

2017 Update On The Child Fatality And Near Fatality External Review Panel



**Program Review And Investigations
Committee**

August 9, 2018



Update On Child Fatality & Near Fatality External Review Panel

- Under KRS 620.055(1) & (16):
 - Panel conducts comprehensive reviews of child fatalities & near fatalities suspected to be a result of abuse or neglect
 - Program Review & Investigations Committee must annually monitor the panel's operations, procedures, and recommendations



Update

- Primarily covers CY 2017
- Funding is from FY 2017



Panel Attached to Justice & Public Safety Cabinet

- For staff and administrative purposes only
- A 2014 memorandum of understanding affirms the panel's independence.



Cases Reviewed

2017: Panel reviewed 150 cases from FY 2016



Panel Compliance

CY 2017: Panel in compliance with all but two requirements

- Panel's annual report due December 1 of each year.
- 2017 report published December 8, 2017.



Panel Compliance

A membership vacancy went unfilled

Recommendation

- **The General Assembly may wish to specify a procedure for filling the vacancy of a voting member when it cannot be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.**



Statutory Provisions Met

- ✓ Meeting schedule
- ✓ Meeting attendance
- ✓ Posting updates
- ✓ Summary reports
- ✓ Destruction of records



Panel Staffing, FY 2017

- One full-time staff attorney,
- One part-time executive advisor, and
- One intern during the spring semester



Panel Staffing, FY 2018

- One full-time executive staff advisor, and
- One part-time assistant whose duties are being revised before the position is filled.



Panel Staffing

Part-time case analysts:

- Three forensic medical analysts, and
- Two social worker analysts



Funding and Expenditures, FY 2017

- Panel funding received through the Justice & Public Safety Cabinet.
- Panel requested \$420,000 for FY 2017.



Funding and Expenditures FY 2017

FY 2017 expenditures were \$274,536

- \$217,766—nearly 80 percent--was for compensation for panel staff and case analysts
- Nearly \$41,000 was for development of a data tool.



Data Tool

Confidential data tool on Sharepoint platform:

- Provides access to case records, and
- Facilitates data analysis



Data Tool

- Large case volume each fiscal year had previously prevented review of a complete fiscal year's case data.
- Data tool summary in Appendix B.



Data Tool

- Panel has now instituted an expedited case review process
- Complete data entered for entire FY 2016



Panel's 2016 Recommendations

- Panel's 2016 annual report made nine recommendations resulting in three actions, including one by the General Assembly
- KRS 199.466 now allows a parent or legal guardian to obtain a background check of a potential caregiver using the child abuse & neglect registry.



End of Slides
