



Policy Committee Meeting
August 16, 2022

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| Judge Judy Warne | Chair of the Committee |
| Amy Smith | HCDVCC |
| Ande Mattei | Mayor's Office |
| Tyrone Lin | HAWC |
| Shelia Blake | Women's March |
| Lt. Kira Webster | HPD- Family Violence |

Amy Smith welcomed everyone back from summer break.

Judge Judy Warne, the Chair of the Committee, called the meeting to order.

Judge Warne announced she is still the Judicial Liaison for the Texas Family Law Foundation and will be tracking legislation for them especially anything related to Protective Orders. At this time, it does not appear any new PO legislation is in the works however, quite a few people are interested in Red Flag Orders to prevent mass shootings. The concern is adding those to the Family Code and the PO Statue it is possible if that occurs that it would either dilute the PO statue or dilute the time frame for a DV PO. We do not want to change the 14-day rule with POs.

Amy Smith announced she was invited to participate in the meetings on the implementation of HB 766 (the bill that requires conditions of bond to be entered into TCIC/NCIS). Progress is slow but it is moving toward a late fall implementation.

Amy Smith also announced HAWC arranged a meeting with Rep. Lacey Hull to discuss some legislative concerns. Items discussed were:

- Sealing divorces. Judge Warne said there is already a provision for that just that most Judges don't use it.
- Issues with the offender/suspect being the next of kin in homicide cases and having access to make decisions about who the deceased's remains can be released to. Judge Warne said in the past some discussions included extending the PO to keep the protected person protected beyond death. Tyrone Lin stated there are some forms that are used in Estate Planning that could be helpful with this issue. Amy Smith suggested education is needed for advocates and lawyers to include that information/forms in Safety Planning with victims especially with High-Risk Clients.

- Adding Coercive Control to the State definition of Family Violence. Judge Warne said a bill was passed in the last legislative session that could have the wording needed. She will forward the Bill to Amy Smith.

Ande Mattei said the City was gearing up for the next Legislative Session. They had a successful gun buy back and are working on another and hopefully making it a regular occurrence. Amy Smith mentioned one of the Recommendations from the Adult Violent Death Review Team was to make sure people know their gun's serial number and to report to Law Enforcement when they are stolen out of their cars or homes. Many people don't report it so it makes it hard to trace the guns after a homicide.

Amy Smith announced that it has been suggested that Family and Criminal Judges could benefit from a quick reference one pager guide on DV. Judge Warne volunteered to draft something to get this started.

Meeting adjourned and the next meeting will be on September 20th at 2:00 pm via ZOOM.