

Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board

Policy:

The Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board shall review cases in which the victim is an infant or child for the purpose of identifying over-arching domestic violence issues, including but not limited to the involvement of children and infants in, and exposure to domestic violence and domestic violence homicides.

I Definitions.

- A. All persons having attained the 16th anniversary of birth shall be considered an adult.
- B. A child is defined as a person having lived at least 24 months from the date of birth, but not having reached the 16th anniversary of birth (2 thru 15).
- C. An infant is defined as a person having lived 24 months or less from the date of birth (under 2 years old).

II Rationale.

- A. The body of knowledge of domestic violence homicide must be accurate and complete.
- B. Children and infants comprise seven percent (7%) of the domestic violence homicides reported in Oklahoma and four percent (4%) in the United States.
- C. The systems (i.e., health, welfare, criminal justice, social service) are established to serve adult, child and infant victims of domestic violence homicides are identical.
- D. Social and other service systems whose mission is to prevent, intervene, interdict and resolve domestic violence are available to adult, child and infant victims of domestic violence homicide.
- E. It is the intent of the Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board to collaborate with other fatality review boards to the extent allowable by law.

III Procedure.

- A. Staff shall gather information using the same protocols for all cases.
- B. The Board shall review all cases for identification of systemic issues.
- C. Following review of cases involving infants or children, a copy of the case summary, complete with systemic recommendations shall be forwarded to the Oklahoma Child Death Review Board as information.

APPROVED:

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board on the 26th day of September, 2001.