

Presentation to the House Interim Early Childhood and  
Human Services Committee

# Critical Incident Review Team (CIRT) Process

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# Agenda

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- I. Overview
- II. Timeline and Process
- III. Public Resources and Reports

Child Welfare



# **Critical Incident Review Team (CIRT) Overview**

# What is the CIRT and CIRT review?

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A Critical Incident Review Team (CIRT) is a designated committee assigned by the ODHS Director after a fatality of a child.

Most CIRT reviews do not involve children in ODHS custody.

## **Purpose of a CIRT review:**

- Ensure safety of other children in the household.
- Increase accountability to the public.
- Identify ODHS and law enforcement agency actions taken or not taken in response to the critical incident or to the events that led to the critical incident.
- Ensure ODHS timely response of recommendations.
- Increase ODHS's ability to address and recommend necessary changes to Child Welfare systems.



# CIRTS identify gaps in service quality

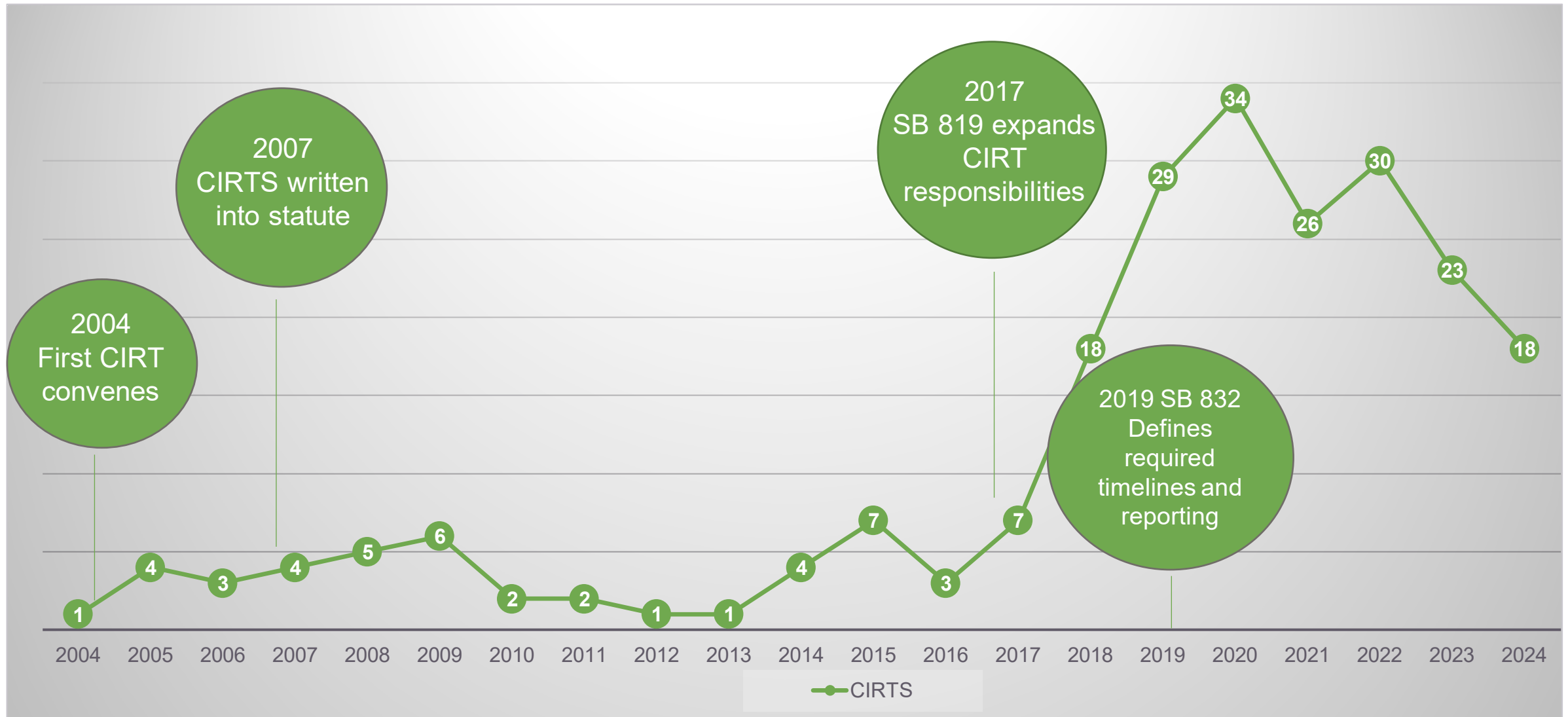
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## CIRT recommendation examples:

- Ensuring proper tools for quality clinical supervision.
- Support for evidence-based and promising practices.
- Investment in train the trainer for Safe and Together Model to improve practice when domestic violence is present.
- Safe Systems Mapping to explore youth substance use.
- Child Welfare Health and Wellness program to develop guidance for caseworkers when assessing a child with a notable medical diagnosis.



# History of the Critical Incident Review Team (CIRT)



# CIRT Participants

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## Required by Law

ODHS Director, Child Welfare Director,  
Communications representative

## By Invite

Central office leadership, subject matter  
experts, Department of Justice,  
district/local leadership, community  
partners, OHA, Self-Sufficiency Programs,  
district attorney, law enforcement agencies

# What qualifies as a critical incident?

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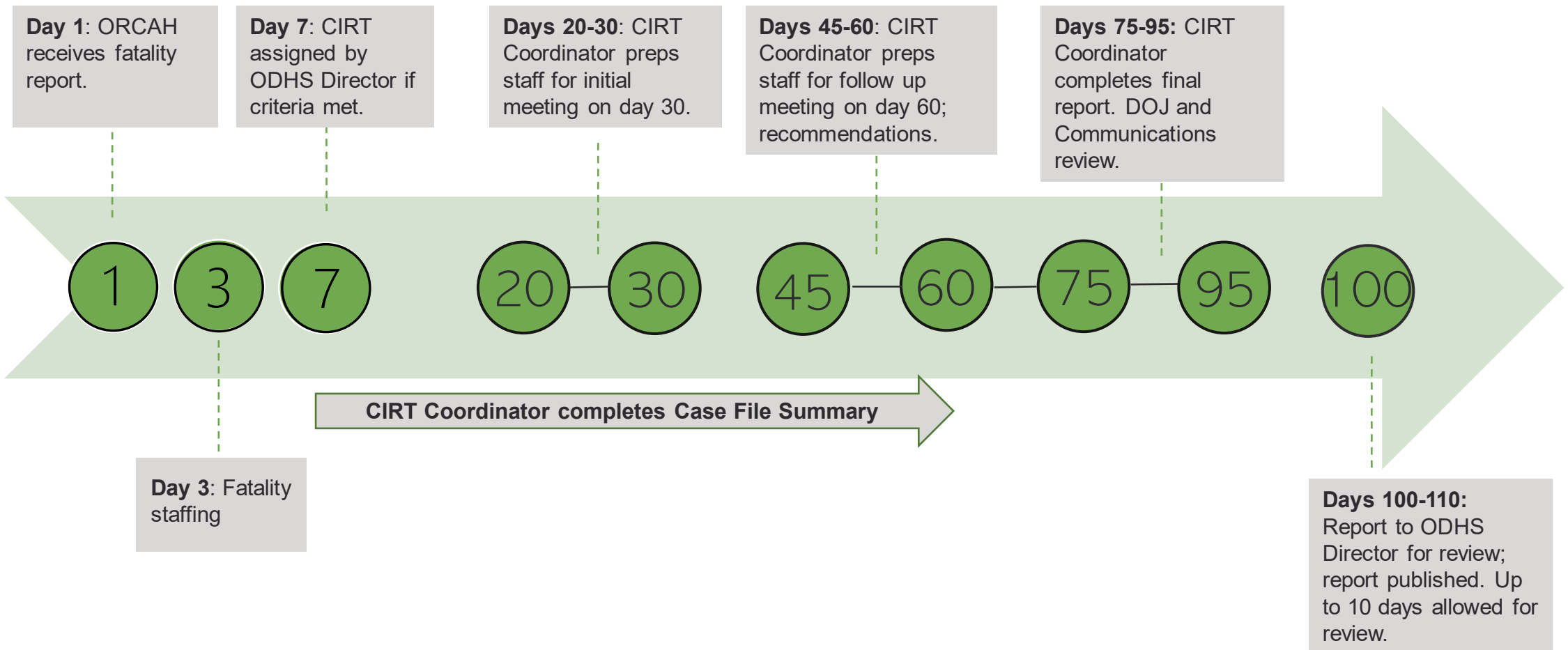
- An incident that resulted in the death of a child.
- Death is reasonably believed to be the result of abuse or neglect.
- Meets at least one of four additional criteria (within the 12 months preceding the death):
  - The child was in the custody of ODHS;
  - The child, sibling or other child living in household was the subject of a CPS assessment;
  - The child, sibling or other child living in household had a pending child welfare or adoption case **or**
  - The child, sibling or other child living in the household was subject of a report of abuse/neglect, whether or not report was closed at screening without investigation.



# **CIRT Timeline and Process**

# CIRT Timeline and reporting

CIRT timelines and reporting are required by statute.



# ODHS CIRT Resources

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- [ODHS CIRT Homepage](#)
- [ODHS CIRT Dashboard](#)
- [CIRT final reports](#)



Questions?

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Thank you.

