



**FLORIDA  
OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM**  
ADVOCATING FOR QUALITY LONG-TERM CARE

**WEST COAST DISTRICT  
MID & S PINELLAS COUNCIL OPEN SESSION MINUTES  
11/12/2020**

OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES			
Donna Cottone	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Stein	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Philip Everett	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barb Timo	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cyndi Floyd	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Unterberger	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Kathleen Hall	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carol Wallace	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Susan Holderness	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Carol Weideman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ellen Lamparter	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Darlene Westberg	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Sheila Ramsdell	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Annette Perry, District Ombudsman Manager	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alan Sherman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy Lemke, Administrative Assistant	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**GUEST(S)**

Stephanie Wilkerson, Sr. Human Services Counselor Supervisor, Florida Department of Children and Families,  
Adult Protective Services

**OPEN SESSION**

- Called to order at 12:15 PM                      Quorum Established:    ☒ Yes    ☐ No
- Open Session Statement                      Minutes Approved:       ☒ Yes    ☐ No

**UPDATES/REPORTS**

- **Council Chair – Donna Cottone**
  - Council membership is at 14.
  - Ombudsman Activity Report and days of availability requested. Ombudsman Summary report distributed via mail and email prior to the meeting.
  - Council Chair nominations and election will be held during New Business today.
  - Advocacy Workgroup available for research on systemic issues. The research would be brought to the council meeting for discussion and any decisions.
- **State Council Representative Report – Carol Weideman**
  - December 4, 2020 is the next State Council Meeting. More to come after this meeting.
- **District Ombudsman Manager Report – Annette Perry**
  - Ombudsman Summary report will be distributed on 11/13/2020 via mail and email. Requested all ombudsman review for discrepancies.
  - Second Skype Training regarding re-entry into facilities policy and procedure scheduled for 11/13/2020 at 10:00 AM. Regular Skype Quality Assurance training scheduled for 12/3/2020 at 2PM.
  - Facility Communication Meeting with other agencies is held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. If you have questions, submit them to the office by close of business Friday before the meeting.
  - Reminder to all the ombudsman that Tonya Fleet of Central Office in Tallahassee will be scheduling Clearinghouse fingerprinting with all ombudsmen.
  - Certification anniversaries: Nancy Lemke 1-year and Annette Perry 10-years



▪ **Advocacy Workgroup Report: Annette Perry**

- Workgroup research is forming a better understanding of who is responsible for providing a personal allowance for assisted living residents not on OSS. An update will be sent via email prior to the next council meeting.
- Discussed visitation and residents returning after a visit outside the facility. We need to continue with the education of residents and administrators on following visit protocols.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Donna Cottone was nominated for the Mid & South Pinellas Council Chair; after verbal roll call for votes was unanimous, the motion to elect Donna Cottone as Mid & South Pinellas Council Chair was passed. Donna Cottone was elected Council Chair the year.
- Stefanie Wilkerson of DCF discussed the Department of Children and Families Holiday Project. Information was sent via email prior to the meeting. DOM has the HCBS client wish lists that may be requested for adoption. December 10, 2020 is the close date for the project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Open Session adjourned at 1:15pm.