

**Achieving a Just Response to Sudden, Unexpected Infant Deaths  
A Workshop**

**National Academy of Sciences Building  
Room 125  
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20418**

**April 21, 2026**

**AGENDA**

8:00 am *	<b>Breakfast Available</b>
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8:30 am	<b>Welcome</b>
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National Academies' Committee on Science, Technology, and Law Co-chair:

**Martha Minow**, 300th Anniversary University Professor, Harvard Law School (virtual)

Workshop Planning Committee Chair:

**Joshua M. Sharfstein**, Distinguished Professor of the Practice, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

8:45 am	<b>Opening Remarks</b>
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**Stephanie Haridopolos**, Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the Surgeon General, Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

9:00 am	<b>What is Sudden, Unexpected Infant Death and How Are Such Deaths Investigated?</b>
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**Session Goals:**

- To create a baseline understanding of sudden, unexpected infant deaths for a diverse audience
- To orient participants to the scope of (and actors involved in) investigations of sudden, unexpected infant deaths in the United States

**Moderator:**

**Mary Beth Howard,\*\*** Assistant Professor, Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine  
Department of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

**Speakers:**

**Carrie Shapiro-Mendoza,** Adjunct Professor & Health Policy and Management Scholar,  
Department of Health Policy and Management, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory  
University

**Lauri W. McGivern,** Medicolegal Death Investigator Coordinator, Office of the Chief Medical  
Examiner, Vermont Department of Health

9:30 am	<b>Discussion with Committee and Audience Questions</b>
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10:00 am	<b>Break</b>
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10:15 am	<b>Limitations of the Current System</b>
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**Session Goal:**

- To surface problems with current approaches to sudden, unexpected infant deaths – and their consequences

**Moderator:**

**Peter Stout,\*\*** CEO and President, Houston Forensic Science Center

**Speakers:**

**Florencia Segura,\*\*** Pediatrician, Einstein Pediatrics

**Sarah Brand-McCarthy,** Attending Psychologist, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Boston  
Children’s Hospital and Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

**M.J. Menendez**, Executive Director & Senior Fellow, Center for Forensic Science Research and Education

**Keith A. Findley**, Professor Emeritus of Law, University of Wisconsin Law School

**Joseph Drelles**, Lieutenant, Grand Rapids Police Department

11:15 am	<b>Discussion with Committee and Audience Questions</b>
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12:15 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
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1:15 pm	<b>International Approaches to Sudden, Unexpected Infant Death</b>
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**Session Goal:**

- To consider international approaches to sudden, unexpected infant death

**Moderator:**

**Katherine H. Judson**,\*\* Executive Director, Center for Integrity in Forensic Sciences

**Speakers:**

**Joanna Garstang**, Clinical Associate Professor and Consultant Community Pediatrician, University of Birmingham

**Torleiv Rognum**,\*\* Professor Emeritus, Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Oslo

1:45 pm	<b>Discussion with Committee and Audience Questions</b>
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2:15 pm	<b>Remarks from the Assistant Secretary for Family Support</b>
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**Introduction:**

**Joshua M. Sharfstein**,\*\* Distinguished Professor of the Practice, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Speaker:**

**Alex J. Adams**, Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

2:30 pm	<b>Discussion with Committee and Audience Questions</b>
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3:00 pm	<b>Break</b>
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3:15 pm	<b>Elements of an Optimal Approach to Sudden, Unexpected Infant Death</b>
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**Session Goal:**

- To identify elements of an optimal approach to sudden, unexpected infant death and key steps forward

**Moderator:**

**Rachel Moon**,\*\* Harrison Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, UVA Health Children's

**Speakers:**

**Elizabeth Bundock**,\*\* Chief Medical Examiner, State of Vermont (virtual)

**Meg Sullivan**, Deputy Secretary, Public Health, Maryland Department of Health

**Stacey M. Miranda**, Supervisory Assistant State's Attorney, Conviction Integrity Unit, Office of the Chief State's Attorney, State of Connecticut

**Richard Goldstein**,\*\* Director, Robert's Program on Sudden Unexpected Death in Pediatrics, Boston Children's Hospital and Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School

4:15 pm	<b>Discussion with Committee and Audience Questions</b>
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5:15 pm	<b>Concluding Thoughts from the Workshop Planning Committee</b>
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**Moderator:**

**Joshua M. Sharfstein**,\*\* Distinguished Professor of the Practice, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Speakers:**

**Elizabeth Bundock**, Chief Medical Examiner, State of Vermont (virtual)

**Kelly Burke**, Senior Program Manager, International Association of Chiefs of Police

**Richard Goldstein**, Director, Robert's Program on Sudden Unexpected Death in Pediatrics, Boston Children's Hospital and Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School

**Mary Beth Howard**, Assistant Professor, Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine Department of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

**Katherine H. Judson**, Executive Director, Center for Integrity in Forensics  
**Rachel Moon**, Harrison Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, UVA Health Children's  
**Torleiv Rognum**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Oslo  
**Florencia Segura**, Pediatrician, Einstein Pediatrics  
**Peter Stout**, CEO and President, Houston Forensic Science Center

5:45 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>
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**\*All times U.S. Eastern**  
**\*\*Member of the Workshop Planning Committee**