

**Domestic Violence Coordinating Council
Criminal Justice Committee
Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2016**

The DVCC Criminal Justice Committee met on March 1, 2016, at 1pm at the Middletown Police Department. Attending the meeting were Alana Wilder (WPD-VS), Joe Miller (WPD), Melanie Ewing-Lahutsky (Superior Court), Elizabeth McCourt (SARC), Adrienne Owen (DSP), Deb Reed (DSP), Brendan O'Neill (ODS), Nancy McGee (SAND), Marcey Rezac (People's Place), Reggie Laster (NCCPD), Melissa Kearney (P&P), Linda Carmichael (Superior Court), Ann Altemus (Child Inc.), Ellen Cooper (Family Court) and one member of the public, Steven del Campo, Natasha Smith (DVCC staff).

Call to order: The meeting was called to order.

Introductions: Introductions were made by all attendees.

Approve Minutes from September 29, 2015: Minutes were approved as written.

Old Business

Project Passport

Ellen Cooper (Family Court) stated that there is currently no update on Project Passport.

Law Enforcement Training

Adrienne Owen (DSP) stated that the law enforcement workgroup began planning the Law Enforcement training for the fall of 2016. The training will focus half of the day on domestic violence and half of the day on sexual assault. The law enforcement training workgroup discussed topics for the upcoming training. Adrienne went on to state that 80% of attendees need to be law enforcement and the remaining 20% of attendees can be community partners. Over the past few years, there has been a waiting list for people wanting to attend the conference.

English-only PFA order – update

The English only PFA orders issue has moved to the DVCC Immigration committee. The DVCC Immigration committee will be looking at templates that Claudia Porretti (LACC) provided to the Immigration Committee. The Immigration Committee will examine what other states have done to resolve this issue.

Unserviced PFAs – update on driver's license information

This issue went to the Police Chiefs Council in October 2015. It was sent to their goals committee. Adrienne Owen emailed Chief Horsman and he stated that he is working on seeing if this policy was accepted by the Police Chiefs Council.

Visitation Exchange at Police Stations

Alan Wilder (WPD-VS) stated that she has had clients that have done visitation exchanges in the parking lot of Wilmington police department. Alana went on to state that she informs her clients about the visitation centers services and the risks that come with visitation exchanges at police stations. Alana states that some of her clients have shared their concerns regarding exchanges at the visitation center. Some of the concerns are cost, the visitation center not being in a convenient location and the rules of the visitation center. Alana's client has also had challenges with 3rd party visitation exchanges.

During the meeting it was asked what makes visitation centers safer than anywhere else. Responses included that visitation centers are safer because there are cameras as well as, trained security guards and staff at the center. Blanche Creech (Peoples Places) stated the cost is \$4 for a visitation exchange at the visitation center and possibly lower for those with less income.

Blanche (Peoples Place) stated that she has noticed that there are PFA orders that state parties should conduct visitation exchanges at police stations. Ellen Cooper (Family Court) stated that this could possibly be a training issue for staff and judicial officers. Natasha Smith (DVCC) stated that if anyone has a copy of a Court order that states that visitation exchange should occur at a police station, please forward it on to the DVCC.

High Risk Domestic Violence Team:

Natasha Smith (DVCC) is on the list for Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center (Boston, MA) distribution list for the webinar and notification for the spring 2016 round of Technical Assistance for the Domestic Violence High Risk Team. Natasha also reached out to a domestic violence high risk team in Portland, Oregon that operates on the county level. The coordinator for the Portland, Oregon program provided the MOU and Referral form used for that high risk team. Natasha provided this information to the Co-Chairs of the High Risk Team Ad Hoc committee and suggested possible meeting dates for next steps. Marcey stated that Peoples Place is still very interested in the program. An email will be forwarded to the Ad Hoc committee once a date is chosen to discuss next steps.

New Business

Melissa Kearney (P&P) discussed an issue she recently found with open bail conditions in DELJIS. Those present suggested that it may be a system flaw when a case is closed out. Melissa will follow up with the Pretrial Supervisor to see if this issue is more prevalent in a particular court.

Reggie Laster (NCCPD) and Joe Miller (WPD) briefly discussed having correct addresses for the parties on Protection from Abuse Orders.

Next Meeting Date: To be determined