

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

# **Violence Fatality Review Committee**

Meeting Minutes February 24, 2022 1 pm – 3 pm

The Violence Fatality Review Committee (VFRC) convened its virtual WebEx meeting on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 1:04 PM. The meeting was led by co-chair Kenyatta Hazlewood. The VFRC was able to achieve quorum and there were sixteen (16) attendees present:

## **Committee Members**

Dr. Roger A. Mitchell, Jr. (Community)
Dr. Joseph Richardson (TRAVAIL)
Kenan Zamore (DC Health)
Setareh Yelle (ONSE)
Dr. Erica Richards (Sibley)
Cheryl Bozarth (OVSJG)
Helaina Roisman (GWUH)
Kenyatta Hazlewood (HUH)
Dr. Erin Hall (Medstar WHC)
Dr. Juanita Price (Hillcrest)
Rhonda Redwood-Ray (CSOSA)

## **Invited Guests**

Paige Mitstifer (OCME) Kate Boukamp (OVSJG)
Mike Spence (USAODC)

### **Fatality Review Staff**

Dr. Renee Spraggins (OCME)

Jenna Beebe-Aryee (OCME)

## **Open Meeting**

#### I. Welcome

VFRC co-chair Kenyatta Hazlewood welcomed the attendees to the meeting and asked the committee to take a moment of silence for the District's victims of violence since the last meeting. After the moment of silence, she asked the new VFRC members to briefly introduce themselves, followed by the rest of the attendees.

The Fatality Review Program Manager led the discussion on the voting of a co-chair. Prior to his leaving DC Government, in his former position as the Chief Medical Examiner and Interim Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, Dr. Mitchell was a co-chair of the VFRC, along with Kenyatta Hazlewood. When asked if he would like to

resume the role of co-chair in his new Community seat, Dr. Mitchell declined, and encouraged other members to fill this role. The Fatality Review Program Manager explained the role of the co-chair and asked if their were any new nominations. Dr. Joseph Richardson self-nominated and it was seconded. In a private unanimous vote, Dr. Richardson was accepted as the new co-chair.

A question was asked about the appointment term lengths of members. It was explained that DC Government employee terms had no expiration dates as they served at the pleasure of the Mayor. All other seats have specific appointment terms. Unless otherwise informed, all appointments have been renewed by MOTA. The Fatality Review Specialist will work with VFCR's MOTA representative to ontain the exact dates for appointment terms and share them with members.

# II. Meeting Agenda for Open Portion of Meeting

The agenda for the open portion of the meeting was voted upon and accepted by the VFRC.

# III. Opportunity for the public to address the committee

There were no members of the public to address the committee.

## IV. Review of Minutes for the Open Portion of the January 2022 Meeting

With no questions, concerns or issues about the minutes from the open portion of the January 2022 meeting, it was voted upon and the minutes were accepted as written.

## V. Vote to close the meeting to the public for remaining business

A vote to close the open portion of the meeting for remaining committee business was conducted and accepted. Members were asked to exit the open portion and sign onto a new WebEx session using the closed meeting invitation.

The open portion ended at 1:28 PM.