

MINUTES
Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Advisory Committee
January 12, 2022

The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Advisory Committee met via Microsoft Teams from 2:05 p.m. to 2:53 p.m.

Members in Attendance: Linda J. Cimino, Chair, Edith Atwerebour, Dr. Alexis Cordiano, Denise Covington, Marielle Daniels, Heather Deming, Brittany Kaplan, Sarah Martino-Kelley for Kristin Loranger, Lucy Nolan for Beth Hamilton, Natasha Pierre, Sharmese Walcott, Sherylyn M. Watson

OVS Staff in Attendance: Patricia Moriarty, Jean M. Weisbrod

Guests in Attendance: Alison Chandler, Jessie Gleckel, Lori Johnson, Denise Poncini

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
Denise Covington serving as Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Members introduced themselves.
2. Approval of November 10, 2021 meeting minutes
Denise asked for a motion to accept the minutes of November 10, 2021. The motion was moved by Alexis Cordiano, seconded by Sharmese Walcott.
3. SAFE Program Website Development
Linda Cimino reported that she and Denise met with the Judicial Branch Web Board to discuss the need and purpose of the website. A status report will be provided at the March meeting.

Denise reported that Shery Watson was able to obtain permission to post information about the SAFE Program on the Connecticut League of Nursing's website which resulted in many inquiries. Also, the Request for Information, which is the application for the SAFE Program, was released January 10, 2022.

Shery stated that information about the SAFE Program will be sent to the members of the Connecticut Nurses Association within the next two weeks.

4. Update on Annual Competency Day Trainings and the List of SAFEs
Denise reported that there was a lower number of individuals that were able to complete their fall training in November and December.

Denise shared a draft of the list of SAFEs currently in CT which includes a reference to Public Act No. 19-114. She explained that alphabetical listing will be updated twice a year and will be maintained at the Department of Public Health

through their website. Committee members discussed issues related to what information to include and who should have access to the listing.

5. Update on the revision of the pamphlet by Department of Public Health
Lori Johnson discussed the changes to the pamphlet based on feedback provided at the last meeting.

Lori stated that the files containing the images of the English version of the pamphlet and card will be distributed by email to Committee members for their review and comments.

6. SAFE Training Program Update

Pat Moriarty reported on the following:

- Spring SAFE Training Program didactic portion will begin April 12, 2022
- Training collaboration with the Connecticut Hospital Association will include CEU approved basic training for the care of the adult/adolescent patient who reports sexual assault with dates scheduled in February and March 2022
- Other training requests include Johnson & Memorial Hospital and the YWCA New Britain Sexual Assault Crisis Services schedule for January – March 2022
- Training for law enforcement on the care of the adult/adolescent patient who reports a sexual assault will include a one-hour PowerPoint which is presently under review
- Schedule of monthly QA meetings for all SAFEs in the program as well as an invitation to attend for all SAFEs who have taken SAFE training
 - January 19, 2022: Law Enforcement Overview
 - February 24, 2022: Case Review & Discussion
 - March 14, 2022: Importance of Accurate Documentation While Caring for the Sexual Assault Patient

7. New Business

Linda announced that she will retire as the Director of Office of Victim Services, Judicial Branch, in May 2023, not May 2022 as previously stated.

Linda announced that Denise will assume the Chair position for this Committee.

Denise adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

Jean M. Weisbrod, Recorder