

## **ORS 418.785<sup>1</sup> Child Fatality Review Teams**

(1) Each county multidisciplinary child abuse team shall establish a child fatality review team to conduct child fatality reviews. The purpose of the review process is to help prevent severe and fatal child abuse and neglect by:

- (a) Identifying local and state issues related to preventable child fatalities; and
- (b) Promoting implementation of recommendations at the county level.

(2) In establishing the review process and carrying out reviews, the child fatality review team shall be assisted by the county medical examiner or county health officer as well as other professionals who are specially trained in areas relevant to the purpose of the team.

(3) The categories of fatalities reviewed by the child fatality review team include:

- (a) Child fatalities in which child abuse or neglect may have occurred at any time prior to death or may have been a factor in the fatality;
- (b) Any category established by the county multidisciplinary child abuse team;
- (c) All child fatalities where the child is less than 18 years of age and there is an autopsy performed by the medical examiner; and
- (d) Any specific cases recommended for local review by the statewide interdisciplinary team established under ORS 418.748 (Statewide team on child abuse and suicide).

(4) A child fatality review team shall develop a written protocol for review of child fatalities. The protocol shall be designed to facilitate communication and the exchange of information between persons who perform autopsies and those professionals and agencies concerned with the prevention, investigation and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

(5) Within the guidelines, and in a format, established by the statewide interdisciplinary team established under ORS 418.748 (Statewide team on child abuse and suicide), the child fatality review team shall provide the statewide interdisciplinary team with information regarding the categories of child fatalities described under subsection (3) of this section.

(6) Upon the conclusion of a criminal case involving a child fatality, or upon the conclusion of a direct appeal if one is taken, the district attorney may submit a letter to the Governor and the Director of Human Services outlining recommendations for the systemic improvement of child abuse investigations. [2005 c.562 §20; 2007 c.674 §8]

Note: See note under 418.746 (Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Account).

## ANNOTATIONS

### Chapter 418

#### Notes of Decisions

Where plaintiffs brought action under 42 U.S.C. 1983 alleging violation of federal civil rights after defendant Childrens Services Division employees removed plaintiffs child from home following reports of abuse, CSD workers entitled to absolute immunity in investigation, taking child into custody and keeping plaintiffs from visiting child. *Tennyson v. Childrens Services Division*, 308 Or 80, 775 P2d 1365 (1989)

#### Related Statutes<sup>3</sup>

- ORS 192.690 Exceptions to ORS 192.610 to 192.690
- ORS 418.706 State Technical Assistance Team for child fatalities
- ORS 418.746 Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Account
- ORS 418.748 Statewide team on child abuse and suicide
- ORS 418.795 Confidentiality of information and records

1 Legislative Counsel Committee, CHAPTER 418—Child Welfare Services, [https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws/lawsstatutes/2013ors418.html](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/lawsstatutes/2013ors418.html) External\_link\_icon(2013) (last accessed Apr. 27, 2014).

2 Legislative Counsel Committee, Annotations to the Oregon Revised Statutes, Cumulative Supplement - 2013, Chapter 418, [https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws/lawsstatutes/2013ano418.html](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/lawsstatutes/2013ano418.html) External\_link\_icon(2013) (last accessed Apr. 27, 2014).

3 OregonLaws.org assembles these lists by analyzing references between Sections. Each listed item refers back to the current Section in its own text. The result reveals relationships in the code that may not have otherwise been apparent.