

INTRODUCED: July 25, 2016

A RESOLUTION No. 2016-R055

To endorse the establishment of an adult fatality review team for the Richmond metropolitan area in accordance with Va. Code § 32.1-283.6 for the purpose of examining deaths related to abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults.

Patron – Mr. Samuels

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEPT 12 2016 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, abuse of vulnerable and older adult citizens has destructive consequences upon individuals and families within the city of Richmond and surrounding counties; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Virginia enacted section 32.1-283.6 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, to permit localities to establish adult fatality review teams to examine deaths related to abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults for the purpose of developing a body of information to help prevent future fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the Council anticipates that careful examination of abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable or older adult fatalities will yield results to help prevent similar tragedies from occurring; and

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: SEPT 12 2016 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

WHEREAS, the Council anticipates that a thoughtful and nonjudgmental method of evaluating the events that lead to such fatalities will create a safer community;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the Council hereby endorses the establishment of an adult fatality review team to be known as the Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team for the purposes of detecting trends and patterns in deaths related to abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable or older adults; increasing coordination and communication between agencies; providing services to victims experiencing such abuse; identifying gaps in current service systems, in the city of Richmond and the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico; and offering recommendations to area service providers which benefit the community and improve its systems of public safety, health and protection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Council supports the participation of the following individuals, or the respective designees thereof on the Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team pursuant to section 32.1-283.6(B) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended:

1. The chief judge of the Circuit Court for the City of Richmond.
2. The commonwealth's attorney for the City of Richmond.
3. The sheriff for the City of Richmond.
4. The chief magistrate for the City of Richmond.
5. The chief of police for the City of Richmond.
6. The director of the Richmond Behavioral Health Authority.
7. The director of the Richmond City Health District.

8. The City's Director of Social Services.
9. The supervisor of the Adult Protective Services division of the City's Department of Social Services.
10. The executive director of Senior Connections, the Capital Area Agency on Aging.
11. Such other disciplines and members to be determined, at the discretion of the chair of the Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team.



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Lou Brown Ali
Council Chief of Staff

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Council Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Allen L. Jackson, Richmond City Attorney

THROUGH Lou Brown Ali, Council Chief of Staff *LB*

FROM Joyce L. Davis, Council Policy Analyst
Office of the Council Chief of Staff *JLD*

COPY Charles Samuels, 2nd District Council member
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Meghan Brown, Interim Deputy Council Chief of Staff *MB*
Craig Bieber, 2nd District Liaison

DATE July 1, 2016

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE: Establish the Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team

RECEIVED

JUL 01 2016

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

This is a request for the drafting of an/a Ordinance Resolution

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Council member Charles Samuels

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Education and Human Services

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Resolution to Establish Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team in accordance with Virginia Code §32.1-283.6 to examine deaths related to abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults.

BACKGROUND

This Resolution is to establish the Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team in accordance with Section 32.1-283.6 of the Code of Virginia, which permits Richmond City to establish an adult fatality review team to examine deaths related to abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults. The Review Team will identify trends and patterns in deaths to create a body of information to help prevent future fatalities and to identify interventions aimed at systems improvement. The Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team will offer recommendations to Richmond City service providers which benefit the Richmond community and improve systems of public safety, health and protection.

In fiscal year 2014, the Adult Protective Services Division at the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services took 21,650 reports of adult abuse, neglect or exploitation for investigation. More than half of these reports

(53%) were substantiated. Roughly three of four victims (72%) were 60 years of age or older, 61% were women, and 68% were white¹. The Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team will identify gaps in system responses and work to provide increased communication and collaboration amongst the agencies involved.

Representatives are from the Richmond City's Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, public health, safety and protection sectors to form a multi-agency, multi-professional Adult Fatality Review Team, regional in nature, for Richmond City and the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico. Pursuant to Section 32.1-283.6 (B) of the Code of Virginia, the following individuals may serve on the team:

- The Chief Judge of the Richmond City Circuit Court or another Judge designated by the Chief Judge
- The Commonwealth's Attorney of Richmond City or designee
- The Sheriff of Richmond City or designee
- The Chief Magistrate for Richmond City or designee
- The Chief of Police for Richmond City or designee
- The Director of Richmond City Community Services Board or designee
- The Director of Richmond City Health Department or designee
- The Director of Richmond City Department of Social Services or designee
- The Supervisor of Adult Protective Services or designee
- The Executive Director of the Senior Connections or designee
- Other disciplines and members may be appointed to serve on the team at the discretion of the team.

Staff support will be provided by the Richmond City Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney to support the organization and maintenance of the Metro Richmond Adult Fatality Review Team.

Attached is a Letter of Support from Michael Herring, Richmond Commonwealth's Attorney and a copy of recommended language for the Resolution.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal cost associated with the formation of this team.

The expected introduction date of this Resolution is July 25, 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Budget Amendment Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Attachment/s Yes No
Richmond City Council Ordinance/Resolution Request Form/Updated 12.22.08/srs

¹ http://www.dss.virginia.gov/files/division/dfs/as/aps/into_page_learn_more_aps_infographic_color.pdf



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May 16, 2016

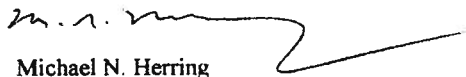
Richmond City Council
Executive Offices
900 E. Broad Street, Suite 305
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear President Mosby and Council Members:

Pursuant to Section 32.1-283.6 of the Code of Virginia, I endorse the formation of an Adult Fatality Review Team for the Metropolitan Richmond area, and designate the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney as a participating agency. The purpose of adult fatality review is to take a thoughtful, nonjudgmental look at the events leading up to a death related to abuse, neglect or exploitation of a vulnerable or elder adult. All records obtained or created during the review of a fatality are excluded from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Section 2.2-3700 et seq.).

Fatality review engages the agencies, organizations and systems that provide services to victims and perpetrators in a process designed to identify and resolve gaps in our response to these problems. A review team also identifies critical points of intervention and provides a forum for increasing communication and collaboration among those involved in our community response to abuse of the elderly and of other vulnerable adults. The ultimate purpose of this process is to reduce the incidences of abuse and neglect and to create a safer community.

Sincerely,


Michael N. Herring
Commonwealth's Attorney
for the City of Richmond

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