

Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities  
Fatality Review Board  
May 23, 2012

**Present:** Mr. James McGaughey, Ms. Patricia Mansfield, Attorney John DeMattia, Dr. Gerard Kerins, Professor Timothy Palmbach, Lieutenant David Rice, Ms. Holly Olko, Ms. Doreen McGrath and Ms. Anne Broadhurst, Ms. Barbara Roy, Ms. Diana Macomber, and Mr. Peter Hughes (OPA staff).

1. The Board reviewed the minutes from the March 21, 2012 meeting. The minutes were approved and accepted.
2. Mr. McGaughey introduced discussion of the Draft Report, which summarized the efforts of both the FRB and the Abuse Investigation Division over a seven-year period from 2004 through 2010, in response to a recent Hartford Courant inquiry. The focus of the Courant's inquiry concerns a "ten years later" look at what has changed in Connecticut as a result of death investigation and review processes. Mr. McGaughey noted that OPA plans to post the report on our website. Professor Palmbach suggested that the report's preface include a one-page Executive Summary. Dr. Kerins suggested that the section of the report, which refers to a DDS-sponsored conference, "Dedicated to the Life and Death of Ricky W.", be changed to read, "Dedicated to the Memory of Ricky W." It was suggested that the report include a link to the article, which was published analyzing mortality statistics of adults with developmental disabilities residing in nursing homes in Connecticut. It was also suggested that the report include a copy of the "How to Improve Medical Care for Persons with Developmental Disabilities" training curriculum outline.
3. Mr. McGaughey noted that the proposed consolidation of the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (OPA) with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) did not successfully pass this legislative session. Mr. McGaughey also noted that the OPA Advisory Board has formed a committee to discuss/strategize regarding what kind of system CT may need to ensure that OPA is less vulnerable to these types of proposals in the future.
4. Ms. Broadhurst noted that she will be meeting with a student from Quinnipiac University, who is earning her Ph.D. in nursing and is interested in exploring an internship at OPA. The Board suggested that a possible focus of her internship might be for her to develop a draft of a curriculum, which could be used in skilled nursing facilities to increase the awareness of staff to issues affecting people with developmental disabilities.
5. Discussion occurred regarding plans for marking the FRB 10-Year anniversary.
6. Executive Session and Case Review
7. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

**The next FRB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2012**