

**In-Person Meeting**

**September 11, 2022 @ 11:15 AM to 2:00 PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)**

**Missing Endangered Persons Clearinghouse (MEPIC) Advisory Board (MEPICAB)**

**FDLE Attendees:** Commissioner Mark Glass, AC Matt Walsh, AC Shane Desguin, SAC Mike Phillips, ASAC Chad Brown, Deputy GC Jeff Dambly, SAS Jeremy Gordon, Paul Williams, Peter Warren, Brendie Hawkins, Ashley Bullard, Megan Bohnenberger, Alexis Snell, Madison Brophy, Kandace Zachary, Kathy Cutler, Alyssa Beck, Reneé Strickland

**Board Member Attendees:** Chairperson Dan Campbell, Vice-Chair Antonio Gilliam, Gary Howze, Dr. Kim Spence, Karen Mazzola, Carolyn Goedert, David Brand, Tim Enos, Bill Corfield, Steve Outlaw, Stephanie White, Peggy and John Pitta, Hilary Sessions, Susan Smith, Mike Vasalinda, Mark Young, Terri Lynn, John Robertson, Kristen Morgan, Travis Paulk, Roxie Brookshire, Dr. Katherine Gomez, Jessica Janasiewicz, Tracy Clark

**Florida Missing Children’s Day Foundation Attendees:** President Ken Tucker, Vice-President Jim Previtera, Secretary Lauren Adams, Steve Kinsey

**Welcome & Introductions**

* Meeting began 11:50 AM 9/12/22, introduction of all attending members.

**FDLE Command Staff**

* Introduction of new FDLE Commissioner and Command Staff and broad Florida Missing Children’s Day (FMCD) review.

**FMCD Overview and Comments**

* Challenges this year include a last-minute catering contract. Mission BBQ really came through last minute to cater for this event. We also had some tent problems due to Sunday weather. The tent literally flew a few feet despite weight and members holding it down.
* Largest turnout for families. RSVP for families was over 100 guests and 25 families. A couple families ended up not making it. FMCDF purchased new poster stands due to this. There were a lot of compliments about the new stands.
* Had largest turnout for award winners as well.
* Opportunity to move this event somewhere indoors? Civic Center or FSU? We will have to consider a different venue as event is outgrowing current venue. Also, considerations for weather. Sunday was severe weather and Monday had a chance of rain, in which case rain plan would have had to be implemented. We have a rain plan; however, it would only accommodate 250 people. We had over 450 people at this event.
* In past years we sent letter invitations. This year we sent postcards to everyone instead. The families received a postcard and letter. The postcard appears to be very successful. Allows people a visual reminder to attend and RSVP.
* Florida Association of School Resource Officers (FASRO) Reception would like MEPICAB, FDLE, Foundation nametags at the reception and at the ceremony. Helps with engagement to start conversation with families and award winners that attend.
* FMCD Award Winner summaries were summed up appropriately and interesting. The remembrance part for families go a little slower. There was a little extra time at the end.
* Consider family and consistency. Families ask about even the smallest change such as why there is no longer a mobile billboard.
* Suggestion to provide families a synopsis about their missing child. Families get together for multiple events, they do not want to be insensitive to other families asking child’s name repeatedly. Just something that was public record and run by the families. Have it no later than FASRO reception.
* A family indicated that their recovered deceased child was not on the poster contest poster/billboard. An explanation was given to that family. However, can we add recovered deceased somewhere on the future posters? In a separate part of the poster?
* Does Advisory Board need more members currently? If an affected family wishes to join, should we allow? What would that look like?
* Can we introduce visiting law enforcement award winners to MEPIC and the resources FDLE has for missing persons?
  + What other education opportunities can we provide to make their visit more than just attending the ceremony?
* Can we make more time for families to share their concerns about their cases with law enforcement? What would this look like? Would we facilitate relations with other agencies? MEPICAB members sitting down with families?

**Fallen Law Enforcement Officer**

* Jose Perez is remembered for his years of service

**Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**

* The Board approves previous meeting minutes. One change on back page. “Ditto”

**CART Update**

* Trainings are in full swing after COVID
* Beginning mock field exercises
* Going to ICAC Conference in December
* Autism Awareness Training update:
  + Over 4,000 completions to date
  + Looking into real-time crime communications centers that tap into surveillance cameras across the city when a child goes missing

**MEPIC Update**

* Purple Alerts began July 2022; if they remain at current pace, we anticipate 290 in the next year
* Bringing requests for positions and higher pay to legislature
* New alert format is a huge improvement
  + 92 million views on alerts
* Recent recoveries
  + Recent direct recovery of a missing child when the abductor saw the alert and turned themselves in
  + Recent recovery of a missing person after a Purple Alert when an analyst found they had checked into a hospital and alerted local law enforcement
  + Recent recovery of a missing child after an AMCA was issued when a bystander saw the child
  + Recent recovery of a person missing for four years

**Upcoming Events**

* DJJ Conference
  + MEPIC has been invited to attend in October
* Trunk or Treat at Capitol
  + All of EIS participating
* AB meeting Friday, 11/4
* Potential Offender Registration and ICAC Conference
* Submit newsletter articles by 11/1
* Tim Enos: Upcoming FASRO event, they would love to host FDLE

**Adjournment**

* Ashley Bullard: Please submit travel information before leaving.
* Meeting adjourned 1:10 PM 9/12/22

Special Notes: Power was lost in Capitol for extended time.