

Child Protective Systems Oversight Committee
Tuesday, December 13, 2016 | 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Child Abuse Prevention Center
4700 Roseville Rd, North Highlands, CA 95660

MEMBERS

Present	Present	Present
Alexander, Roy	Green, Rebecca	Stone, Dimitrius
X Bell, Michelle	X Johnston, Maynard (Chair)	X Uda, Betsy
X Claar, Jane	X Maulfair, Virginia	X Zone, Sharon
X Edison, Joni	Ore, Chris	
Felion, Sister Jeanne	X Saika, Tony	
X Powells-Mays, June (Counsel)		
X Nosce, Abigail (Staff)		

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:10 pm. Quorum was established.

Review Meeting Minutes

The November 15, 2016 meeting minutes were reviewed. **Motion was made by Gini Maulfair, and seconded, to approve the November 15, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion carried.**

Discussion: Responding to instances of child abuse/neglect – Sacramento County Sheriff's Department

Sergeant Tony Saika of Sacramento County Sheriff's Department's Centralized Investigations Division provided an overview of how the Department's Child Abuse Bureau responds to and investigates child abuse.

- The Centralized Investigations Division provides detective services in the following crime categories: Child Abuse, Cold Case Investigations, Crimes Against People, Felony Assault, Gang Suppression, Homicide, Major Crimes, Missing Persons, Property Crimes, Robbery, Sexual Assault/Elder Abuse, and Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement.
- The Child Abuse Bureau investigates crimes against children under the age of 18, and sex abuse crimes of children under the age of 14 (14+ are investigated by the Adult Sexual Assault Unit). A child abuse case may involve infant death, physical abuse, child molest, neglect and indecent exposure.
- Response protocols are similar to that described by the Sacramento Police Department's (PD) Office of Investigations (see November 15, 2016 CPS Oversight Committee minutes).
- Thousands of Forms 11166 (Suspected Child Abuse Report) are received, triaged, logged in a database, and filed annually. Most of the reports are generated by mandatory reporting agencies. The database allows investigators to look up previous history of reports on suspects.
 - New reports are prioritized based on level of severity and take no longer than five days to process once they are submitted to the Child Abuse Bureau.
- From January 1, 2016 to today (December 13, 2016), 816 reports were taken and 250 were assigned to a detective to investigate.
 - The reports that were unassigned were either referred to other jurisdictions or there was not enough physical evidence to be able to prosecute.
- The job of the Investigator/Detective is to build a prosecutable case that can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt, and they work closely with the District Attorney's Office on cases.

- The Child Abuse Bureau works in a multi-disciplinary approach with many other child protective agencies. Detectives have close working relationships with the District Attorney's Office, Child Protective Services, other law enforcement agencies, physicians, and other emergency personnel.
 - A CPS liaison is outstationed in the Child Abuse Bureau's office. This helps by expediting processes, educating staff about policies and procedures, and ensures effective and efficient collaboration.
 - Unit staff members participate on the Child Death Review Team, as well as SCAN meetings – a multi-disciplinary approach where child abuse cases are discussed to ensure the children are receiving the appropriate resources.
- The Sheriff's Activities League team provides prevention and early intervention services by reaching out to and developing bonds with youth in the community through sports and instructive activities and by establishing mentoring relationships.

Member Questions:

- Do all Patrol Officers have cameras?
 - Yes, officers use iPhone – however they refer to crime scene investigators for the high quality pictures of evidence.
- Do you feel the Sheriff's Department responds assertively to reports of Domestic Violence?
 - Yes, cases are handled assertively and the aggressor is taken into custody. If the victim is willing to press charges, the Sheriff's Department will help them prosecute.
 - The Domestic Violence unit is housed in the same building as the Child Abuse Division. The two units collaborate on cases.
 - There will be a staff person from WEAVE (Women Escaping A Violent Environment) outstationed in the unit's office soon.
- What training do patrol officers receive regarding child abuse/sexual assault?
 - Patrol Officers receive curriculum-based, scenario training through the Sheriff's Academy on sex crimes and physical abuse with children, as well as domestic violence training.
 - Ride-along training as also used, pairing new officers with experienced officers to respond to calls.
- Are more resources needed for your agency to provide services?
 - The Child Abuse Bureau used to have ten detectives on staff, but was reduced to seven during the County's budget cuts in 2009. No new positions have been restored since then. An additional detective would help alleviate some of the workload.
 - The Child Abuse Bureau and the Sexual Assault Bureau have come up with an innovative way to address staffing challenges. Since it is protocol for two officers to respond to after-hours call-outs, the two bureaus are pooling their staffing resources and assigning one Child Abuse and one Sex Assault detective to respond. Not only does this give some reprieve to staff by widening the pool, but also it allows for service/response by detectives of multiple disciplines.
- How many detectives are female?
 - Four of the seven detectives are female. Having diversity in gender works great for the unit and those they serve.

Subcommittee Updates

Critical Incidents (CI) Subcommittee and CPS Quality Improvement Committee

- Both groups reviewed and discussed the same case this month. Discussion will continue next month.

Systems Subcommittee

- The committee started work on drafting the section they committed to for the Annual Report.

2016 Work Plan

- The work plan timeline was reviewed.
 - CPS has reviewed and agrees with the submission deadlines. They request that the committee send a draft of the recommendations as soon as possible so they may consider them for their Fiscal Year (FY) 2016/2017 preliminary budget requests to the County CEO's Office and Board of Supervisors (BOS).
 - Abigail will submit a request for the CPS Oversight Committee to present their 2016 Annual Report to the BOS at their May 23, 2017 meeting.
 - A reminder will be emailed to the committee about the importance of attendance in the coming months.
- For their contribution to the Annual Report, the CI Subcommittee will draft general comments about the cases they saw this year and will provide more detail about these and new cases they see for the 2017 Annual Report.
- Dr. Johnston met with Abigail to construct the template for the 2016 Annual Report. Abigail will email the template to the Oversight Committee for review.

Announcements

None.

Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm