



Protection Committee
Donna Younkin, Acting Chair
Liza Kirschenbaum, Esq, Vice-Chair
March 29, 2016
1:30 P.M.

Minutes

In Attendance:

Greta Anderson
Lt. Louis Andrinopoulos
Joyce Applegate
Anna Diaz-White
Esther East

DCF – Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit (IAIU)
New Jersey State Police
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen
180 Turning Lives Around, Inc.
Jewish Family Service/Children’s Center of
Clinton/Passaic

John Esmerado
Dr. Martin Finkel
Francesca Gervasi
Doug Behan
E. Marie Hayes
Monica Johnson
Liza Kirschenbaum

Union County Prosecutor’s Office
Rowan University-School of Osteopathic Medicine
Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS)
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Cape May County Freeholder
Department of Education (DOE)
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of
New Jersey

Patricia Lynch
Nydia Monagas
Clinton Page
Nora Pearce
Donna Pincavage
Megan Price
Judy Spinney
Sylvia Snyder
Stephanie Ullman
Jennifer Underwood
Lorene Wilkerson
Donna Younkin

Sussex County Forensic Nurse Coordinator
New Jersey Children’s Alliance
DCF-Office of Legal Affairs
Attorney/Trainer
Metro Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center
Acting MDT Coordinator-Camden County
Therapist
Dorothy B. Hersh Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center
Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
NJ Child Placement Advisory Council (NJ CPAC)
DCF-Director of Special Initiatives

Staff:

Ifeanyi Pole

DCF-NJTFCAN

Introduction and Welcome

Introductions were made.



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Review and Approve January 2016 Minutes

The January 20, 2016 Minutes were approved with the following edit:

Page 3 (third paragraph):

Patricia Lynch stated that Ginnie's House staff in Sussex County [is trained in Finding Words and](#) has the capability to complete the entire process at their location.

Donna Younkin provided background information for the new members on the Committee's most recent accomplishments. Donna shared that in 2015, the Committee produced county level guidelines on how to handle human trafficking (HT) of minors under the leadership of Liza Kirschenbaum; from this, other topics of interest developed which led to the presentations at the March 29, 2016 meeting on "Missing Children" and "Sexting Law and Diversity Programs for Juveniles."

Missing Children Presentation – Lt. Louis Andrinopoulos

Lt. Louis Andrinopoulos provided the Committee with his career background in law enforcement; he has been a police officer for twenty-seven years, ten years as a detective overseeing missing persons; sergeant of homicide; and his current position as lieutenant for two years. Donna Younkin stated that Lt. Andrinopoulos has been a great partner to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF).

Lt. Andrinopoulos presented a PowerPoint presentation on educating the Committee on missing children which included information about the Amber "America Missing Broadcasting Emergency Response" Alert, Safe Haven, international abduction, etc. Lt. Andrinopoulos informed the Committee that one does not need to wait twenty-four hours before reporting a person as missing. Lt. Andrinopoulos stated that a system is in place throughout New Jersey to keep track of missing children and the children who are found. Lt. Andrinopoulos mentioned that New Jersey is in the beginning stages of implementing a program like Michigan to host a yearly statewide missing awareness networking event aimed at solving missing person cases.

Additionally, he shared the following nationwide statistics:

- Juveniles make up about 70% percent of missing people;
- Most people that are reported missing are recovered within 30 days;
- 60% of youth who run away from home come back within a week, 15% come back within a month, and 1% never return home.
- Between 14,000 and 16,000 people are reported missing every year.
- Each year over a million cases go unreported.



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As part of Lt. Andrinopoulos presentation, the Committee discussed the Safe Haven Law. Dr. Martin Finkel informed the Committee that New Jersey's Safe Haven Law is a product of the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect's (NJTF CAN) Protection Committee. New Jersey's Safe Haven Infant Protection Act allows an individual to give up an unwanted infant without fear of arrest or prosecution. No names or records are required. The parents, or someone acting on their behalf, can bring a baby less than 30 days old to any hospital emergency room or police station.

Discuss Sexting Law and Diversity Programs for Juveniles – John Esmerado

John Esmerado presented on sexually exploitative images and referenced New Jersey's statute N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4 as it relates to the distribution, possession and creation of sexually exploitative images in the fifty States. A copy of statute N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4 was disseminated to the Committee in advance of the meeting.

John informed the Committee of the following information in his presentation:

- John discussed the process in which images are shared on the internet. The IP address/digital code is very important to prosecutors in sexually exploitative images cases. It was noted that public Wi-Fi access can be saved by store owners and forwarded to law enforcement to track. John emphasized that law enforcement does not engage in collecting or trading images with offenders. John also discussed the unusual user ID names and images used to attract others for the purpose of collecting and trading sexually exploitative images;
- As it pertains to Sexting Law and Diversity Programs for Juveniles, a child is defined as being less than 18 years of age;
- John discussed ways in which online images are obtained are shared via file sharing programs (i.e. Dropbox, an online file hosting service);
- Anyone in possession of twenty-five or more images of sexually exploitative images of children will receive a five years State prison sentence and are subject to Megan's Law.
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMCE) has assigned a digital fingerprint to 1.2 million of the sexual exploitative images of children. He also stated that if/when an image is edited, the images digital fingerprint is altered; the cropping of images has become an issue in recent years.



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- All of New Jersey's twenty-one counties have cybercrimes divisions.
- John informed the Committee about the Dark Web, a collection of thousands of websites that use anonymity tools like Tor and I2P to hide their IP address. John shared that law enforcement is working on efforts to combat trading of sexual exploitative images on the Dark Web.

He disseminated a copy of Berkeley Heights Board of Education's policy on Harassment, intimidation and bullying to the Committee in advance of the meeting. John stated that schools are now looking at electronic communication as a form of cyber bullying. John shared a four-minute video clip with the Committee of Sergeant Tom Rich's diversionary treatment program presentation; this program is within 140 school districts in New Jersey. John informed the Committee that Sergeant Rich has presented his diversionary treatment program to thousands of students in mostly Central and Northern New Jersey. John informed the Committee that there is no data collection for this program to date. However, John shared that there is a slight reduction in cyber bullying with juveniles that have gone through the program. John stated that children need to be involved in this discussion regarding setting digital boundaries with using technology in a positive way. John recommended the following three related books on this topic for the Committee to read: *Odd Girl Out*; *American Girls: Social Media and the Secrets Lives of Teenagers*; and *Sexting and Cyberbullying*.

Donna Younkin thanked Lt. Andrinopoulos and John for their informative presentations.

Announcements

Donna Younkin informed the Committee that she will be retiring from State service effective May 1, 2016. Dr. Martin Finkel encouraged NJTF CAN members to consider nominating themselves to serve as Chair of the Protection Committee. The Committee discussed that the Chair of the Committee would have to be a member of NJTF CAN, in accordance with the NJTF CAN Bylaws.

Ifeanyi Pole congratulated members whose Committee applications were approved by NJTF CAN at their March 18, 2016 meeting. Ifeanyi gave each approved member who was in attendance a packet of supplemental ethic documents (Uniform Ethics Code; Plain Language Guide to New Jersey Executive Branch Ethics Standards; and DCF Code of Ethics). Ifeanyi asked the members to sign the top form of the packet indicating they have received the documents and return it to her at the end of the meeting so that they can be placed in their NJTF CAN files.



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Ifeanyi reminded the Committee that NJTF CAN and DCF 2016 Biennial Skill Building conference will be held on Friday, September 9, 2016 from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. The afternoon speaker is Dr. Sharon Cooper and other presentations include the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). To date, the conference is filled to capacity and other venues are being explored to accommodate more people.

Next Meeting Date – Scheduled for May 18, 2016*

**Note: The May 18, 2016 Protection Committee meeting was canceled.*