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Minnesota Department of Human Services –

December 28, 2009

Peter Watson Secretary of the Senate 231 Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Mr. Watson:

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Legislation creating the Child Maltreatment Review Panel was created by Laws of Minnesota 2001 Chapter 9, Article 11, Section 3.

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 <u>626.556</u>, 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

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

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Peter Watson December 28, 2009 Page 2

Statistics for 2009:

Requests for review received:0Reviews conducted:0Reconsideration required:0

No requests for a Child Maltreatment Review Panel review were received during 2009 and none were held over from 2008.

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Recommendation:

The Child Maltreatment Review Panel has no recommendation to make to the legislature this year.

Sincerely,

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Cal R. Ludeman Commissioner