

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

11 a.m., Monday, May 14, 2018

Governor's Conference Room * Wade Hampton Building * 1200 Senate St. * Columbia, SC 29202

CALL TO ORDER, 11:07 a.m. by Duffie Stone, committee chair, Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor

IN ATTENDANCE: Committee members Dr. Jerome Kurent, Solicitor Duffie Stone, Sara Barber of SCADVASA, Paul Grant of SLED (representing Chief Mark Keel), Rochelle Caton representing John Magill of the S.C. Department of Mental Health, Jane Key of DHEC, Amanda Adler of the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children representing Sen. Katrina Shealy and Rep. Shannon Erickson, Devon Hughes of the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy; non-committee members Jeff Kidd of the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office, and David Ross and Mark Rapoport of the S.C. Commission on Prosecution Coordination.

RECOGNITION OF QUORUM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PREPARATION OF COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

- I. Chairman Stone noted that the report needs to be delivered to the General Assembly by mid- to late October 2018. He asked Amanda Adler of the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children to inquire about the most appropriate venue to present the report.
- II. Vice Chairwoman Barber reviewed a draft outline (attached to these minutes), noting specific instances in which the committee lacks information it will likely want to consider before completing the report.
- III. Preliminary discussion of possible recommendations to the legislature was discussed. Chairman Stone noted that the committee seems to struggle to establish a statistical baseline by which its work can be measured and aggregating data generated by various agencies. He suggested adding a criminologist – if not as an official committee member, then as a partner and regular attendee of the committee's meetings. Those present agreed he should move forward with a plan to contact officials at the University of South Carolina seeking assistance from someone, or a group of people, with expertise in the data of criminology.
 - a. Chairman Stone also suggested that the committee might recommend that the legislature fund an additional statistical abstractor position for DHEC, devoted specifically to the study of domestic violence. Ms. Key agreed this would be useful.
 - b. More specifically, Chairman Stone asked if the S.C. Department of Public Safety had updated its annual "Rule of Thumb" report on domestic violence in South Carolina. Mr. Grant said he would check with SLED and other pertinent state agencies for studies and statistics regarding the incidence of domestic violence and relevant to the committee's work.
 - c. Chairman Stone noted that the state's 16 solicitors should have information regarding the activities of the Fatality Review Boards and Domestic Violence Coordinating Councils. Dr. Kurent noted that a survey he helped prepare to measure the activity of the coordinating councils had never been sent. Vice Chairwoman Barber offered to convert Dr. Kurent's questions to a Survey Monkey format and forward it to Mr. Rapoport by the end of May for distribution to the solicitors. She also agreed to add questions for the fatality review boards.

- i. Additionally, Chairman Stone suggested that after the answers are collected, aggregated results be redistributed to the respondents so that they can learn what other groups are doing and possibly pick up ideas for their own activities.
- IV. Dr. Kurent suggested domestic violence training might be valuable to the state's judges and magistrates and asked about the best venue to conduct such training. Chairman Stone and others suggested their annual conference, the next of which is scheduled for August 2018, according to Mr. Grant.
- V. Chairman Stone noted that the committee currently has several vacancies and that he contacted the Governor's Office to ask that they make new appointments to represent coroners, sheriffs and chiefs of police, as mandated by the statute by which the committee was formed. Chairman Stone said he also will send a letter to the Department of Social Services director encouraging her to designate the agency's representative on the committee, also mandated by the statute. He hopes vacancies can be filled promptly so that new members can also contribute to the annual report.
 - a. Also discussed were constituencies not represented in the membership dictated by the statute. Medical/emergency room professionals and public health professionals were mentioned.
- VI. Vice Chairwoman Barber reviewed the recommendations made by the committee's predecessor, the Governor's Domestic Violence Task Force, in 2015. She divided the recommendations into one of four categories and color coded three of them: Recommendations pertaining primarily to the criminal justice professions (red), those pertaining primarily to social and victims services (green), those pertaining primarily to community efforts (yellow), and those pertaining to unclear or mixed groups (uncoded).
 - i. The three color-coded groups were then assigned to committee members, with instructions to review progress toward these recommendations. Heather Weiss of the State Attorney General's Office (not present) will be asked to review the red/criminal justice category; Vice Chairwoman Barber and Ms. Key will review the green/social and victims services category; and Richele Taylor of the Governor's Office (not present) will be asked to review the yellow/community category. The reviews will be forwarded to Mr. Kidd for compilation and inclusion in the final report. These will be due to him by June 30.
 - b. Dr. Kurent noted that educational elements seem to be missing from the Task Force recommendations. Ms. Key noted her agency has some programs in the works and believes other agencies do, as well. Chairman Stone then formed an education sub-committee, assigning Ms. Taylor, Dr. Kurent, Ms. Key, Ms. Caton and/or Dr. Alicia Benedetto of Metropolitan Children's Advocacy Center, Ms. Adler and Olivia London of SCADVASA to the new committee. They will survey programs already in place to combat domestic violence and related problems. The sub-committee will also make recommendations on programs that can fill gaps and possibly develop and implement those programs.
- VII. The discussion regarding statistical information was revisited, and the group decided to approach the National Crime Prevention Center at the Medical University of South Carolina, as well as the Veterans Administration for additional assistance. Chairman Stone agreed to approach Dean Kilpatrick of the National Victim Center, and the appropriate official at the VA.
- VIII. The Committee agreed to reconvene at 11 a.m. Monday, July 2, probably in the Governor's Conference Room of the Wade Hampton Building, but possibly elsewhere.

NO NEW BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

ADJOURNMENT, by unanimous consent, 12:37 p.m.

Draft outline, with notes, of report to General Assembly

Section	Assigned	Date due (drafts)
Introduction & purpose of committee	Duffie and Sara Commitment level of members	June 1st
Survivor stories/Fatalities	Sara & Jeff	May 10th
New Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spartanburg • 14th Circuit • Probation DV caseload 	<p>First two complete in draft form anyway.</p> <p>Probation need to supply report on their program</p>	April 15th
Statistical Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro each data giving different picture • Law Enforcement • Prosecution • Recidivism? • SCCADVASA 	<p>Latest available data, changes since S3 passed if available, with explanations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLED report (2015) (Jeff) • Prosecution (David) • Recidivism (?)see notes on email. How are we going to count recidivism? • SCCADVASA (Sara) I have this data by member org. Also a graphic sheet for overall numbers <p>What problems does the data show?</p> <p>Continuing data problems: firearms, tracking case outcomes, family court OP's</p> <p>This is data we don't have and need. What are the solutions? Costs of implementation? Ask Court Admin.</p>	Requested by April 15th, to be received by May 10th
Update on Task Force Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What has been done • What needs to be done 	<p>Send Jeff table from Gov Task Force</p> <p>Assign out to members with deadlines</p> <p>Follow up with Gov Office</p> <p>Attach table for easy</p>	<p>Response Deadline: May 10th</p> <p>Sara to follow up with Richelle Taylor</p>

<p>Domestic Violence Coordinating Councils</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List where established • What they've done • Goals for the next year • Recommendations 	<p>List from David SCCADVASA/Prosecution Commission staff to contact each and write report.</p>	<p>List from David by April 30th, SCCADVASA staff can contact identified people, get updates.</p>
<p>Fatality Review Committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List where established • Report on reviews completed and any recommendations 	<p>List from David</p>	<p>List from David by April 30th, Progress/activity reports by May 15th</p>
<p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorsed recommendations from DVCC & Fatality Review • Diverse representation on committee (disability, LGBT etc) • DHEC Violent Death Abstractor line item • Batterer Intervention Piece • Greater emphasis on prevention • Data 	<p>Sara to draft, Duffie and Jeff to edit Need collated info from Prosecution Commission on DVCC and fatality reviews.</p>	<p>June 1st</p>