



ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ELDER ABUSE COMMISSION
 RICHARD CORDRAY, OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

MARCH MEETING MINUTES
VERN RIFFE CENTER FOR GOVERNMENT AND THE ARTS
77 SOUTH HIGH STREET, 31ST FLOOR
WEST B & C CONFERENCE ROOM
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010
9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Judith Brachman	Interests of the Elderly
Oliver Corbin	Ohio Department of Public Safety
Gene Fischer	Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association
Christine Haenszel	Ohio Attorney General's Office
Steve Hanson	Supreme Court of Ohio
Roland Hornbostel	Ohio Department of Aging
Vicki Jenkins	Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
Leslie McGee	Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Nancy Neylon	Ohio Domestic Violence Network
Tom Swift	Ohio Association of Probate Judges
Karla Warren	Ohio Department of Aging
Erin Cummin	Ohio Attorney General's Office
Todd Dieffenderfer	Ohio Attorney General's Office
Robin Hurst	Ohio Attorney General's Office
Ursel McElroy	Ohio Attorney General's Office

WELCOME – Ursel McElroy

- Opened the meeting by welcoming members.
- Agenda and housekeeping items reviewed.

REVIEW FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES – Commission

- February 22, 2009 meeting minutes approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Commission

U. McElroy

- Elder Justice Act/Patient Safety and Abuse Prevention Act cleared Congress March 22, 2010 as part of the Health Insurance Reform Bill, and it's expected to be signed by the President into law this week. The main provisions of the Act include: dedicated funding for Adult Protective Services (APS), demonstration grants to test methods to improve APS, grants to support the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, establishment of an Elder Justice Coordinating Council, and the creation of a national program for criminal background checks for persons seeking employment in long term care facilities.
- The Hancock County Sheriff's Office will host the Ohio Triad Conference at the Findlay Inn and Conference Center in Findlay, Ohio April 19 – 20, 2010. The Commission's work will be presented during a panel discussion at the event. G. Fischer will moderate. Registration brochures were distributed.



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- The Ohio Attorney General's Office will host its 19th Annual Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus, Ohio May 24 – 25, 2010. The Attorney General will recognize the Commission at the event. The Commission will have reserved seating day one and are encouraged to register for the entire event and nominate an individual or organization deserving of an award for their work with older victims of crime. Additional information available at www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/services/victims/two-days-in-may.

R. Hornbostel

- The Health Policy Institute of Ohio and its partners in the Ohio Family Violence Prevention Project, under the leadership of Dr. Kenneth Steinman of the Ohio State University College of Public Health, will host regional forums to present profiles of family violence in all 88 counties in Ohio. Child abuse/neglect, elder abuse/neglect, and intimate partner violence will be discussed. Forums are scheduled in 2010: April 9th (Cincinnati); April 12th (Columbus); April 16th (Athens); April 19th (Toledo); April 23rd (Akron). Additional information available at www.healthpolicyohio.org.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Commission

Subcommittees

Awareness Subcommittee

- Ohio Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) has approved the production of law enforcement tip cards. Draft is complete, but all reviewers have not commented. K. Warren and C. Haenszel will facilitate the review process. O. Corbin will facilitate the production with OCJS staff.
- Follow up with OCJS about the availability of funds to produce brochure and posters in addition to the law enforcement tip cards. O. Corbin is the lead.
- Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (ODRC) can design, print, and distribute awareness campaign materials. Cost of paper and ink will have to be supplied, but it will be considerably less than outsourcing the job. K. Warren is the lead.
- Message options for an awareness campaign were shared. The subcommittee has decided to use positive images/messaging to bring the public to action. “Break the Silence” is the message frontrunner, but it has been used in similar campaigns throughout the country. Commission will vote at next meeting. K. Warren is the lead.

Justice Subcommittee / Policy Subcommittee

- Draft language of proposed changes to H.B. 563 (126th Ohio General Assembly) was not available for review. R. Hornbostel suggested working with Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) legislative staff to facilitate the process. U. McElroy is the lead.
- Draft language of information to be added to the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) was not available for review. Language will build upon law enforcement tip card with the addition of references to criminal offenses that can be charged in elder abuse cases. R. Hornbostel is the lead.

Research Subcommittee

- Research colloquium scheduled for February 5, 2010 was rescheduled to April 2, 2010 due to inclement weather. Four leading Ohio researchers in the field of elder abuse along with select members of the Commission have been asked to participate. This meeting will help formulate plans for a larger meeting later in the year. J. Brachman is the lead.

Other

- The guiding principles established will be posted on the Commission webpage and used to guide the annual report writing. There was considerable discussion to fine tune the language of each principle (*see table*).



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PRINCIPLE	FORMER	AMENDED
Equal Protection	Every older adult has the right to expect protection from abuse.	Every older adult has the right to expect protection from abuse.
Protection of Rights	Autonomy of older adults is valued without imposition.	Autonomy and decision-making of older adults are valued.
Victim Centered Approach	Perpetrators, not victims are responsible for the abuse.	Respect older victims through engagement, not imposition.
Presumption of Competent Professionals and Systems	Enhance existing framework.	Enhance Ohio's current elder abuse framework.
Commitment to Public Input	Open to public opinion and its impact on establishing priorities.	Public input informs our process.
Prevention is Important	Promote proactive strategies.	Promote proactive strategies.

NEW BUSINESS – Commission

- Commission members were reminded to rotate position as subcommittee chair quarterly.
- Discussed topics/entities that could assist the Commission in its work. Through grant funding, consultants can be arranged to present materials and information. Suggestions included:
 - Ohio State Bar Association
 - Elder Justice Act
 - Assessment of Capacity
 - Forensics in Elder Abuse (Clinical, Financial)
 - Model APS Programs
 - Public Awareness and Reporting
 - Evidence-Based Practices

PUBLIC COMMENT - Commission

Gwen Kaegy of Huber Heights, Ohio

- Submitted written comments March 3, 2010.
- Requested the following:
 - Consider PowerPoint presentation as a supplement to comments provided January 19, 2010.
 - Opportunity to address the Commission in person during March meeting. G. Kaegy did not appear, but her PowerPoint presentation was discussed.
 - Presentation proposed the usage of Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds to pay for emergency placement of elder abuse victims in nursing facilities when an older victim is too medically compromised to stay in a traditional crisis shelter.

Dawn DeAmbroggi of Ohio

- Submitted written comments March 16, 2010.
- Reported the following:
 - An alleged situation of financial exploitation that involved a method of undue influence. The alleged perpetrator is known to have committed similar acts with at least two elderly women. In each instance, the alleged perpetrator benefited from the decedent's estate.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Subcommittees did not meet. Outstanding tasks shall be addressed before April 26, 2010 meeting.

ADJOURN