



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

09 - 0314

January 15, 2008

Marge Collins, Executive Assistant for the
Secretary of the Senate
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 231
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Re: 2008 Child Maltreatment Review Panel Report

Dear Ms. Collins:

As required by the *Laws of Minnesota* Special Session 2001, Chapter 9, Article 11, section 3, I am respectfully submitting this report on the Child Maltreatment Review Panel activities for calendar year 2008. In accordance with requirements of Minnesota Statutes, I am also forwarding six copies of the report to the Legislative Reference Library.

Legislation creating the Child Maltreatment Review Panel was enacted during a special session of the 2001 Minnesota Legislature. The panel reviews an investigating agency's determinations regarding maltreatment of a child in state licensed facilities such as child care centers, correctional institutions, or schools in response to requests received under section 626.556, subdivision 10i, paragraph (b). An adult, acting on behalf of a child, can make a request in writing for a review of an investigating agency's determinations regarding a report of child maltreatment.

The Child Maltreatment Review Panel meets quarterly if there are cases to be reviewed. The panel requests and encourages written statements and documentation from all parties involved in an investigation being reviewed. The Minnesota Department of Human Services provides a coordinator who facilitates all communication with the panel.

The panel consisted of the following required agency representatives for calendar year 2008:

Erin Magnus, Minnesota Department of Education
Roberta Opheim, Minnesota Office of the Ombudsman for Mental
Health/Mental Retardation
Lisa Cain, Minnesota Department of Corrections
John Langworthy, Minnesota Department of Human Services
Nancy Blume, Minnesota Department of Health

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The Office of Ombudsman for Crime Victims no longer participates as it was eliminated in 2003.

Statistics for 2008:

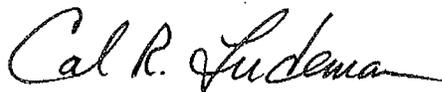
Requests for review received:	3 [1 from 2007]
Reviews conducted:	2 [1 withdrew request]
Reconsideration required:	0

Two Review Panel meetings were held in 2008. The first meeting in February reviewed one case from 2007; the second meeting in December reviewed one case received in 2008.

Recommendation:

The Child Maltreatment Review Panel continues the recommendation that the legislature consider allowing for a determination of maltreatment in a licensed facility irrespective of a determination of no determined perpetrator.

Sincerely,



Cal R. Luderman
Commissioner