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## Illinois Department on Aging

### Fatality Review Team Advisory Council Meeting via WebEx

**2:00 PM May 16, 2024 - Open Meeting**

#### **Committee Members In Attendance:**

Area 01 – Yvonne Anderson; Area 02 – Lauren; Area 03 – Josh Dunnett; Area 04 – Not represented; Area 05 – Steve Thuney; Area 06 – Not represented; Area 07 – Not represented; Area 08 – Not represented; Area 09 – Not represented; Area 10 – Not represented; Area 11 – Kimberly O’Daniel, Stacey Aschemann; Area 12 - Dr. Kim Dixon; Area 13 – Audrey Klopp and Jesse Booth.

#### **IDoA Staff in Attendance:**

Division Manager, Brian Pastor; Deputy Division Manager, Dana Wilkerson; Program Administrator, Jeanice McDade; APS Quality Assurance Administrator, Jody Kershaw; APS Attorney, Sarah Carlson; Administrative Assistant, Terry Haynor.

#### **Guests in attendance:**

Robin Morgan, HFS partner and Molly Chapman, DRS partner and Doug Kircher, DHS-DD partner.

#### **Minutes:**

Dana Wilkerson, deputy division manager, started off the meeting and welcomed everyone. Ms. Wilkerson started the meeting at 2:03 pm. No members of the public were in attendance. Dana Wilkerson called the meeting to order and took roll call. Ms. Wilkerson advised that Danelle Thorpe has joined Center for Prevention of Abuse and will be representing Area 04 going forward. Steve Thuney, from the Champaign County Coroner’s office was also on today’s call. He replaces Duane Northrup for Area 05.

Ms. Wilkerson requested a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. A motion was made by Stacey Aschemann to accept the meeting minutes and we received a second from Kimberly O’Daniel. The motion carried.

Respect for yesterday. Support for today. Planning for tomorrow.  
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### **Open and Closed Meetings – Old Business**

Ms. Wilkerson advised that this is the first month that there will be two separate meetings – An open meeting and a closed meeting. Each committee member will receive two meeting invites since there will be two separate meetings. The first meeting is an open meeting where general issues will be discussed and immediately after the open meeting the second closed meeting will take place. This is a closed meeting where invitations are extended only to FRTAC official committee members, discussing specific cases and the round table updates. Brian Pastor will discuss changes to the APS act and this may be the only time we will need to have 2 meetings.

### **New Business – Legislative Update**

Brian Pastor advised there has been a busy APS legislative session with APS initiatives this year. Senate Bill 2799 passed in both the house and the senate. The first initiative is an overview of how we investigate self-neglect cases and move into service. The new process would be removing the 30–45-day assessment phase requirement only for self-neglect cases and adding an eligibility screening. Looking at best practices in other states, earlier services help to mitigate the risk in these types of cases. The first step is to determine if self-neglect is occurring, the second step is obtaining consent for services.

The second initiative is to exempt Fatality Review Teams from the open meetings act. This would allow remote meetings, remove the publishing of agendas and minutes, and help with quorums, and allow remote meetings modernizing the process. The senate did pass this initiative after many questions. This now goes to the Governor's desk. Operational dates will be determined at a later date.

### **APS Federal Regulations Update**

Ms. Wilkerson advised that APS is now a line item in the Federal budget. Those who choose to follow the Federal regulations will receive a small amount of federal funding. APS in IL is positioned well for these Federal regulations. We are looking at developing online reporting for APS in the future. Dual relationships, coordination with other entities and partners. We will develop a comprehensive state plan.

### **2024 New FRT Form Overview**

Ms. Kershaw reviewed in depth the new form and the data collected. This form will only be used if there is a case to be discussed. The specifics of the data and the form were reviewed including the questions listed on the form itself and the responses received/data collected so far since the use began. This will make data collection easier for creating reports going forward. Jody advised there will be a final report at the end of the year.

Ms. Wilkerson had a few questions regarding the data received so far. She asked if any trends, concerns, or missing data from the data that has already been received. Nothing was mentioned. She then asked about the narrative section and if there were any takeaways. Dana mentioned 4 things: 1) Noticing there was an opportunity for better communication with hospitals and that they were being invited to the M Team meetings 2) Follow up with the caseworker issue that was raised 3) Increased public awareness and 4) A Suspicious death training is to be rolled out shortly. Suspicious death reporting is now required by mandatory reporters. Ms. Robin Morgan had a comment regarding outreach toward waiver case managers, and a refresher regarding APS. Jesse Both also agreed. Josh Dunnett advised he was struck by the number of cases that had links to self-neglect as well as environmental factors played a factor – such as extreme weather conditions.

**Adjournment:**

Ms. Wilkerson asked for a motion to adjourn this meeting and move the second closed session meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Kim Dixon with a second made by Stacey Aschermann. Dana thanked everyone for their attendance and reminded the invitees that the closed session is immediately following this meeting. The meeting was adjourned.