior Project Coordinator. Ms. Collier and Mr. Thomas provided a presentation on the National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention, focusing on systems change, review process, and implementation resources.

Agenda Item 7: Bexar County Child Fatality Review Team

Dr. Thompson introduced Ms. Brandy Martinez and Ms. Sondie Epley. Ms. Martinez and Ms. Epley provided a presentation on the Bexar County Child Fatality Review Team.

Agenda Item 8: Public comment

No public comment was received.

Agenda Item 9: Comments, Adjournment, and Thank You

Dr. Thompson noted the next SCFRT meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. August 8, 2025. Dr. Thompson adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Below is the link to the archived video recording of the May 9, 2025, SCFRT Committee meeting to view and listen for approximately, two years from date meeting is posted in accordance with the HHSC records retention schedule.

texashsc.v3.swagit.com/videos/342269