



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health

**STATE CHILD DEATH REVIEW**

**June 17, 2025**  
**12:00PM – 3:00PM**

**Location:**

St. George Fire Department  
14100 Airline Hwy (Administration Building Classrooms A & B)  
St. George, LA 70817

**Meeting link for members of the public:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87130609080>

Meeting ID: 871 3060 9080

**MINUTES**

- I. Call to Order – Chair
  - a. The meeting was called to order at 12:08 pm by Kristen Sanderson, Child Death Review Panel Facilitator.
- II. Roll Call – Chair
  - a. In-person and Zoom members provided introductions, led by Kristen Sanderson.
  - b. Dr. Lagarde, Child Death Review Panel Chair proceeded with roll call. It was determined that a quorum was not present.
  - c. Members present: Ginesse Barrett (Zoom), Pam Cart (Zoom), Laura Clayton-Klienpeter, MD, Rebeca Delasalle, Cindy Duplessis, Sgt. Benjamin Friedmann, Etrena Gerard, Laurel Kitto, Olivia Johnston(Proxy), Gina Lagarde, MD, Lauren Meher, Levillia Moore, Denise O’Guinn, Zacahary Popovich, Rick Wheat
  - d. Staff present: Kristen Falgoust, Debra Feller (Zoom), Julie Johnston, Kayla Livingston (Zoom), Jade Marler (Zoom), Danielle Mistretta, Kristen Sanderson, Victoria Smith, Tara Wilson-Haddox(Zoom), Zainab Wasim (Zoom), Stefanie Winters (Zoom),
- III. Public Comment
  - a. Time was allotted for public comment. No comments were made.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - a. March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes
    - i. March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes were not approved as quorum was not present.
- V. Mandate Review
  - a. Child Death Review Panel Mandate was introduced to new panel members and reviewed with existing panel members.
- VI. Vacancy Announcements
  - a. The Vacant seats on the panel were reviewed. Panel members were advised to reach out to potential panel members along with contact information to fill the vacant seats. The current vacancies are 2/4 citizens from the state at large who represent different geographic areas of the state, 3/4 citizens from the state at large who represent different geographic areas of the state, Health professional with expertise

in Sudden Infant Death Syndrome appointed from a list of three names submitted by the Louisiana State Medical Society, and Forensic pathologist certified by the American Board of Pathology and licensed to practice medicine in the state appointed by the chairman of the Louisiana State Child Death Review Panel subject to Senate confirmation.

VII. Old Business

- a. 2020-2022 Child Death Review Report updates
  - i. The 2020 – 2022 Child Death Review Report is still in the final approval stages.
- b. 2025 Meeting Schedule
  - i. The remaining meeting schedule for 2025 is September 16 and December 9, 2025. Meeting locations were shared with panel members/

VIII. New Business

- a. Agency Updates
  - i. Panel members ranked the top three recommendations from the 2020 – 2022 Child Death Review report. These recommendations were reviewed at the meeting. Email will be sent to panel members to gain interest in workgroups based on the ranked recommendations.
  - ii. Beginning at the next meeting, a document will be created and shared with panel members with clear definitions for causes of death to be utilized during case review.

IX. Public Comment

- a. Time was allotted for public comment. No comments were made.

X. Break

XI. Case Review – Accidental Firearm Death

- a. Accidental Firearm death data presented to panel members.
- b. Five cases were reviewed by the CDR Panel. All cases were deemed preventable and recommendations were documented.
  - i. It was noted during case review that records from law enforcement were not available due to cases not being adjudicated. A recommendation was made to review public record requests in comparison to Child Death Review records requests to coroner's offices and law enforcement. This recommendation will be elevated for further consideration.

XII. Adjourn

- a. Dr. Lagarde motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sara Clark seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm.

Next Meeting Details

Date: September 16, 2025

Time: 12:00pm-3:00pm

Location: St. George Fire Department - 14100 Airline Hwy., St. George, LA 70817 (Administration Building Classrooms A & B)

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed exactly, to accommodate presenter schedules.

Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to [Kristen.Sanderson@LA.GOV](mailto:Kristen.Sanderson@LA.GOV) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting with details of the required accommodations.

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to [Kristen.sanderson@la.gov](mailto:Kristen.sanderson@la.gov) and must be received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.

RS 40:2019:

§2019. Child death investigation

A. Findings and purpose.

(1) The legislature hereby finds and declares that:

(a) Protection of the health and welfare of the children of this state is a goal of its People, and the unexpected death of infants and children is an important public health concern that requires legislative action.

(b) Collecting data on the causes of unexpected deaths will better enable the state  
To protect some infants and children from preventable deaths and will help reduce the  
Incidence of such deaths.

(c) Identifying persons responsible for abuse or neglect resulting in unexpected death will better  
enable the state to protect other children who may be under the care of the same persons and will  
help reduce the incidence of such deaths.

(d) Multidisciplinary and multiagency reviews of child deaths can assist the state in the  
investigation of child deaths, in the development of a greater understanding of the incidence and  
causes of child deaths and the methods for preventing such deaths, and in identifying gaps in  
services to children and families.