Statement of Consideration (SOC)

PPTL 21-11 SOP 20.4 Adult Fatality Investigation and Review and Notice of Adult Fatality Form. The following comments were received in response to SOP drafts sent for field review. Thanks to those who reviewed and commented. Comments about typographical and grammatical errors are excluded; these errors have been corrected as appropriate

**SOP 20.4**

1. **Comment:** May consider striking “REVIEW” from the SOP title, as I understand there is no actual fatality review conducted.

**Response:** Change has been made to remove ‘review’ from title.

1. **Comment:** Under Procedure – The SSW # 1 “Accepts all reports of adult fatalities that occur due to alleged abuse orneglect;~~or, exploitation including domestic violence reports;”~~ Is this germane to this SOP section? APS SOP 19.3.9 addresses this as a function of intake.

**Response:** Change has been made. # 1 and footnote #1 are deleted.

1. **Comment:** Under **Procedure** - The SSW # 3 and The FSOS or designee # 1 seem duplicative in nature. Are there two separate and distinct notification requirements? One for fatalities that occur during the course of an investigation where abuse or neglect are precipitating factors and one for reports of a fatality attributed to abuse or neglect (new intake)? One utilizing the standardized Notice of Adult Fatality form and the other in writing via email?

**Response:** The SSW will send the Notice of Adult Fatality to the Adult Protection Branch and the FSOS or designee will send the SRA and the Adult Protection Branch the DPP 115 to coincide with the fatality notification.

1. **Comment:** Footnote # 6 – may consider replacing “central office staff” with Adult Protection Branch staff and/or the APB Nurse Consultants.

**Response:** Change has been made to include Adult Protection Branch staff.

1. **Comment:** We staff fatalities that occur, despite whether there is concern that the fatality is due to abuse/neglect (should we have an open investigation and the adult passes away prior to us closing) to ensure we have a solid investigation.  What does the below mean to us in the field/consulting?  Does this change the process of how we proceed or should proceed?

“**If a fatality occurs during the course of an investigation, consults with their supervisor and SRA or designee; then contacts the Division of Protection and Permanency (DPP), Adult Protection Branch or designee to determine if the case should be treated as an adult fatality;​~~”~~**

**Response:** No, this section of policy was revised and regional staff can consult the case with field staff and the Adult Protection Branch is available if further consultation is needed.

**Adult Fatality Form**

1. **Comment:** We regularly put down the date/time and place of death. For instance, in a hospital or a home.

**Response:** Regional protocol allows flexibility regarding what information is included for adult fatalities due to suspected abuse or neglect**.**