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Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Division of Safety and Permanence

June 27, 2018

Maria Turner, Secretary
Citizen Review Panel Serving Outagamie County
Outagamie County Dept. of Health & Human Services
401 South Walnut Street
Appleton, WI 54911

Dear Ms. Turner:

Thank you for your timely submission of the 2017 Outagamie County Citizen Review Panel (CRP) report. This letter responds to the citizen review panel annual report requirement in the Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA).

The Citizen Review Panel submitted one recommendation to improve child protection services at the state level. A brief summarized statement of each recommendation and the Department of Children and Families Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) response follows:

- 1. Wisconsin is just one of nine states that does jury trials for Termination of Parental Rights. Could speed up process if these cases were just before the Court. Takes out jury using the wrong facts to determine a finding in the case, which we feel occurs regularly and given we are in the minority of states currently doing TPRs this way, our feeling is this is something that should be looked into.*

The DCF is collaborating with court partners in identifying ways to improve the timeliness of the Termination of Parental Rights process. We will forward this recommendation and feedback to the committee.

Thank you for your panel's continued dedication and efforts on behalf of Wisconsin children and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fredi-Ellen Bove".

Fredi-Ellen Bove
Division Administrator