

Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board
313 N.E. 21st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73005
(405) 522-1984 | FAX (405) 557-1770

MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2025

Meeting Venue: Loving/Cartwright Room
Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General
313 N.E. 21st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73005

MEMBERS

Celia Cobb (OCME) [P]	Janelle Bretten (OJA) [P]	Janice Carr (ONA) [P]
Susan Laib (OAG) [P]	Nicole Flemming (DOC) [P]	Laura Kuester (OCADVSA) [P]
Jackie Kanak (OSDH alt.) [P]	Joe Harper (OSA) [P]	Brandon Pasley (OCADVSA) [P]
Emily Nicholls (OSDH IPS alt.) [A]	Don Sweger (OACP) [P]	Sheila Stinson (Judiciary) [P]
Amanda Dembowski (OKDHS alt.) [P]	Laura McConnell (OBA) [P]	Shelly Harrison (NAAV) [P]
Jenny Virden (OSBI) [P]	Laura Thomas (DAC) [P]	Tania Bardin (NAAV) [P]
	Martina Jelley (OSMA) [P]	
	Sara Coffey (OOA) [A]	

I. Call to Order and Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Act

Chair Brandon Pasley (OCADVSA) presided over the regularly scheduled meeting of the Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, which was held at the Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General on August 27, 2025. DVFRB Program Manager (PM) Anthony Hernandez-Rivera confirmed that notice of the meeting was posted annually with the Secretary of State before the December 15, 2024 deadline and at the front door of the Office of the Attorney General more than 24 hours in advance of this meeting. Chair Brandon Pasley (OCADVSA) called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

II. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Roll call was conducted in the form of introductions at 9:15 am. Quorum was achieved at roll call with at least 18 voting members present, and quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. Six alternate designees were present but were not counted towards quorum at the time of roll call due to the primary designee being present. The alternate designees were Melissa Van Duyne (OAG), Sara Wray (OAG), Francia Thompson (OSBI), Tomm Edwards (OSA), Sean Webb (DAC), and Angela Beatty (OCADVSA).

DVFRB staff present included Anthony Hernández Rivera, OAG DVFRB Program Manager (PM) and Nicholas Massey, OAG Research Analyst (RA). Also present were the OAG Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) team, comprised by Lead LAP Training Coordinator Scott Hawkins, and LAP Training Coordinators David Folkert and Jaiden Balthrop-Russell.

III. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes from March 26, 2025, Regular Meeting*

- a. No action taken on this action item due to minutes not having been finalized by the time of the meeting.

- IV. **Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes from April 30, 2025, Regular Meeting***
 - a. No action taken on this action item due to minutes not having been finalized by the time of the meeting.

- V. **Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes from June 25, 2025, Regular Meeting***
 - a. No action taken on this action item due to minutes not having been finalized by the time of the meeting.

- VI. **Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session***
Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307B for the purpose of case review
 - a. Adjourn to Executive Session
 - b. Review and Discussion on whether potential 2024 homicides fit into the DVFRB data collection criteria
 - c. Review of case #220041
 - d. Consideration to exit from executive session and return to regular meeting agenda.

Don Sweger (OACP) motioned to enter Executive Session, seconded by Sheila Stinson (Judiciary). Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. Quorum was maintained throughout executive session. DVFRB Chair Brandon Pasley (OCADVSA) waived Board out of executive session at 10:35 a.m. Brandon Pasley announced a five-minute recess at 10:35 a.m. Brandon Pasley reconvened the meeting at 10:44 a.m., and quorum was maintained.

- VII. **Announcement by Chair as to the necessity of any Board action as a result of Executive Session. Vote as a result of Executive Session***
 - a. No action was taken as a result of executive session.

- VIII. **Update – The Oklahoma Attorney General and DVFRB’s role in 70 O.S. § 3311.5(G): Development and Implementation of the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) Domestic Violence and Stalking Investigation Training. Speaker: Lead Lethality Assessment Protocol Scott Hawkins (Oklahoma Attorney General’s Office)**
 - a. Scott Hawkins provided an overview of 70 O.S. § 3311.5 regarding the DVFRB/OAG/CLEET mandated collaboration, including with victim advocates.
 - b. Scott Hawkins asked Board Members to consider this topic for the Dec. 3, 2025 meeting, during which CLEET staff will attend the Board meeting.
 - c. Don Sweger recommended that, in addition to CLEET, training/LAP/DV training information needed to be shared with reserve academies.
 - d. No action was taken on this agenda item.

- IX. **Update – DVFRB Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) Team Project Update. Presenter: Lead LAP Training Coordinator Scott Hawkins and LAP Coordinators David Folkert and Jaiden Balthrop-Russell**
 - a. Scott Hawkins provided an overview and focus of the LAP team.
 - b. Jaiden Balthrop-Russell noted that 18 LAP trainings were scheduled over the next two months.
 - c. Scott Hawkins noted that LAP Team is on pause regarding a digital platform.

- d. No action taken on this agenda item.

X. Discussion and Possible Action – DVFRB Feedback and Perspectives on Law Enforcement Practice of Seeking Voluntary Participation in LAP Implementation and How That May or May Not Fit the Statutory LAP Mandate for Law Enforcement*

- a. Scott Hawkins provided an overview of the discussion.
- b. Anthony Herndandez-Rivera provided an overview of the Lethality Assessment Protocol and recent changes to the statute authorizing the OAG to post the official LAP form on the website, requiring LEOs across Oklahoma to use that version.
- c. Jaiden Balthrop-Russell presented on the need for and power of clarity in LAP, emphasizing the core components of consent and victim empowerment.
- d. Members asked questions. Noted that two words stood out: trust and voice. A need that needs bridging between victims and law enforcement. It was requested that additional questions be asked after the next presentation.
- e. Next, Scott Hawkins presented a view in opposition to LAP notice to victims of voluntariness and non-confidentiality. Scott Hawkins emphasized the belief that a consent statement would violate Oklahoma law and could decrease victim safety and access to services. DA Laura Thomas (DAC) thanked Scott Hawkins “on behalf of all 27 DAs” in Oklahoma and noted concerns with challenges to evidence-based prosecution. Brief discussion followed.
- f. Judge Stinson moved to take off the victim notice statement on the LAP screening form. Laura Thomas seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken:
 - 1. **Yea:** Amanda Dembowski (DHS), Jenny Virden (OSBI), Janelle Bretten (OJA), Joe Harper (OSA), Don Sweger (OACP), Laura Thomas (DAC), Laura Kuester (OCADVSA), Sheila Stinson (Judiciary), Tania Bardin (NAAV), Shelly Harrison (NAAV)
 - 2. **Abstain:** Susan Laib (OAG), Jackie Kanak (OSDH), Crystal Hooper (ODMHSAS)
 - 3. **Nay:** Nicole Flemming (DOC), Brandon Pasley (OCADVSA)
- ii. Motion carries.

XI. Discussion and Possible Action on Possible Recommendations and Spotlight Article Candidates for the 2025 Edition of the DVFRB Annual Report*

- a. Meeting adjourned before this agenda item heard.

XII. New Business Not Known or Which Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen Before the Posting of the Agenda *in Accordance with 25 O.S. § 311(9)*.

- a. Meeting adjourned before this agenda item heard.

XIII. Announcements

- a. Meeting adjourned before this agenda item heard.

XIV. Adjournment*

Don Sweger motioned to adjourn. Laura Thomas seconded the motion. Brandon Pasley adjourned the meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.