

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION
HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 7, 2005

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

At the previous meeting, Commissioner McGrady requested Staff research possible changes to the composition of the Community Child Protection Team. That research has determined that no change has occurred to N.C.G.S. 7B-1407(d) which states that “The board of county commissioners may appoint a maximum of five additional members to represent county agencies or the community at large to serve on the any Local Team.”

However, the new CCPT guide issued at the end of 2004 states “To insure broad community representation, CCPTs may decide if additional members are needed on the team and develop a mechanism for using these individuals for the purposes of CCPT. These contributing members may be used as advisory members or may make up subcommittees.”

Staff’s interpretation of the new guide would be that if the CCPT feels additional members are necessary, it would be incumbent upon the team itself to “develop a mechanism” to incorporate those members. By statute though, the Board continues to be restricted to a maximum of five appointees.

§ 7B-1407. Local Teams; composition.

(a) Each Local Team shall consist of representatives of public and nonpublic agencies in the community that provide services to children and their families and other individuals who represent the community. No single team shall encompass a geographic or governmental area larger than one county.

(b) Each Local Team shall consist of the following persons:

- (1) The director of the county department of social services and a member of the director's staff;
- (2) A local law enforcement officer, appointed by the board of county commissioners;
- (3) An attorney from the district attorney's office, appointed by the district attorney;
- (4) The executive director of the local community action agency, as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services, or the executive director's designee;
- (5) The superintendent of each local school administrative unit located in the county, or the superintendent's designee;
- (6) A member of the county board of social services, appointed by the chair of that board;
- (7) A local mental health professional, appointed by the director of the area authority established under Chapter 122C of the General Statutes;
- (8) The local guardian ad litem coordinator, or the coordinator's designee;
- (9) The director of the local department of public health; and
- (10) A local health care provider, appointed by the local board of health.

(c) In addition, a Local Team that reviews the records of additional child fatalities shall include the following five additional members:

- (1) An emergency medical services provider or firefighter, appointed by the board of county commissioners;
- (2) A district court judge, appointed by the chief district court judge in that district;
- (3) A county medical examiner, appointed by the Chief Medical Examiner;
- (4) A representative of a local child care facility or Head Start program, appointed by the director of the county department of social services; and
- (5) A parent of a child who died before reaching the child's eighteenth birthday, to be appointed by the board of county commissioners.

(d) The Team Coordinator shall serve as an ex officio member of each Local Team that reviews the records of additional child fatalities. The board of county commissioners may appoint a maximum of five additional members to represent county agencies or the community at large to serve on any Local Team. Vacancies on a Local Team shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

(e) Each Local Team shall elect a member to serve as chair at the Team's pleasure.

(f) Each Local Team shall meet at least four times each year.