STATE OF WISCONSIN
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE
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GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE
Legislative & Policy Committee Meeting

MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2026

Meeting was held virtually

Governor Council Appointees Present

Elizabeth Lucas – **Co-Chair**	Courtney Olson – **Co-Chair**

Committee Members Present

Attorney Amanda Riek	Jenna Gormal
Julie Valadez	Danielle Pollack
Donna Meiselwitz	Jenna Gormal
Jessica Honish	Kay Johnson
Krystal Chase	Ann Kappauf
Gary Zajc	

DCF Staff

Dana Johnson	

Website: https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/domesticabuse/council/legislative

AGENDA

I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions – Chair Elizabeth Lucas
a. All members introduced.

II. Approval of July 2026 Meeting Minutes – Chair Elizabeth Lucas
a. Revisions submitted via email including spelling of names, no further comments. Approved.

III. Domestic Abuse Treatment Standards
a. **Subcommittee Report – Gary Zajc –** DVIP Standards Workgroup - Presentation
   i. The subcommittee was successful in developing standards. Researched literature does not provide a single, conclusive set of standards to follow across the nation, but that the Wisconsin standards were created with a wide breadth of evidence-based published research. The DVIP Standards in WI may not fit all areas of practice, agencies, and may need some adaptation.

ii. Appreciation for supporting survivor experience and voice in the development of the Standards. The victim notification and coordinated community response standard is appreciated.
iii. Gary Zajc and others are meeting with Department of Corrections leadership to consider how the DVIP Standards and recently released DOC DV Standards overlap, seeking an opportunity to align the sets of standards for all service providers in Wisconsin.

IV. Fatality Review Commission (FRI) for Wisconsin

a. **Subcommittee Report – Courtney Olson**

i. Subcommittee work began in July 2022, in the aftermath of the Waukesha Christmas Parade tragedy, when a driver intentionally drove a vehicle through the parade route following a domestic violence incident. Wisconsin was one of five states that did not have legislation related to conducting fatality reviews related to community, interpersonal, intimate, and family violence homicides.
ii. FRI Commission will seek to close out efforts by the Governor's Council, as legislation was developed, passed by the legislature, and signed by the Governor in 2026 as 2025 Wisconsin Act 148, which takes effect in 2027.
iii. The FRI, led by Courtney Olson, has worked to develop a state team of reviewers to further the initiative's work, moving beyond the Governor's Council and into statewide implementation.
iv. An initial training/implementation kickoff event will take place on October 26th, at the Central Milwaukee Public Library. Seats are limited. Registration for the National Fatality Review Initiative training is available at https://widvfatalityreview.com/training.

V. New Business

a. **Creation of Workgroup: Keeping Children Safe from Family Violence**

i. Julie Valadez shared the need to examine gaps related to Wisconsin's implementation of federal legislation, examining the judicial, executive, and legislative changes needed for Wisconsin. Ideas may include training, legislation, and practice changes. 2003 Wisconsin Act 130.
ii. Danielle Pollack – researcher and developer, assisted in federal legislation advocacy. Training audience for FRI's is generally Guardian Ad Litem's, judges, and other attorneys where family violence or family issues are at the center. An overview of Danielle Pollack's work was discussed, targeted goals and intention of the federal legislation included, with more to come at future meetings of the workgroup.

Next meeting: To be scheduled in late fall, early winter after new Co-Chairs of the Governor's Council have been appointed.

Adjourn
Adjourned at 11:00am

Respectfully submitted by Dana Johnson and approved by Co-Chairs Lucas and Olson.