



## Confidentiality Statement & Agreement

The purpose of FIMR is to examine confidential, de-identified cases of fetal and infant deaths for the purpose of identifying gaps in care and making recommendations to improve services and systems of care for women, infants, and families. Information for the case summaries prepared for this meeting has been gathered from a variety of sources, many of which are covered entities under the Privacy Rule.

The grant of authority for local teams to carry out Fetal Infant Mortality Review activities comes from the Florida Department of Health Office of the State Surgeon General. The Department considers FIMR to be an investigation into the causes of mortality for which disclosure of protected information by covered entities is authorized by 45 CFR § 164.517 (b) of the federal Privacy Rule and is offered authority under sections 395.3025(5), 405.01, and 405.02, Florida Statutes.

Communities are charged to “. . . collect and utilize vital and health statistics and make investigations and inquiries as to the causes of disease and the causes of morbidity and mortality.” While every effort is made by the FIMR staff to de-identify cases, it is understood that team members will refrain from naming individuals (if recognized) including family members, providers, and institutions. Team members will not share anecdotal information during the review, nor will they share or discuss information about individual cases and the FIMR proceedings outside of the meeting. Public statements about the general purpose of FIMR and Infant Mortality Reduction strategies may be made, as long as they are not identified with any specific case.

The undersigned has read the above statement, understands its meaning, and agrees to abide by the terms of this confidentiality statement that is effective for 1 year from the date listed:

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_