

Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities
Fatality Review Board
May 21, 2014

Present: Mr. James McGaughey, Attorney John DeMattia, Dr. Gerard Kerins, Ms. Patricia Mansfield, and Ms. Anne Broadhurst, Ms. Diana Lincoln, and Mr. Peter Hughes (OPA staff).

Absent: Professor Timothy Palmbach, Ms. Lakisha Hyatt, and Ms. Barbara Roy (OPA staff).

Guests: Dr. James Gill, Chief Medical Examiner, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Ms. Beverly and Mr. John Matakaetis, family members, and Mr. Josh Kovner, reporter for the Hartford Courant.

1. General Business

- Introductions
- The minutes from the March 19, 2014 FRB meeting were accepted and adopted.
- Mr. McGaughey briefly noted that a proposal to implement a pilot program for “MOLST”, Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment, which was under consideration in the state legislature, had passed. (MOLST is a process and written form for people to communicate their end-of-life care preferences, so that they will be known and honored by health care providers across the health care delivery system, including emergency services personnel. The proposal passed by the legislature was the product of extended, comprehensive conversations, which included physicians, physician assistants and other representatives of the health care delivery and human services communities.)

2. Public Comment

- Ms. Beverly and Mr. John Matakaetis discussed their specific concerns regarding gaps in communication and quality of care surrounding the death of Ms. Matakaetis’ brother, who was living at Southbury Training School at the time of his death.
3. Dr. Gill discussed recent changes at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, which have served to reduce the current backlog of cases and improve overall turn-around time. Dr. Gill also provided the Board with clarifying information regarding the OCME’s criteria for asserting jurisdiction.
4. Executive Session and Case Review
5. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

The next FRB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16th, 2014 at the Grimes Center in New Haven.