

## APPENDIX C - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW COMMISSION MEMBERS

Pursuant to 15 VSA § 1140(b), the Commission is comprised of 17 members, consisting of the following:

- The Attorney General, or his or her designee;

Carolyn Hanson  
Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Attorney General  
109 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05609  
802-828-5512 phone  
802-828-2154 fax  
[carolyn.hanson@vermont.gov](mailto:carolyn.hanson@vermont.gov)

- The Commissioner of the Department of Health, or his or her designee;

Kimberly Swartz, MHSc  
Director, Preventative Reproductive Health  
Division of Maternal and Child Health  
Vermont Department of Health  
108 Cherry St., PO Box 70  
Burlington, VT 05402  
802-865-1338 phone  
[kimberly.swartz@vermont.gov](mailto:kimberly.swartz@vermont.gov)

Alternate:  
Sally Kerschner, RN, MSN  
  
Vermont Department of Health  
108 Cherry St., PO Box 70  
Burlington, VT 05402  
802-652-4179 phone  
[sally.kerschner@vermont.gov](mailto:sally.kerschner@vermont.gov)

- The Commissioner of Department for Children and Families, or his or her designee;

Ellie Breitmaier  
Coordinator of the Domestic Violence Unit  
Department For Children and Families  
103 S. Main St.  
Waterbury, VT 05671  
802-769-6314 phone  
[ellie.breitmaier@vermont.gov](mailto:ellie.breitmaier@vermont.gov)

- The Commissioner of the Department of Corrections, or his or her designee;

Rick Bates  
District Manager  
VT Department of Corrections  
Brattleboro, VT  
[rick.bates@vermont.gov](mailto:rick.bates@vermont.gov)

- The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, or his or her designee;

Capt. Daniel Trudeau  
Department of Public Safety  
45 State Dr.  
Waterbury, VT 05671  
802-244-8727 phone  
[daniel.trudeau@vermont.gov](mailto:daniel.trudeau@vermont.gov)

Alternate  
Kathryn Brayton  
[kathryn.brayton@vermont.gov](mailto:kathryn.brayton@vermont.gov)

- The Chief Medical Examiner, or his or her designee;

Dr. Steve Shapiro  
Office of Medical Examiner  
Department of Health  
111 Colchester Ave. Baird 1  
Burlington, VT 05401  
802-863-7320 phone  
[Steven.shapiro@vermont.gov](mailto:Steven.shapiro@vermont.gov)

- A State's Attorney with experience prosecuting domestic violence cases, appointed by the Executive Director of the Vermont State's Attorneys' Association;

Tracy Shriver, Esq.  
Windham County State's Attorney  
185 Main St., 2nd Floor  
PO Box 785  
Brattleboro, VT 05302  
802-257-2860 phone  
802-257-2864 fax  
[tracy.shriver@vermont.gov](mailto:tracy.shriver@vermont.gov)

- The Defender General, or his or her designee;

Marshall Pahl  
Defender General's Office  
6 Baldwin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3301  
802-828-3191 phone  
802-786-3803 Alt. phone  
[matthew.valerio@vermont.gov](mailto:matthew.valerio@vermont.gov)

- A member of the Vermont Coalition of Batterer Intervention Services;

Melissa Deas  
Representative for Coalition of Batterer Services  
Batterer Invention Program  
PO Box 321  
Bristol, VT 05443-0321  
[melissadeas5@gmail.com](mailto:melissadeas5@gmail.com)

- A member of the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence;

Auburn Watersong  
Policy Director  
The Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence  
PO Box 405  
Montpelier, VT 05601  
802-223-1302 phone  
802-223-6943 fax  
[auburn@vtnetwork.org](mailto:auburn@vtnetwork.org)

- A representative of the Vermont Council on Domestic Violence;

Heather Holter  
Coordinator  
Vermont Council on Domestic Violence  
Montpelier, Vermont  
[heather\\_holter@tds.net](mailto:heather_holter@tds.net)

- A representative of local law enforcement, appointed by the Governor;

W. Samuel Hill, Sheriff  
Washington County Sheriff's Department  
10 Elm Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
802-223-3001 phone  
[samuel.hill@vermont.gov](mailto:samuel.hill@vermont.gov)

- A victim or survivor of domestic violence, appointed by the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence;

Susan Hardin

- A physician, appointed by the Governor;

Dr. Mariah McNamara  
UVM  
Emergency Dept.  
111 Colchester Ave.  
Burlington, VT 05401  
[mariah.mcnamara1@uvmhealth.org](mailto:mariah.mcnamara1@uvmhealth.org)

- The Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, or his or her designee;

Jennifer Firpo  
Training and Curriculum Coordinator  
Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council  
Vermont Police Academy  
317 Academy Road  
Pittsford, VT 05763-9712  
802-483-6228 phone  
802-483-2343 fax  
[jennifer.firpo@vermont.gov](mailto:jennifer.firpo@vermont.gov)


- The Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, or his or her designee;

Emily Hawes  
Director of Mental Health Services  
Vermont Department of Mental Health  
Agency of Human Services  
26 Terrace St.  
Montpelier, VT  
802-828-3856 phone  
[emily.hawes@vermont.gov](mailto:emily.hawes@vermont.gov)

- One Judge, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court.

The Honorable Cortland Corsones  
Rutland Superior Court  
Family Division  
9 Merchants Row  
Rutland, VT 05701  
[cortland.corsones@vermont.gov](mailto:cortland.corsones@vermont.gov)

**APPENDIX D: COMMISSION CASE REFERRAL FORM**

	<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REFERRAL FORM</b> Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission Office of the Attorney General - Criminal Division 109 State Street - Montpelier, VT 05609	<b>OFFICIAL USE ONLY</b>	
		Received	By

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Please answer the questions below as completely as possible to assist the Commission in determining whether we are able to review this death. Please note that you can refer this case to the Commission but, by statute, we cannot review a case until the court proceedings are over and the investigation is closed. In the meantime, we can include the case for statistical purposes. But depending upon the legal status of your referred case there may be a significant delay before the Commission could consider it for review.

Additionally, if you need assistance completing this form or would like to communicate the information in a different manner please call the Office of Attorney General, Criminal Division, at (802) 828-5512. This form is also available on the Office of Attorney General's web page at <http://www.ago.vermont.gov>.

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

Name of Victim (including aliases)		Name of Parent/Guardian (if under 18)	
Date of Birth (or approximate age)		Date of Death	Town/City where death occurred
Address of Victim (if known)	Street	City	State
Describe how death occurred including any history of domestic violence or abuse (please note that the abuse does not have to be documented through official sources such as the police or courts):			
Person you believe is responsible for this death (including aliases)			
Date of Birth or approximate age of person you believe is responsible		Relationship of the victim to the person you believe is responsible	
Other people having information about this death: (use another sheet if necessary)			
Name	Address	Phone	
Name	Address	Phone	
Was this death investigated and if so by whom:			
A short explanation why you want the death reviewed (use additional pages if necessary.)			
The Commission welcomes any other information you may wish to provide which would help us understand the history and circumstances of the fatality. Anonymous referrals can be made as long as there is sufficient information to be able to identify the fatality; however, if possible, contact information for the person making the referral would be appreciated.			
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>			
Name			
Address	Town/City	State	
Contact Phone 1		Contact Phone 2	
<b>Send completed forms to:</b> Office of Attorney General, 109 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05609 ATT: Criminal Division/Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission			



STATE OF VERMONT  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW COMMISSION**

The Domestic Violence Fatality (Death) Review Commission is established in the Office of Attorney General in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence under 15 V.S.A. § 1140.

The purposes of the Commission are (A) to examine the trends and patterns of domestic violence-related deaths in Vermont; (B) to identify barriers to safety, and strengths and weaknesses in communities and systemic responses to domestic violence; (C) to educate the public, service providers and policymakers about domestic violence deaths and strategies for intervention and prevention; and (D) to recommend policies, practices and services that will encourage collaboration and reduce fatalities due to domestic violence.

All proceedings and records of the Commission are confidential and are not subject to subpoena, discovery or introduction into evidence in a civil or criminal action. Records include oral and written communications.

The Commission shall report its findings and recommendations in a public report. The Report shall contain general statistical data regarding deaths as well as findings and recommendations related to case reviews but will not contain case specific information. The report shall examine general trends and patterns with the goal of reducing domestic violence related deaths.

Questions or comments concerning the Commission can be directed to:

Office of the Attorney General  
Criminal Division  
109 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05609  
Telephone 802-828-5512

On the Web - <http://www.ago.vermont.gov>

## APPENDIX E

# 2011 PROTOCOL between VERMONT COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE and VERMONT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW COMMISSION

### Background

Pursuant to H.278, the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission was established in May of 2002 within the Office of the Attorney General, in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence, now the Vermont Council of Domestic Violence, for the following purposes:

1. To examine the trends and patterns of domestic violence-related fatalities in Vermont.
2. To identify barriers to safety, the strengths and weaknesses in communities and systemic responses to domestic violence.
3. To educate the public, service providers and policymakers about domestic violence fatalities and strategies for intervention and prevention.
4. To recommend policies, practices and services that will encourage collaboration and reduce fatalities due to domestic violence.

See, Sec. 1. 15 V.S.A. chapter 21, subchapter 2.

The Statute as enacted does not define the term “in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence”.

The Council had been created in 1993 by Executive Order and was codified in 2008 and re-named the Vermont Council on Domestic Violence at 15 V.S.A. §§ 1171 – 1173. The Vermont Council provides leadership for Vermont’s statewide effort to eradicate domestic violence. In the Vermont Council’s statute one of its responsibilities is to “collaborate with the Vermont Fatality Review Commission to develop strategies for implementing the Commission’s recommendations.” 15 V.S.A. § 1172(b).

### Agreement

In an effort to promote statewide coordination of advocacy and public awareness, the Council and the Commission will work in consultation with each other. In addition, the Council and Commission will collaborate on developing strategies for the

implementation of the Commission's recommendations. To meet these ends, the Council and the Commission adopt the following agreement.

1. The Council Coordinator will serve as the Council Representative to the Commission (the Council Representative).
2. The Council Representative will serve with the Chair of the Commission as the Executive Committee of the Commission.
3. The Council Representative will be authorized by the Council to represent the Council's position on any aspect of the Commission's work.
4. The Council Representative will report to and obtain guidance from the Council related to the ongoing work of the Commission. This discussion may, but will not be required to, include providing drafts of Commission reports to the Council, information regarding the collection of statistical data and general information regarding the review of individual cases.
5. The Council Representative is subject to the signed Commission Member confidentiality agreement and cannot report confidential information to the Council.
6. The Council Representative will draw on the collective expertise of the Council to help the Commission draft its recommendations and conclusions.
7. Prior to endorsing a Commission recommendation that refers specifically to an individual member of the Council or an agency represented by a Council member, the Council Representative will review it with the relevant Council member(s). That review may include: the likely impact of the recommendation, the feasibility of its implementation and any potential consequences that may not have been foreseen by the Commission.
8. The Council will work with the Commission to develop strategies to implement Commission recommendations from the annual reports. The Council Representative will oversee relevant implementation plans and will report to the Commission on progress towards and/or barriers to implementing Commission recommendations.
9. The Council and the Commission agree to resolve any differences respectfully and promptly by way of the Council Consultation Committee and the Office of the Attorney General.