



## **Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority**

### **ILLINOIS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Public notice was given that the Illinois Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee will conduct a public meeting on 5/21/2024, at 1:00 pm by Teams. All interested parties were invited to attend and were given the opportunity for public comment.

**Date:** May 21, 2024

**Time:** 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

**Location:** Microsoft TEAMS

**Meeting ID:** 227 150 387 401

**Meeting Passcode:** hYWvpB

**Subject:** Thirteenth Meeting of the Illinois Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee

### **MEETING MINUTES**

- **Call to Order and Roll Call**
  - Megan Alderden welcomed everyone to the thirteenth meeting of the Illinois Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. The meeting was recorded for public access.
  - Peter Yuh, the Open Meetings Act Officer, took roll and confirmed that the quorum had been met.
- **Old Business**
  - Andrew Hires moved to approve the March 21, 2023, meeting minutes; Robert Anderson seconded; all voted in favor; no one opposed; no one abstained; and the minutes were approved.
- **New Business**
  - Mission Moment and Discussion
    - Two recent domestic violence fatalities were shared.
    - Jayden Perkins:
      - The first incident involved the death of 11-year-old Jayden Perkins who police say was fatally stabbed while trying to protect his pregnant mother.
      - Jayden's mother had an order of protection against the alleged offender when he forced his way into her home and stabbed

both her and Jayden.

- Another 5-year-old child was also at home during the incident.
- The alleged offender was out on parole after serving a 16-year sentence for home invasion.
- He had a history of domestic violence and violating orders of protection.
- About a month before the incident, the offender appeared at the mother's apartment despite having a current order of protection.
- His parole was initially violated, and he was sent back to prison.
- While he was incarcerated for violating his parole, the mother attempted to obtain an emergency order of protection, but the judge at the time did not grant one because the offender was back in prison on the parole violation.
- 20 days later, on March 12, the Illinois Prisoner Review Board released the offender after determining there was not enough evidence to corroborate the mother's claims.
- The very next day on March 13, he stabbed both the mother and Jayden.
- Julie Elguezabal:
  - The second incident involved a murder-suicide that resulted in the tragic death of Julie Elguezabal at the hands of her husband.
  - Julie had an order of protection against her husband that prohibited him from going to their home.
  - Just 12 days before the tragic incident, the husband had been arrested on two counts of domestic violence, but the prosecutor at the time did not recommend he be jailed until trial.
  - Instead, the husband was paced on electronic monitoring, ordered to have no contact with his wife, and required to surrender his firearm owner's identification card.
  - Police were notified through his GPS electronic monitoring device that he was at the family's home, but by the time officers arrived it was already too late.
  - Two teenage children and the family dog were in the home at the time of the incident.
  - The husband had a history of domestic violence, including multiple orders of protection not involving his wife dating back to 2009.
- In both cases, the perpetrators had been previously involved with authorities and had contact with the justice system for domestic-violence

related incidents, yet the threat they represented was not fully recognized.

- Discussion:
  - Carolyn Klarquist noted that the person who stabbed Jayden Perkins was on mandatory supervised release, not parole.
  - Robert Anderson shared that he connected with DuPage County State's Attorney, Bob Berlin, about the Elguezabal case.
  - Vickie Smith shared that while these cases are tragic, they are not unique to these counties. In 2023, 23 children died as a result of domestic violence and victims' concerns are often not taken seriously.
- Annual Training Reminder:
  - Peter reminded everyone of the mandatory training requirements that must be completed by the end of FY 25.
- Member Vacancies and Terms
  - Megan shared that voting members have staggered appointments: half have 2-year terms and half are appointed for 3-year terms. Now that the Committee is in its second year, the appointments of some members will expire. In the next couple of months, the Committee co-chairs will email those members whose terms are set to expire and members can indicate their desire to remain on the Committee. Committee members will be able to offer suggestions for additional members for unfilled membership positions.
- Regional Review Team (RRT) Updates
  - Rockford: Jennifer Cacciapaglia stated that their progress is going well and introduced Dominique Sheehama who is the High Lethality Project Manager at the Family Peace Center and who will project manage the RRT. Dominique shared that the RRT completed its confidentiality forms, voted on the secretary and will be voting on the co-chairs, identified the process for conducting the first review, and will refine the process at the next meeting. In June, Dominique will present cases to the larger group to vote on with a focus on murder-suicides and the RRT will vote. A representative from the State's Attorney office will check on the status of direct appeals. The RRT will set the review for a date in October so they have time to gather the documents.
  - Lake: Tom Golebiewski stated that Lake County is experiencing a slow start because the RRT is hesitant to proceed without the guidebook. The RRT will formally meet in June to elect officers and sign confidentiality agreements.
  - Will: Amirrah Abou-Youssef shared that they have elected officers and chosen cases. Amirrah is working on testing SharePoint with Amanda

Vasquez. Three domestic violence fatalities have occurred since the end of April so this is top of mind. The RRT is in a holding pattern until the guidebook is ready. Amirrah has reached out to the family of case that the RRT wants to review and this family is very willing to participate. The Family Violence Coordinating Council is hosting a 2-day advanced strangulation training on August 8 and 9, and she will share information about the training.

- Kankakee: Jayden from Harbor House shared that on June 4, the RRT will have its first meeting and will host elections of officers and terms.
- Madison: Fawn Pettet shared that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit RRT has met a few times. They are eager to see the guidebook. They reached out to Amirrah who shared sample documents, and the RRT is close to approving their documents. Fawn created a draft selection rubric that she will present at the next RRT meeting for approval. She requested more information about SharePoint.
- Questions:
  - Wendy Cohen asked about the challenges Kankakee experienced trying to engage the Public Defender's office in DVFR.
  - Sara Block asked Fawn Pettet to share the rubric for case selection at our next Committee meeting.
  - Dominique asked about the status of SharePoint. Amanda shared that SharePoint is still being piloted and offered to connect with any of the team leads to onboard them and then will onboard everyone else once the site has been fully tested.
- Presentation and Discussion: Behavioral Assessment and Threat Management and the Connection between Targeted Violence and Domestic Violence – presented by Mark Concordia from Advocate Health
  - Introduction: Marc Concordia worked in law enforcement in 20 years, is a member of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals, created the Rochester Threat Assessment, and is a certified threat manager. Mark is working with Megan to develop a risk assessment for community violence.
  - His presentation focused on the connection between domestic violence and targeted mass violence. He explained the behavioral threat assessment and management (BTAM) approach to preventing targeted violence.
  - His PowerPoint slide was provided to the committee members.
  - Questions/Discussion:
    - Dan Likens shared that the IL State Police now has a BTAM team.
    - Sara Block noted that the 8 proximal warning/pathway behaviors and how they manifest are more concrete ways of

identifying red flags and identifying missed opportunities during the DVFR process. Mark will share some tools for the regional review terms to use.

- Public comment
  - No public occurred.
  - Robert Anderson shared the update that Vickie Smith is retiring and he noted the significant impact she has had. Vickie thanked him for his kind words.
- Adjournment
  - The next meeting will take place on August 20, 2024. Peter Yuh will send the calendar invite because the virtual platform is switching to WebEx.
  - Ariana Correa moved to adjourn; Amanda Pyron seconded; all were in favor; no one opposed; no one abstained, and the meeting adjourned.