



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

**INAUGURAL MEETING MINUTES
 VERN RIFFE CENTER FOR GOVERNMENT AND THE ARTS
 77 SOUTH HIGH STREET, 31ST FLOOR
 WEST B & C CONFERENCE ROOM
 MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2009
 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Pat Berarducci	Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police
Andrew Capehart	Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services
Kristen Castle	Ohio Department of Public Safety
Tomi Dorris	Ohio Department of Insurance
Dustin Ellinger	Ohio Department of Health
Cindy Farson	Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Frank Fleischer	Ohio Assn. County Behavioral Health Authorities
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 Dept. Mental Retardation Development Delay
Beverley Laubert	State Long Term Care Ombudsman
Tom Swift	Ohio Association of Probate Judges
Joe Simonsen	Ohio Domestic Violence Network
Bill Sundermeyer	American Association of Retired Persons
Adreana Tartt	Ohio Dept. of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services
John Thatcher	Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association
John Theobald	County Commissioners Association
Todd Diffenderfer	Ohio Attorney General's Office
Ginger Kauble	Ohio Attorney General's Office
Ursel McElroy	Ohio Attorney General's Office

WELCOME – Attorney General Richard Cordray

- Opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking each of the members for their willingness to serve.
- Asked members to serve as a strategic body that works to understand and develop a vision on how elder abuse can be addressed in Ohio.
- Promised the assistance of Attorney General Staff in this effort. Ex: legislative, meeting management and research.

OVERVIEW – Ursel McElroy

- Commission members introduced themselves.
- Agenda and housekeeping items reviewed.
- Commission will meet monthly. At each meeting, time will be provided for subcommittees and the full body to meet. Members or their representatives are expected to attend both.



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- Quarterly reports will be prepared for the Attorney General and an annual report will be prepared for the public.
- The Commission will provide a forum for public comment. Details to be worked out.

ELDER ABUSE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS (2005) – Ursel McElroy

- Recommendations from the 2005 Elder Abuse Task Force Report were reviewed to provide an understanding of the previous work.
- Status of each recommendation was discussed (see PowerPoint attachment).
- Members were impressed by the comprehensive nature/scope of the work and agreed to build upon it.
- Members agreed to first address recommendations that could be acted upon quickly.
- The majority of the 2005 recommendations focused on Adult Protective Services (APS), yet members were encouraged to think more broadly. Ex: How can prosecutors and law enforcement become more involved? What areas of patient abuse in nursing facilities need improvement?

AREAS OF INTEREST – Commission

- Four areas of interest were identified as subcommittees: Awareness, Justice System, Policy, and Research.
- Members joined subcommittees where they could best apply their expertise.
- Funding is a primary concern that will affect all areas of interest. Rather than form a separate subcommittee, the issue will be addressed by the entire body.

Awareness

- Focus: Raise awareness and improve education on elder abuse
- Members: J. Simonsen, T. Dorris, K. Warren

Justice System

- Focus: Improve the elder justice system
- Members: P. Berarducci, D. Ellinger, G. Fischer, C. Haenszel, S. Hanson, R. Hornbostel, V. Jenkins, T. Swift, J. Thatcher

Policy

- Focus: Identify policy and programming recommendations to address elder abuse
- Members: A. Capehart, C. Farson, F. Fleischer, B. Laubert,

Research

- Improve the level of research on elder abuse
- Suggested members: Georgia Anetzberger (Cleveland State University); Shantha Balaswamy (The Ohio State University); Suzanne Konkle (Miami University); and Kenneth Steinman (The Ohio State University)

ACTION STEPS

- Attorney General Staff to provide resources that offer a clearer understanding of the issue. Specifically, information on:
 - Current elder abuse initiatives or efforts closely related.
 - Current infrastructure to address elder abuse (local, state, national).



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OTHER

- Prevention education should be increased.
- Consider using existing means to educate individuals. Ex: Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) is a good way to communicate with law enforcement.

ADJOURN