



STATE OF WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

P.O. BOX 1185 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701 • TELEPHONE (608) 266-0700

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE Legislative & Policy Committee Meeting *Fatality Review Initiative Workgroup*

MEETING MINUTES July 13, 2026

Meeting was held virtually

Governor Council Appointees Present

Elizabeth Lucas – Co-Chair of Gov. Council	Courtney Olson – Chair of Workgroup
Brenda Frasser	

Committee Members Present

Karate Zubek	Charles Vear
Kelsey Mullins	Holland Dvorak
Natalie Hayden	Jessica Honish
Nela Kalpic	Jaime Sathasivam

DCF Staff

Penny Nevicosi	Dana Johnson
Kristen Olson	

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

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions – Chair Courtney Olson**
 - a. DCF new PEI Section Manager – Dana Johnson, MSW.
 - b. All members introduced.
- II. **Approval of June 2026 Meeting Minutes – Chair Courtney Olson**
 - a. Approved, no discussion.
- III. **Formation of Team to Review Applications**
 - a. **Application Pool:** 14 applicants. Target was 10-12. 9 areas of expertise, 3 from critical law enforcement gap, and still in need of coroner/medical examiner. Service areas include Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay & Fox Valley, Wausau/Northcentral, Northeast, and statewide such as corrections, forensic health, court operations.
 - b. Areas of need include Northwoods, driftless/southwest, and western Wisconsin. Request to target professionals in these geographical areas to fill this area of need.

- c. Jessica Honish reached out to members of faith communities and is awaiting a secondary response.
- d. Jamie S has a contact from a coroner's office to solicit.
- e. Karate Zubek identified additional reach out could be made to tribal communities if additional applicants are needed.
- f. **Determining Members:** accept all qualified, gap-drive/composition-first, scored rubric, subcommittee vetting.
 - a. Recommendation could be a hybrid: guaranteed seat and light scored review. Guaranteed seats would include disciplines.
 - b. Agree on selection method, personal outreach, timeframes for service, and additional criteria are needed currently.
 - c. Ideas generated:
 1. Create a waitlist of those who are vetted but were not selected in each round.
 2. Create a rubric to help assess and decide.
 3. Staggering terms for service – 1-, 2-, or 3-year terms.
 4. Limiting geographical representation, as many times Milwaukee has more positions held due to size of county, population served, and number of agencies.
 5. Consider if members of the current committee and applicants might have dual roles and determine if recusal is needed, particularly in decision making.
 6. Victim's Witness personnel were recommended, while there are court partners identified.
 7. Faith communities should be contacted and open-ended in religion/faith perspective.
 8. Cultural perspectives and representatives, perhaps a professor, who understands multicultural experiences. A member of the Muslim community was approached. We may wish to be careful not to have one person who knows various cultures vs. those experiencing culture firsthand, is important for the committee to discover. Consideration of subject matter experts (SMEs) could be incorporated.
 9. We may wish to discover the applicant's intersectionality prior to also setting a requirement for the number, type, geographic area, etc. There is not a cap of participants but should be explored.
 10. Hybrid approach was most desirable from committee members.
 11. It is **not** the intention of this committee to review individual cases/people's scenarios, but to help local level teams with training and technical assistance.
 - d. Applicant Review Team Selected: Karate Zubek, Natalie Haden, Jamie Sathasivam, and Courtney Olson will be on the *Applicant Review Team* to determine membership.

IV. October 26th National DV FRI

- a. Information provided on the SAVE A DATE and training registration for October 26, 2026, in-person training related to the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative work, model, and supporting the Wisconsin Fatality Review Initiative work.

V. Next Steps & Action Items

- a. All Committee Members: Request to target professionals in geographical gap areas to fill this area of need. Including members of faith communities.

VI. Adjourned

- a. Meeting adjourned at 11:51am

Next meeting: August 10, from 10:00am to 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted by Dana Johnson, confirmed by Chair Olson.

DRAFT