

HB 1492 -- THIRD PARTY AGENCY INVESTIGATIONS

SPONSOR: Walton Gray

This bill creates a board for review of officer-involved deaths. The board will consist of six members as established in the bill, including specified members of law enforcement.

The board members must be appointed by the attorney general with the initial members serving staggered terms.

The bill also requires each law enforcement agency to establish a written policy, approved by the POST commission, regarding the handling of deaths involving law enforcement officers.

Each department will be required to have a team of at least three investigators, with at least two from different law enforcement agencies that do not employ a law enforcement officer involved in the death being investigated. If the death is traffic related, a crash reconstruction unit from a disinterested agency must be used.

Any officer involved in the death will be required to submit a blood sample. A search warrant or permission from the officer will be needed to perform any analysis or test on the blood sample. At the conclusion of the investigation, the sample may be destroyed with court approval.

This bill is similar to HB 62 (2015).