



**DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**

3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, Georgia 30032  
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**DJJ Directive # 14-06**

**Subject: DJJ 8.6 Fatality Review in Secure Facilities**  
**Effective Date: July 1st, 2014**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Avery D. Niles".

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Avery D. Niles, Commissioner

**APPLICABILITY:**

ALL DJJ Staff, Administration, Secure Facilities

**DIRECTIVE:**

This directive is being issued to modify procedure associated to the fatality review committee, most specifically as it relates to the Commissioner's appointment to chair such committee. This directive is also being used to bring congruency between DJJ 12.21 Suicide Prevention and DJJ 8.6 Fatality Review in Secure Facilities

**GENERAL PROCEDURES**

**Policy currently states the following**

- A. The Commissioner will appoint a Fatality Review Committee ("Committee") as soon as practicable but no later than 5 business days following the death of a youth, even if complete autopsy results are not yet available. The Commissioner will appoint the chair of the Fatality Review Committee, with the Commissioner serving as an ex-officio member. The Committee will not interfere with or take the place of any ongoing investigation.

**This directive seeks to replace paragraph A as listed above with the following:**

- A. The Commissioner will appoint a Fatality Review Committee ("Committee") as soon as practicable but no later than 5 business days following the death of a youth, even if complete autopsy results are not yet available. The Commissioner will appoint the chair of the Fatality Review Committee, with the Commissioner serving as an ex-officio member. If the death was due to suicide, the Commissioner will appoint the Director of the Office of Behavioral Health Services to chair the Fatality Review Committee. The Committee will not interfere with or take the place of any ongoing investigation.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

DJJ Policy Manual Place this directive behind DJJ 8.6 Fatality Review in Secure Facilities