

LA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL (DVC)
COMMITTEE ON SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT (CSI MEETING)

Tuesday, February 20, 2024
2:15 P.M. to 3:15 P.M. | Pacific Time (US & Canada)
MLK Healing Center
11833 Wilmington Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90059
Room: Community Engagement, 1st Floor

Mission Statement: To implement domestic violence laws and policies and to provide resources and problem-solving support to community partners when implementation issues and problems arise. The Committee also addresses emerging issues that impact victims of domestic violence.

[See the DVC Calendar for Meeting Information](#)

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order – Gail Pincus, Rachelle Neshkes, Kate Forrest.
- II. Welcome and Introductions
- III. Standing agenda items:
 - a. Law enforcement
 - i. LAPD & LASD agency updates (Bill, Marie/Ria): New Laws
 - a. AB 818 (restraining order service) – manual will be revised, but right now it's up to watch commander at each station to determine who should be responsible for implementing this (default should be DV/major assault crimes coordinator but it could be given to someone else); anyone with experiences going into stations requesting service is invited to report back to CSI or Marie
 - Gail reports that advocates at her 3 DART stations have asked for their stations' point person who it is so they know where to send clients; she is preparing 1-pager (Eng/Sp) for clients to bring in, which she will share
 - b. SB 290 (photographs & 911 calls along w/ 911 calls) – chief of detectives notice laid out this policy to LAPD
 - Minyong notes there is often pushback from law enforcement (usually LASD, especially out in Antelope Valley, or smaller police depts) when it's still under investigation; Marie confirms LAPD policy to give it as long as the report is done
 - Det. Strnad: for LASC, if the system shows an active case, secretary asks the investigating detective if it's ok to release (won't do it in any other crime that isn't mandated by law to release b/c of concern over impacting testimony), and a lot of

LA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL (DVC)

the detectives don't know their obligation yet; he will ask FOS to send out a memo;

NOTE: doesn't include supplementals or workproduct; bodycam has its own unit

**best practice for victim to go in person to request, may be more susceptible to confusion if it's a 3rd party requesting on behalf of the victim*

- Gail: notes that it can take longer to get the 911 call than the other parts of the report, confirmed by Marie as it goes through dispatch which is short-staffed
 - committee discusses barriers to use of 911 calls in DVRO cases
 - Hearsay: litigants should be advised that they may need to argue applicability of Evidence Code 1240, which allows certain hearsay statements to be admitted if "made spontaneously" while under "stress of excitement"
 - Recorded evidence: litigants should be advised of Rules of Court 2.1040 which requires the proponent of the audio to provide a transcript; some judicial officers will apply the good cause exception in DV cases, but others are strict, so litigants should have one prepared whenever possible; committee discusses use of online AI tools to assist with transcribing

ii. Follow-up on past agenda item(s):

a. Experiences with electronic submission for service of process

**while several committee members have had good experiences so far with*

csdwebmail@lasd.org, but LAFLA reports difficulty with front desk clerks at Mosk being unaware of the law and providing incorrect information to litigants

→ Det. Strnad: if you don't get the answers you need from *clerk* supervisor, ask for a UNIFORMED LASD supervisor with rank – deputies & their **sergeants** get different memos than the civilian clerks, and alerting watch commander will prompt an investigation into the issue

b. Experiences with requesting photos/911 calls

**None yet, but will report back as soon as we have any*

b. Prosecution

i. Agency updates: SB 320 implementation

- a. City Attorney (Pallavi) is now officially looped into the notifications (previously had been receiving them informally from LAPD), will screen to see if they have any open cases in City Attorney, or post-conviction
- b. District Attorney (Janis) also gets the notice to screen for cases w/ DA or probation, and will reach out to other agencies

LA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL (DVC)

*will also reach out to the victim for safety planning

- ii. Follow-up on past agenda item(s):
 - 1. Electronic monitoring – no updates
 - 2. Modification of CPOs – no updates

c. Courts:

- i. Attorney/advocate/litigant updates or recent experiences

*Rachelle: continuing to see courts appointing Minor's Counsel in RO proceedings; problematic Minor's Counsel positions on DV

→ request for add'l MC training via legislature? Minty not sure about it actually being a state-wide issue, or more about getting good people on the list

- ii. Follow up on past agenda item(s):
 - 1. Virtual visitation orders – some success in Van Nuys?
 - 2. Courthouse as safe exchange location

IV. New, critical, and emerging issues

- a. Demand from sheriff's desk clerks for a court clerk's stamp on documents (Minty): Discussion of whether this can be dispensed with by staff training, or is it an agency expectation that needs to be addressed with the clerks and how e-filed documents are returned to litigants (currently there is no "certification" on an e-copy)
 - i. Law enforcement perspective: need some method of verification b/c of severe consequences (violation will lead to an arrest, so underlying order needs to be valid)
 - there is discussion about whether the officer can check the justice portal to confirm that they have the most recent order, but there is concern that this undermines Government Code 26666.2 that we're still trying to get them to obey re: not conducting substantive review of court orders
 - ii. Discussion of whether this might be better posed to the courts – Government Code 68150 allows for electronic certification which would resolve the legitimacy question
- b. Language access with the sheriff's office – demand letter or administrative complaint re: obligation to utilize Language Line? (Stephanie)
 - Working on a demand letter, keep on for next month's agenda
- c. Protocol for custody order violations – business card or full report? (Minty & Gail)
 - Ran out of time, keep on for next month's agenda

IV. Next steps and action items – N/A

V. Matters not on posted agenda to be presented and placed on a future agenda. – N/A

LA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL (DVC)

- VI. Public Comments: not to exceed two minutes per person and must be on items of interest which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. – N/A
- VII. **Next** meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2024 at The California Endowment, 1000 Alameda St., LA 90012.
- VIII. Adjournment

ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS:

American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters, auxiliary aids and services, or reasonable modifications to attend Domestic Violence Council meetings and access to policies and/or procedures (i.e., to assist members of the disability community who would like to request a disability-related accommodation), will be made available if the request is made at least five (5) business days before the meeting. Late requests will be accommodated based on feasibility. Please direct all requests to: dvc@ph.lacounty.gov or call **213-974-2799** (Monday thru Friday; 9am-5pm.)

