



Office of
Children's
Ombudsman

Director, Lisa McCormick

Deputy Director, Ryan Speidel

BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

- Director – Lisa McCormick
 - Licensed Attorney
 - Assistant Prosecutor 11 years
 - Chief Assistant 10 years
 - Founder of Small Talk Advocacy Center in Ingham County
 - Handled numerous cases of child abuse, child sexual assault and domestic violence
- Deputy Director – Ryan Speidel
 - Police Officer, Detective & Sergeant
 - MDOS – Automotive fraud and regulation
 - MDHHS-OIG – Medicaid provider fraud investigation
 - MCOLES – Chief Investigator & Compliance Manager

MISSION AND ROLE OF THE OCO



The mission is to assure the safety and well-being of Michigan's children in need of foster care, adoption and children's protective services and to promote public confidence in the child welfare system.



The role is to advocate for children and identify areas for improvement in the child welfare system.

DEATH CASES

- MCLA 722.926 (2)
 - Shall investigate all child fatality cases that occurred or are alleged to have occurred due to child abuse or child neglect in any of the following situations
 - A child died during an active child protective services investigation or open services case, or there was an assigned or rejected child protective services complaint within 24 months immediately preceding the child's death
 - A child died in foster care, unless the death resulted from natural causes and there was no prior child protective services or licensing complaints concerning the foster home
 - A child was returned home from foster case and there is an active foster care case.
 - The foster care case involving the deceased child or sibling was closed within 24 months immediately preceding the child's death

EXAMPLES

An infant/child dies from unsafe sleep and there is no history for the mother or the father of the infant who died, but mom has another child and the child's other parent has history within the past 2 years

An infant/child dies from unsafe sleep and the history within the previous two years involves a prior Domestic Violence with a different male who is no longer in the family's life

A child dies while in foster care and had numerous medical conditions, is placed with a relative. The child dies due to physical abuse resulting in homicide and child showed signs of starvation

COMPLAINANT CASES

Any individual can be a complainant but not all complainants are entitled to findings and recommendations



Complainants who receive findings are listed below: (MCLA 722.925)

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| The child | A biological parent of the child | A foster parent of the child | A adoptive or prospective adoptive parent of the child | A legally appointed guardian of the child | A Guardian ad litem of the child | An adult who is related within the 5 th degree of marriage, blood or adoption | A Michigan Legislator | A mandatory reporter | An attorney of any of the above |
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QUESTIONS?

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