

# Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board

313 N.E. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73005

(405) 522-1984 | FAX (405) 557-1770

## MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2021

**Meeting Venue:** Office of the Attorney General, 313 NE 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105

### MEMBERS

Bardin, Tania (NAAV) [P]	Hawkins, Scott (OSA) [A]	Wilson, Janet (ONA) [P]
Blanton, Melissa (OAG) [P]	Jelley, Martina (OSMA) [P]	Warren, Mike (OSC) [P]
Coffey, Sara (OOA) [A]	Kuester, Laura (OCADVSA) [P]	Woods-Littlejohn, Brandi (OSDH-IPS) [A]
Combs, Brandie (OSDH) [A]	Mueller, Karen (OBA) [P]	
Edstedt, Marissa (DHS) [P]	Nicholls, Emily (OSDH-IPS) [P]	
Garder, Lauren (ODMHSAS) [P]	Pasley, Brandon (OCADVSA) [A]	
Glandon, Donna (OJA) [A]	Sharif, Asma (OCME) [A]	
Green, Beth (OSBI) [P]	Smith, Jeff (DAC) [P]	
Harrison, Shelly (NAAV) [P]	Sweger, Don, (OACP) [A]	

#### **I. Call to Order and Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Act: Chair**

Chair Beth Green presided over the regularly scheduled meeting of the Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, held at the Office of the Attorney General on June 23, 2021. Notice of the meeting was posted at the Office of the Attorney General more than twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Chair Beth Green called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

#### **II. Roll Call, Establishment of Quorum, and Introduction of Members**

Chair Beth Green requested roll call completed through introduction of members and meeting attendees. Quorum was achieved at Roll Call with eleven (11) members present. Others present included Anthony Hernandez-Rivera, OAG Research Assistant; Tamera Massad, OAG Training Program Manager; Lauren Anderson, OAG Legal Intern; and Whitley Pearson, Help-In-Crisis DV/SA/Court Advocate. Martina Jelley (OSMA) joined the meeting at 9:07 a.m. Jayra Camarena, alternate for Laura Kuester (OCADVSA), and Shelley Harrison (NAAV) joined the meeting at 9:08 a.m., bringing the total quorum to thirteen (13) members. Quorum was maintained throughout the meeting.

#### **III. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes from May 26, 2021 regular meeting\***

Jeff Smith moved to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2021 regular meeting. Mike Warren seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote (11 Aye, 0 Abstain, 0 Nay).

#### **IV. ODARA Risk Assessment Presentation by Whitley Pierson, DV/SA/Court Advocate, Help-In-Crisis**

Whitley Pearson, DV/SA/Court Advocate at Help-In-Crisis in Tahlequah, gave a presentation regarding the *Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment* (ODARA). Ms. Pearson provided materials regarding the ODARA, including the ODARA scoring form. She presented research on the ODARA and stated the tool has been validated for heterosexual couples and female perpetrators in male/female relationships and is in the process of being validated for homosexual relationships. Ms. Pearson provided information on when the ODARA is to be used, including when law enforcement is at the scene of a domestic abuse call or when a report is being written. She shared the ODARA measures how likely the perpetrator is to assault the victim again in the next five years. Ms. Pearson shared that in the United States, the ODARA has been

used in Maine since 1/1/2015 and provided information on the outcomes in that state since statutory implementation. She shared how the ODARA is currently being used in Wagoner County in DHS cases where domestic violence is the main issue and shared the process implemented between DHS and Help-In-Crisis. Ms. Pearson shared how Help-In-Crisis hopes to expand the ODARA's use to include local law enforcement and the District Attorney so the three entities can collaborate in real time. She stated they have not started collecting data yet but when they do they want to track if it reduces the number of victim returns to abusive relations; if using it encourages judges to raise bond on DV cases; if it can help the county track offenders; and if helps offenders get treatment as part of conditional releases or probation. Ms. Pearson shared they hope to implement the ODARA in all of District 27. Ms. Pearson then fielded questions from those in attendance. Emily Nicholls asked if Help-In-Crisis was still using the Danger/Lethality Assessment. Ms. Pearson stated they are and the ODARA is not meant to replace the Lethality Assessment but to be used alongside it to provide the victim services. Lauren Garder asked if there was any research on the ODARA's accuracy relative to the Danger Assessment's. Ms. Pearson stated no comparative analysis had been done but there was a lot of verbiage that the ODARA is better. Ms. Garder asked if any of the research included specificity or sensitivity rates and Ms. Pearson said no. Jayra Camarena clarified that the Danger Assessment assesses the relationship and the ODARA assesses the offender. Ms. Pearson confirmed the ODARA was geared more towards offender treatment and services. Ms. Garder asked if there had been any research done on the ODARA's implications for children and Ms. Pearson said no. Karen Mueller asked if there was anything on the ODARA that addressed the mental health history of the offender, particularly regarding suicide. Ms. Pearson stated the ODARA asks substance use. Melissa Blanton clarified if the questions on the ODARA as asked of the victim or the offender. Ms. Pearson stated the administrator can ask the victim, offender, consult police reports, or be completed directly at the scene. She stated when she completes it she often looks up offender information on OSCN. Ms. Blanton requested clarification on the use of the Lethality Assessment and the ODARA. Ms. Pearson stated she administers the Lethality Assessment with the victim and asks the offender most of the questions on the ODARA but will ask the victims the questions about barriers to support. Beth Green asked if law enforcement was administering the ODARA yet in Wagoner County. Ms. Pearson stated no but they hope to implement it soon, although there has been some pushback regarding additional paperwork. Ms. Green stated she would have Miranda concerns if the offender is arrested and the ODARA is being administered. Ms. Blanton stated she loved the idea of the ODARA being used with DHS cases but is still processing the idea of using it on the scene. Ms. Green stated the line between suicidality and homicidality is so fine and she knows the ODARA is validated but asked why there are no questions regarding suicide on it. Ms. Pearson stated that has actually been brought up before and the developers address it in the Q&A on their website. Mike Warren stated it looks like the questions are directed at the victim so Miranda wouldn't be a problem. Ms. Nicholls stated the Q&A on the ODARA website stated they only added questions shown to improve prediction accuracy and the suicidality question did not. Ms. Mueller stated despite the stricter gun laws in Canada there has been an increase in suicide and wondered about method. Ms. Garder shared information about suicide agitation. Ms. Green stated she was curious about how Canada compares to the U.S. in terms of DV and lethality, since the tool was validated there. Ms. Pearson stated the ODARA was shown to reduce DV homicide rate by approximately 70%. Ms. Blanton stated the ODARA would be useful to Department of Corrections during pre-sentence investigations when considering supervision and parole to accompany their current tool, the LSI. Jeff Smith stated it would be easier to get offenders to comply with answering the ODARA after arrest or plea agreement which would eliminate the Miranda concerns. Ms. Garder asked how long the ODARA training was and how much it cost. Ms. Pearson stated it took about eight hours and was free and described the process. Ms. Camarena shared the training did have to be completed within a month of

starting it. Ms. Blanton asked if Help-In-Crisis had talked to the Courts about the ODARA and Ms. Pearson stated they have only talked to the supervising Assistant District Attorney. She stated she believes there is one judge who would be open to using it. Ms. Blanton shared that statute requires judges to complete an assessment prior to setting bond if the information is available and the ODARA would give them a tool to do so. Tamera Massad asked what would happen if a victim has barriers not included on the ODARA and Ms. Pearson stated it would be marked on the form. Ms. Massad asked about referrals for resources and culturally specific services and Ms. Pearson stated Help-In-Crisis will make referrals and connect Native victims with Tribal resources. No other questions were raised, and the presentation ended.

**V. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session\***

*Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307B for the purpose of case review*

- a. Jeff Smith moved that the Board go into Executive Session to review cases. Mike Warren seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote (13 Aye, 0 Abstain, 0 Nay). The Board adjourned to executive session at 9:37 a.m.
- b. Review and discussion of cases **190073** and **190080**
- c. The Board came out of the executive session at 11:16 a.m.
- d. Chair Beth Green called for Board action as a result of Executive Session.
- e. No action was taken.

**VI. New Business in Accordance with 25 O.S. § 311(9)**

There was no new business.

**VII. Announcements**

Tamera Massad, OAG Training Program Manager, announced that presentation forms for the Partners for Change Conference were due no later than 6/30/2021. She stated the OAG was hoping to have the conference schedule finalized by 7/16/2021 and open the conference up for registration. Ms. Massad stated if any of the Board members wanted to present, they were welcome to submit a form.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Jeff Smith made a motion to adjourn. Mike Warren seconded the motion. Chair Beth Green declared the meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.