

**MINUTES**  
**Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Advisory Committee**  
**January 11, 2023**

The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Advisory Committee met via Microsoft Teams (MS Teams) from 2:03 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.

**Members in Attendance:** Linda J. Cimino, Denise Covington, Chair, Marielle Daniels, Beth Hamilton, Rachel Henderson, Brittany Kaplan, Natasha Pierre, Robin Tousey-Ayers, Sherylyn M. Watson

**Members unable to attend:** Dr. Alexis Cordiano, Heather Deming, Anne Mahoney

**OVS Staff in Attendance:** Mary Kozicki, Jean M. Weisbrod

**Guests in Attendance:** Kenisha Farquharson, Amanda Mendoza

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Introductions  
Denise Covington, serving as Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. She reminded members that the meeting is being recorded and will be available for viewing on the Judicial Branch YouTube Channel. Committee members and invited guests introduced themselves.
2. Approval of November 9, 2022, meeting minutes  
The minutes were approved as presented.
3. Update on the revision of the Department of Public Health Pamphlet  
Robin Tousey-Ayers reported that the Department of Public Health (DPH) pamphlet is in the final stages of review and there are a few revisions that need to be made before the pamphlet is available for distribution. She shared the current version via the MS Teams screen and reviewed the suggested changes with committee members. A draft of the brochure will be sent to the Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence for review by a focus group.
4. SAFE Program Website Development Update  
Linda reported about the creation of a website specifically for health care professionals who are interested in becoming part of the SAFE Program, which is now available on the Judicial Branch website under the *Careers, Jobs and Opportunities* page.

Denise shared the SAFE Program website via the MS Teams screen with the committee members for their review and discussion.

<https://www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim/safeprogram.htm>

5. SAFEs in Connecticut Update

Denise reported that the confidential list of SAFEs in Connecticut, intended to be used as a resource, is in draft format and will be reviewed by the Connecticut Judicial Branch Legal Services prior to being distributed to the Connecticut Hospital Association.

6. New Business

Denise announced her plans to retire from the Judicial Branch, Office of Victim Services, in December 2023.

There are several new topics that will be discussed and developed by the SAFE Advisory Committee in 2023. Denise invited members to submit new topics for the agenda and the SAFE Advisory Committee.

Committee members discussed the changes in the health care industry and distribution of support services due to the COVID pandemic.

Committee members discussed recruiting ideas for forensic nurses and collaborating to distribute information about the SAFE Program.

Denise adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Jean M. Weisbrod, Recorder