

Colorado Judicial Department

HB23-1108 Task Force to Study Victim and Survivor Awareness and Responsiveness Training Requirements for Judicial Personnel

Task Force Recommendations Implementation Report

Submitted by the Office State Court Administrator (SCAO), Judicial Education Unit

January 2025

Background

In 2023, the General Assembly passed HB23-1108, which created The Task Force to Study Victim and Survivor Awareness and Responsiveness Training Requirements for Judicial Personnel. The Task Force was tasked with studying victim and survivor awareness and responsive training requirements for judicial personnel. The Task Force was responsible for reviewing current educational opportunities for judicial personnel, best practices for providing training, and identifying any gaps or resources needed. Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Chief Justice Brian Boatright and Kelly Kissell, Manager of the Office for Victims Programs at the Division of Criminal Justice, the Task Force met monthly to learn, discuss, and make recommendations to improve the training opportunities for judicial personnel.

The Task Force and its working groups convened from July 2023 through January 2024. The Task Force submitted its final report, including the report from the Domestic Relations Working Group, to the Judiciary Committees of the Senate, House of Representatives, and the Judicial Department on February 1, 2024. The final report included 23 Task Force Recommendations. The Colorado General Assembly requires the Colorado Judicial Department, Office of the State Court Administrator, to submit this report to update the General Assembly on the progress made toward implementing the Task Force Recommendations.

"I appreciate the collaborative nature of the Task Force process. In addition to developing the recommendations, I believe it provided stakeholders with additional insight into Judicial Department operations and existing training programs for Judicial Officers and staff, and it also provided an opportunity for judges and Judicial Department staff to understand the concerns of stakeholders." – Chief Justice Brian Boatright

The Colorado Judicial Branch implementation of the Task Force Recommendations is a collaborative effort of the following:

The Judicial Education Committee (JEC) The Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations The Judicial Education Criminal Subcommittee State Court Administrator Office (SCAO), Court Services, Family Law Program Staff State Court Administrator Office (SCOA), Judicial Education Unit Staff

Recommendation No. 1

The Supreme Court will expand opportunities for input and collaboration by creating subcommittees of the Judicial Education Committee, including a subcommittee focused on domestic relations and a subcommittee focused on victim and survivor awareness.

The Colorado Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations was created in May 2024. The current Subcommittee members consist of three judicial officers that each have a background in domestic relations, including a domestic practitioner, a district attorney, and a public defender. The Subcommittee members include a domestic relations practitioner and one victim advocate. (Appendix 1)

The Colorado Judicial Education Criminal Subcommittee was created in May 2024. The Subcommittee members consist of three judicial officers, a public defender, a district attorney, and two victim advocates. **(Appendix 2)**

Recommendation No. 2

The Judicial Education Committee will establish a public website to publish information on education programs, solicit input on perceived gaps in education, and announce other opportunities for involvement in judicial education.

State Court Administrator Office, Judicial Education Unit created the email address judicialeducation@judicial.state.co.us. This email address is active and open to the public. The webpage https://www.coloradojudicial.gov/executive-division/judicial-officer-education was published with information on judicial education and in order to solicit input, announce opportunities and establish a process for members of the public to apply for subcommittee roles.

Recommendation No. 3

The Judicial Education Committee will establish a process for members of the public to apply for subcommittees to promote that process on its website and through communications staff at SCAO.

See response to Recommendation No. 2.

Recommendation No. 4

The Colorado General Assembly should evaluate the most recent weighted caseload studies regarding judicial officer workload and provide sufficient resources to the Judicial Department to expand training opportunities, to reduce docket sizes, to provide more time for judges to attend trainings, to increase the number of mentors for judges, and to increase the number of judges. The most common gap that was discussed was the need to make time without a disruption to scheduled dockets so judges can attend the critical training that is outlined in many of the recommendations in this report. This can't be accomplished with the current judicial staffing and is even more challenging in rural judicial districts.

Over the past three years, the Judicial Department has updated the weighted caseload studies for County Court Judges, District Court Judges, and Court of Appeals Judges. These studies are conducted by a third-party vendor and analyze the amount of time necessary for processing different case types. Those studies show a significant need for additional judicial officers to keep up with the current workload of the courts. The studies provide concrete evidence and analysis that supports what the Task Force recognized: Colorado's state court judges do not have sufficient time to manage their dockets and also attend all of the educational programming that they would ideally be free to attend.

The Judicial Department has worked with members of the General Assembly, and on January 8, 2025, the legislature introduced SB 25-024. This bill would provide 29 additional judges in county court, district court, and the Court of Appeals over two years. This will provide some much-needed docket relief for the judicial districts with the greatest need. Since introduction, the legislature has scaled back the bill to include 15 judges over two years. However, even with the addition of the 29 judges initially requested, the Judicial Department would not achieve anything close to full staffing. While we anticipate that the additional judges will free up some judicial officer time for education and training, the docket and workload demands will still present an obstacle for judicial officer education opportunities.

Chief Justice Márquez recently announced an initiative to holistically evaluate the education and training opportunities available for our judges. This initiative will evaluate opportunities for an onboarding period for new judges and defined training programs for judges entering new dockets. It will also look at on-demand training opportunities for judges taking the bench in the periods between the Department's week-long New Judge Orientation and week-long Advanced New Judge Orientation, which take place in December and May, respectively. The biggest challenge in implementing this initiative will be the time demands on our judges and ensuring the Judicial Department has the education resources to develop and deliver expanded education opportunities.

Recommendation No. 5

The judicial education subcommittee on victims and survivors should include representation from victim-serving organizations in a number that is balanced in relation to other stakeholders on the committee. Given the role of the courts, balanced representation is important to preserve the fairness and impartiality of its work.

The Colorado Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations was created in May 2024. The current Subcommittee members consist of three judicial officers that each have a background in domestic relations, including a domestic practitioner, a district attorney, and a public defender. The Subcommittee members include a domestic relations practitioner and one victim advocate. (Appendix 1)

The Colorado Judicial Education Criminal Subcommittee was created in May 2024. The Subcommittee members consist of three judicial officers, a public defender, a district attorney, and two victim advocates. **(Appendix 2)**

The victim advocate perspective on both subcommittees is critical in identifying priorities and additional education opportunities.

Recommendation No. 6

Inclusion of subject matter experts regarding IPV, sexual violence, and children impacted by violence on the larger judicial training subcommittee.

Judicial Education Subcommittees and SCAO Judicial Education Unit are including subject matter experts in judicial training and establishing an internal list of subject matter experts for judicial trainings. The following educational programming with subject matter experts has occurred based on task force recommendations:

Date: June 13, 2024

Title/Program: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute Included inclusive subject experts in IPV, sexual violence, and children impacted by violence. Those inclusive subject experts were as follows:

Jane Irvine, LPC, Psychotherapist, Board Certified Counselor, Mediator, and former English family lawyer with over 35 yrs. experience in Domestic Relations cases. She is trained in mediation, for CASA, receives appointments as an independent Special Advocate (CFI) and has represented children of all ages in many high conflict cases as a Special Advocate (CFI); served as court expert for parenting time recommendations on relocation, reunification (reintegration) therapy, child development, and therapy with children.

Margaret Abrams, former Director Rose Andom Center. Expert in program development for domestic violence intervention and services to victims; client services in a domestic violence shelter, providing civil legal assistance to battered women, private practice counseling with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; and training and education to a wide range of community and professional groups.

Keisha Sarpong, Fatality Review Program Manager at Rose Andom Center, and an experienced victim advocate with a demonstrated history of working in the victim services.

Dr. Kate McNamara, a licensed psychologist in private practice, conducted hundreds of parenting evaluations and has testified as an expert in parenting disputes and related cases, and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Colorado State University.

Date: September 15, 2024

Title/Program: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference Included inclusive subject experts in IPV, sexual violence, and children impacted by violence. Those inclusive subject experts were as follows: Amber McDonald, Ph.D., LCSW is the Deputy Director of and Assistant Professor for the Stress, Trauma, Research, Trauma & Adversity (START) Clinic at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry.

Kara Napolitano is a human rights advocate and trainer. Kara holds an MA in International Development with concentration in International Human Rights Law from the University of Denver.

Kristina Wilburn is the Associate Manager of Training and Education for the Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking.

Nil Buckley is an expert in Mental Health Counseling with an emphasis in addiction from the University of Colorado, Licensed Professional Counselor and a Licensed Addiction Counselor.

Recommendation No. 7

Ask the appropriate judicial education subcommittees to identify the most effective ways to include education from experts, including those with lived experience, medical professionals, and other subject matter experts in trainings related to topics related to victim and survivor awareness while also maintain impartiality of the training.

Judicial Education Subcommittees and SCAO Judicial Education Unit are including subject matter experts in judicial training and establishing an internal list of subject matter experts for judicial trainings. The Judicial Education Unit has always looked to subject matter experts, both internal and external to the Department, but now this process is more formalized in the Judicial Education structure.

Recommendation No. 8

The appropriate judicial education subcommittee shall evaluate current educational programming and identify opportunities for improvement regarding:

- the impact of intimate partner violence exposure on children;
- the behavior of victims and how to be trauma centered when engaging with victims;
- power and control tactics of abusers post-separation abuse;
- the reliability of information entering the courtroom;

- An understanding of the role, limitations, and qualifications of third-party neutrals such as child family investigators, parental responsibility evaluators, county department of human services, and others and provide training sessions across professions;
- myths and misconceptions surrounding interpersonal violence, trauma, sexual violence, and stalking and how these myths and misconceptions and unscientific information are used in the courtroom;
- offender behavior in stalking cases, and the role of the court in protecting victims;
- domestic violence lethality factors and risks, and role of the court in protecting victims;
- potential bias, including race, ethnic, cultural and gender bias in decision-making;
- the impact of judicial orders on lived experience of victims and survivors;
- child abuse and the role of the court in protecting child victims; and
- the neurobiology of trauma and presentation of victim dynamics and what it means for judicial officers presiding over cases.

Judicial Education Committee, Subcommittees, and the SCAO Judicial Education Unit are continually evaluating educational programming and identifying opportunities for improvement. The following educational programming has occurred based on the Task Force recommendations:

Date: May 31, 2024

Title: Domestic Violence and Children a Judicial Officer Lunch & Learn **Topics:** Colorado Domestic Violence Offender Management Board Standards & Updates, 1.03 Clinical Features of Domestic Violence and Abusive Behaviors, Adverse Childhood Experiences-ACEs Assessment (materials available) and coercive control, cultural abuse, emotional abuse, financial, psychological abuse, verbal abuse, reproductive abuse.

Date: June 13, 2024

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute - Domestic Violence Evaluations and Intervention Options in Family Law Cases

Topics: Policy and practice pertaining to the evaluation and intervention strategies of domestic violence in the domestic relations court spaces. Information on the DVOMB white paper outlined the structural barriers as well as proposed solutions to address cases where there are concerns of domestic violence. Discussion about identifying predominant aggressors in domestic violence cases, including case examples related to the evaluation and treatment of domestic violence in non-criminal cases. Also, information included on how to support and provide resources to survivors of domestic violence, including coordination with community-based advocacy or organizations.

Date: June 13, 2024

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute - Domestic Violence Fatalities in Domestic Relations Cases

Topics: The lethality indicators and dynamics that play a large role in domestic violence homicides, and murder suicides, of victims and their children as well as effective

intervention strategies, as studied by the Denver Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DMDVFRT) and Fatality Review Program Manager.

Date: June 13, 2024

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute - Mediation to Court: Best Practices in the Shadow of Domestic Abuse

Topics: Judges, family court facilitators, and sherlock's pressures to deal with domestic abuse elements in domestic relations cases, even with incomplete facts and information. This presentation aimed to help distill best practices in pre and post decree divorce and separation matters involving domestic abuse.

Date: June 13, 2024

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute - Dilemmas Involving Adolescents **Topics**: Cases in which teens are involved and discussing the developmental and practical considerations for the court who must make decisions regarding their best interests.

Date: June 13, 2024

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute - After Triage: How Can We Help (And When Do We Just Enter Orders)

Topics: APR orders judicial officers can make and the orders they can't/shouldn't; how much making orders can or cannot change a family system; the impact of delayed orders versus immediate (even imperfect) orders; being at peace with an inability to make a family function better.

Date: June 13, 2024

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute - Effective Use of Child Advocates: Who When Why and How

Topics: The nuances of use of child advocates in domestic relation cases, understanding which types of advocates are the best fit for which types of cases, statutory changes, and Kaden's Law.

Date: September 15, 2024

Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference - Impact of Trauma on Brain and Behavior

Topics: Empirical research on the impact of traumatic exposures on children and adults. Participants engaged in a facilitated discussion with the presenter on the impact of these traumatic exposures, pointedly on brain and behavior, and the crucial role of judges in mitigation.

Date: September 15, 2024

Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference - Trauma Responsive Courtrooms: The Intersections of Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence and Human Trafficking and the Impact on Children and Youth **Topics:** Minors who have been trafficked are dropping out of school, using substances to cope with their trauma, and filling up our youth detention centers; understanding the distinction between choosing to engage in criminal behavior and coerced sexual acts or forced criminality; nuances of trauma and knowing the existing resources to support survivors. The crime of human trafficking intersects with many other vulnerabilities and experiences. Those who experience trafficking being victims of child abuse or domestic violence, they may be experiencing homelessness or go on multiple runs, or they may suffer from mental illness or substance abuse disorders. Judges and other professionals supporting systems-involved youth must collaborate to understand these nuanced situations without doing more harm. Situate trafficking in a local context and provide recommendations for more trauma-responsive courtrooms.

Date: September 15, 2024

Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference -Protecting Futures: Navigating Intimate Partner Violence and Children's Well-Being in Court Proceedings

Topics: Coercive control identified as a domestic violence typology since 2007, Colorado statutes now recognizing the importance of understanding and assessing for its presence in both criminal and civil cases and how judicial officers and affiliated professionals can recognize whether coercive control exists in a domestic violence case and how to address it.

Date: September 18, 2024

Title: Judicial Conference, Domestic Day, Setting the Stage: The Culture of Your Courtroom

Topics: Cognitive bias, implicit bias, cultural competence, effect of judge demeanor on a process of case, motivational interviewing techniques to help people feel heard

Date: September 18, 2024

Title: Judicial Conference, Domestic Day, Reading the Signs **Topics:** Dynamics of Domestic Violence, Reading the Signs, Judicial Decisions in Domestic Relations Cases

Date: June 4, 2025

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute - Coercive Control in DR Cases: A Review of New Statutory Language

Topics: In 2024, there were a number of legislative updates that impact cases involving domestic violence and children. This includes Title 14, especially with regards to coercive control and domestic violence considerations in domestic relations cases; and to Title 13 with regards to awarding care and control of children in protection order cases.

Date: June 4, 2025

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute – Child focused parenting plans in a DV aware Culture

Topics: Developmentally appropriate child focused parenting plans are key to long term healthy parent/child relationships. Discussion of attunement, parenting skills through the lens of DV legislation, burden of proof, attachment theory, harm of a damaged attachment, and the role of executive parent.

Date: June 4, 2025

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute – Refuse Resist Cases: Why are there so many and what can we do?

Topics: Post decree parenting struggles are often founded in poorly crafted parenting plans. We will discuss what child behaviors indicate that a plan is not working for a child, the differing capacities of children, the special needs of neurodiverse children, and the impact of parenting deficits through the lens of DV/coercive control as a family system problem. Learn *the harm of generalization, the risks of not intervening, and some interventions available.*

Date: June 5, 2025

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute – Effective Appointments and Use of CFIs and/or PREs in Complex Cases

Topics: Using case examples and reputable authorities in family law, this session will guide judicial officers in assessing the credibility, reliability, and evidence-based practices of CFI/PRE reports, empowering them to make informed, balanced decisions serving the best interests of the child for the APR.

Date: June 5, 2025

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute – Kayden's Law and Its Implications **Topics:** Detailed overview of Kayden's Law focusing on the requirements, limitations and implications of the law with a focus on practical, everyday application in the courtroom.

Date: June 5, 2025

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute – Domestic Violence in Court Proceedings: What is DV really?

Topics: Develop an understanding of dynamics of DV to properly address legal issues arising in family law cases such as credibility, intimidation, recantation and factors to recognize when evaluating the best interests of the child.

Date: June 5, 2025

Title: Domestic Relations & Probate Institute – Data Unveiled: A Deep Dive into Americans Experience and Resolve Family and IPV Issues

Topics: IAALS will soon be releasing a report highlighting the family and IPV data from its 2021 Justice Needs study that assessed the needs of people of all income levels and

across all regions of the country. This session will share that data and offer recommendations for how to address these vital needs.

The following educational resources have been updated and released to all judicial officers.

Domestic Relation Bench Cards (Appendix 3)

The complete subject list of these Bench Cards is below:

- Allocation of Parental Responsibilities
- o Bankruptcy
- o Child Support
- o Civil Protection Order (updated 1/1/2025 to reflect HB24-1122 legislative changes)
- o Common Law Marriage
- Contempt of Court
- Division of Marital Assets and Debts
- o Emergency Motion to Restrict Parenting Time
- Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO) and Temporary Risk Protection Order (TERPO)
- o ICWA
- Invalidity of Marriage
- o Maintenance
- o Marital Agreements
- o Parentage
- o Relocation
- o Sorensen
- o Uncontested Dissolution of Marriage or Legal Separation

The following are on-going and future educational programming and resources.

The Colorado Judicial Department, Judicial Education Unit has been approved as a grantee for the 2025-2026 federal S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Program **(Appendix 4)**. The grant allows agencies to support a broad range of activities to address violence against women, specifically victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. This grantee was selected for award by the Crime Victims Services Advisory Board.

The first draft of the Domestic Violence Bench Book will be completed by the end of the 2024/25 Grant Cycle. Into the 2025/2026 Grant Cycle, the Domestic Violence Bench Book will be reviewed and amended by relevant SCAO staff and stakeholders including the Judicial Education Subcommittee members. Once edits are complete, a recorded webinar series will be created by January 2026 to educate on specific topics and use of the Domestic Violence Bench Book to judicial officers. This webinar series will highlight the key areas of law covered within the text and explain how the bench book can be used effectively in the courtroom.

The Judicial Department will continue creating and providing the VAWA Institute for Colorado Judicial Officers. The Institute contained four training sessions that all focused on the judicial officer and courtroom responses to sexual assault perpetrators and survivors.

The Judicial Department will continue the Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) News E-Brochure (Digital Content) that: 1. Explains court decisions from the Court of Appeals affecting protection orders and firearm relinquishment; 2. Markets the DV 101 E-Course created during the last grant period. Judicial will continue to develop and publish courses on VAWA topics and develop and publish "VAWA News for Judges" brochures, which are delivered to 400 judges and magistrates every quarter. The content provided in the brochures is generally timed to inform judges on changes in the law, legal trends, new research findings, or high-profile VAWA cases. The Department will continue its local outreach initiative, meeting with community groups involved in domestic violence issues.

The Domestic Relations and Probate Institute will be held on June 4th – 6th, 2025. This year's theme is Family Matters: Because Families Matter. This conference will provide subject matter specific training for 150+ Judicial Officers and their staff that specifically interact with Domestic Relations and Probate court users. This year the conference is offering 35 sessions that cover a range of topics including Coercive Control, Resist Refuse Matters, Trauma Informed Courtrooms, Effective Use of Third-Party Neutrals, Intimate Partner Violence Issues, and Domestic Violence in Court Proceedings. This conference's planning committee has been intentional to consider the recommendations outlined by the members of this taskforce and has solicited sessions to meet these recommendations as we are able. Sessions are presented by subject matter experts and professionals currently working in the areas of Domestic Relations and Probate.

Recommendation No. 9

The appropriate judicial education subcommittee shall evaluate current educational programming and identify opportunities for improvement regarding:

- Full Faith & Credit recognizing Tribal court orders of protection and removing the barriers for survivors from those community's from having to pay additional court fees;
- Sexual assault, counter-intuitive victim behavior, avoiding victim blaming (current offerings only cover SO and SVP), and the impact and neurobiology of trauma;
- Domestic Violence Offender behavior post-separation battering tactics; and
- Risk assessment/management for victims and the Address Confidentiality Program.

It was highlighted that there is still confusion regarding the federally recognized tribes in Colorado and how the Tribal Court orders may intersect with the State Courts. Further training around this topic could help to alleviate some of the confusion and improve the system for American Indian victims. The other topics that are highlighted in this recommendation are in line with other recommendations in the report that seek to review and improve the training regarding sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking and child abuse and the victims' interactions with the courts.

Judicial Education Committee, Subcommittees, and the SCAO Judicial Education Unit are continually evaluating educational programming and identifying opportunities for

improvement. The following educational programming has occurred based on Task Force recommendations:

Date: September 15, 2024

Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference - Impact of Trauma on Brain and Behavior

Topics: Empirical research on the impact of traumatic exposures on children and adults. Participants engaged in a facilitated discussion with the presenter on the impact of these traumatic exposures, pointedly on brain and behavior, and the crucial role of judges in mitigation.

Date: September 15, 2024

Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference -Protecting Futures: Navigating Intimate Partner Violence and Children's Well-Being in Court Proceedings

Topics: Coercive control identified as a domestic violence typology since 2007, Colorado statutes now recognizing the importance of understanding and assessing for its presence in both criminal and civil cases and how judicial officers and affiliated professionals can recognize whether coercive control exists in a domestic violence case and how to address it.

Recommendation No. 10

The Judicial Education Committee will identify ways to track and evaluate the efficacy of the various judicial education programs. Currently, there is an opportunity for judges that participate in judicial education programs to complete a survey regarding the training. The Task Force discussed the need to continue to review the education opportunities and explore more ways to expand the current process for evaluation and determine if there are changes that can be made to better ensure that the educational opportunities are effective in increasing judge's understanding of a topic. It is important to note that this would not be tracking an individual judge's learning, but a tracking of the training's content and the training modality for its efficacy.

Judicial Education Committee, Subcommittees, and SCAO Judicial Education Unit are identifying ways to track and effectually evaluate training and programming. Evaluations will include specific questions addressing the overall understanding of the concepts and materials provided in order to determine if further training is needed. An evaluation process has been added to the Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, New Judge Orientation Domestic Relations Day and Advanced New Judge Orientation Domestic Relations Day.

The review of the Bench Basics Videos has included a targeted evaluation of whether the videos are providing sufficient domestic violence and trauma training.

Additionally, for all Continued Legal Education accredited training opportunities, as a part of that accreditation, participants are provided with a survey to evaluate the attended training. There are current continued legal education requirements for judges that require 45 general credits every three years. Included in that total is a requirement for seven professional responsibility credits that include two credits in equity, diversity, and inclusivity as well as five credits for legal ethics or legal professionalism.

Recommendation No. 11

The appropriate judicial education subcommittee shall evaluate ways to provide training opportunities for Child Family Investigators and Parental Responsibility Evaluators to meet statutory requirements and to ensure that those professionals receive high-quality and consistent training opportunities.

Judicial Education and the SCAO are currently exploring partnership opportunities to provide a training that would meet the statutory training requirements for Child and Family Investigators and Parental Responsibilities Evaluators set forth in §14-10-127.5.

The Judicial Department has entered into an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with the Attorney General's Office to work cooperatively on developing training for PREs and CFIs. Through that IGA, the Department and the Attorney General's Office are in the process of drafting a Request for Proposals to identify a vendor that would work with the Department and the Attorney General's Office to develop and deliver modern and robust training for PREs and CFIs on the topics identified in statute. We anticipate that this training will also be valuable for judges and court staff. The Department and the Attorney General's Office will both contribute some amount of funding, and we are doing this, to the extent we are able, with existing resources.

Recommendation No. 12

The Judicial Department will create an onboarding program for new judges and for judges rotating onto domestic relations and criminal dockets that will include programming recommended by the subcommittees with stakeholder input. Topics will include but not be limited to trauma-informed care and the neurobiology of trauma, depth of context within power and control, expert witness utilizations, Victim Rights Act training on implementation (Rights in action e.g., privacy, right to be present, virtual access), child and human development in the context of trauma emphasizing training on the interest of the child, trauma informed courtrooms, interpersonal violence, and

The Judicial Department is evaluating onboarding programming for new judges and for judges rotating onto domestic relations and criminal dockets. Starting in 2024, Judicial has added an entire day dedicated to domestic relations to New Judge Orientation (December) and Advanced New Judge Orientation (May). These dedicated domestic relation training days will be open to all judicial officers.

The New Judge Orientation, Domestic Training Day, December 13, 2024, included the following topics:

- Setting the Stage: The Culture of Your Courtroom Cognitive and Implicit Bias and Cultural Competence
- Personal Identity Characteristics and Creating a Courtroom of Respect, Trauma Informed Courtroom
- A Conversation: What I Wish I Knew About a Domestic Relations Docket, Children Victims

Domestic Relation Orders & Case Management

The New Judge Orientation, Domestic Training Day, December 13, 2024, included the following material supplements: Information on HB23-1108 and the Task Force Recommendations, a courtroom demeanor statement, a domestic relation resource list, a reference to applicable law and orders, an asset debt spreadsheet, a pretrial order, simplified APR & CS permanent orders samples, sample simplified financial permanent orders, and all domestic relations bench cards.

A dedicated and defined area on the Judicial Learning Portal is being developed specifically for new judges and judges transitioning to domestic dockets.

A Victim Rights Act (VRA) Training took place February 7, 2025, and was recorded and is available to all judicial officers.

Recommendation No. 13

The Judicial Department will create an on-demand training related to the Victim Rights Act (VRA), Domestic Violence (DV) 101, Sexual Assault (SA) 101, and Child Abuse 101. The on-demand training is necessary because the new judges are selected throughout the year, and sometimes new judges do not attend new judge orientation for nearly a year, depending on when they take the bench. Like the prior recommendation, any expansion of judicial resources for new judges to watch prior to taking the bench is a best practice to make sure the judge has a basic understanding of these violent crimes and their responsibilities under the Victim Rights Act in criminal cases. In addition, the on-demand training videos will allow any judge to review this information if they are transitioning to a new docket.

A Victim Rights Act (VRA) training took place February 7, 2025, and was recorded and available to all judicial officers.

Applicable trainings held at the 2026 Domestic Relations and Probate Institute will be recorded and available to all judicial officers.

The Judicial Education Subcommittees are reviewing the Bench Basics videos that are available to all judicial officers on-demand.

The Judicial Department will continue the Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) News E-Brochure (Digital Content) that: 1. Explains court decisions from the Court of Appeals affecting protection orders and firearm relinquishment; 2. Markets the DV 101 E-Course created during the last grant period. The Judicial Department will continue to develop and publish courses on VAWA topics and develop and publish "VAWA News for Judges" brochures, which are delivered to 400 judges and magistrates every quarter. The content provided in the brochures is generally timed to inform judges on changes in the law, legal trends, new research findings, or highprofile VAWA cases. Judicial will continue its local outreach initiative, meeting with community groups involved in domestic violence issues.

The following training has been added to the Judicial Learning Portal and is available to all judicial officers:

Date: May 31, 2024

Title: Domestic Violence and Children a Judicial Officer Lunch & Learn **Topics:** Colorado Domestic Violence Offender Management Board Standards & Updates, 1.03 Clinical Features of Domestic Violence and Abusive Behaviors, Adverse Childhood Experiences-ACEs Assessment (materials available) and coercive control, cultural abuse, emotional abuse, financial, psychological abuse, verbal abuse, reproductive abuse.

Date: September 15, 2024

Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference - Impact of Trauma on Brain and Behavior

Topics: Empirical research on the impact of traumatic exposures on children and adults. Participants engaged in a facilitated discussion with the presenter on the impact of these traumatic exposures, pointedly on brain and behavior, and the crucial role of judges in mitigation.

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Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference - Trauma Responsive Courtrooms: The Intersections of Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence and Human Trafficking and the Impact on Children and Youth **Topics:** Minors who have been trafficked are dropping out of school, using substances to cope with their trauma, and filling up our youth detention centers; understanding the distinction between choosing to engage in criminal behavior and coerced sexual acts or forced criminality; nuances of trauma and knowing the existing resources to support survivors. The crime of human trafficking intersects with many other vulnerabilities and experiences. Those who experience trafficking being victims of child abuse or domestic violence, they may be experiencing homelessness or go on multiple runs, or they may suffer from mental illness or substance abuse disorders. Judges and other professionals supporting systems-involved youth must collaborate to understand these nuanced situations without doing more harm. Situate trafficking in a local context and provided recommendations for more trauma-responsive courtrooms.

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Title: The Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Judicial Conference -Protecting Futures: Navigating Intimate Partner Violence and Children's Well-Being in Court Proceedings

Topics: Coercive control identified as a domestic violence typology since 2007, Colorado statutes now recognizing the importance of understanding and assessing for its presence in both criminal and civil cases and how judicial officers and affiliated professionals can recognize whether coercive control exists in a domestic violence case and how to address it.

Recommendation No. 14

Include training for appropriate judicial personnel as determined by the appropriate subcommittee on best practices to minimize traumatization. The Task Force recognized that most of the recommendations are intended for judges, but there was also an understanding that there are other judicial personnel that are public facing that interact with victims. It was important to recognize this gap and to find a mechanism for additional training for judicial personnel. The subcommittees should include this as part of their conversation when they are developing training.

The Judicial Education Domestic Subcommittees are prioritizing additional judicial officer training for trauma informed courtrooms, which would include training judicial officers on training court staff.

Recommendation No. 15

The Task Force members who have time and interest are welcome to continue to meet quarterly through the end of 2024 so the group can monitor and discuss the implementation of all recommendations. Recognizing that the HB23-1108 created the Task Force for a specific amount time, the Task Force discussed the importance of the conversations continuing past the preparation of this report and the final meeting in January as required by the legislation. Moving forward, members of the Task Force were offered the option to continue to meet with State Judicial to work on the implementation of the various recommendations.

The Judicial Department received no requests from the Task Force for additional meetings in 2024. If Task Force members wish to meet individually, Judicial Department staff are available to meet, If the full Task Force wants to have an implementation discussion following the issuance of this report, the Judicial Department will work with the Office of Victims Programs to organize a meeting.

Recommendation No. 16

Create a Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations that will identify the necessary knowledge and skills that DR judicial officers should possess, endorse general principles by which learning is best fostered (e.g., use a variety of learning formats, give judges significant control over when, how, and where their learning takes place, etc.), and ensure overall quality and effectiveness of educational programs.

The Colorado Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations was created in May 2024. The Subcommittee has been tasked with identifying the necessary knowledge and skills that DR judicial officers should possess, identify and endorse general principles by which learning is best fostered, and ensure overall quality and effectiveness of educational programs.

Recommendation No. 17

Develop additional resources so judges can take time away from their dockets for educational opportunities and onboarding.

The Judicial Department is reviewing expansion and improvement to the senior judge program to provide docket coverage for new judges to receive domestic relation training and go through a more structured onboarding process when they begin a domestic relations

docket. However, the Senior Judge Program is limited in its funding and in the number of senior judges serving in the program. Thoughtful expansion of the program will help provide docket coverage for judges to attend education programs and trainings.

Recommendation No. 18

Develop an ethos that domestic relations cases should primarily (if not exclusively) be assigned to judges who have either had training, experience, or other subject matter exposure to family law.

This recommendation cannot be accomplished in a year. The described ethos will be a part of the discussions of the Chief Justice's education and training initiative that will begin in 2025.

Recommendation No. 19

Further develop mentorship opportunities for Domestic Relations judges.

The Judicial Department recognizes the importance for a new domestic relations judge to have a mentor who can answer questions and provide feedback and support on a more regular and oftentimes immediate basis. The Judicial Education Unit is adding to its established peer-to-peer coaching program by implementing specific mentorship opportunities for domestic relations judges. Additionally, new staff were hired in the SCAO, Judicial Education Unit that has been specifically assigned to improve the established peerto-peer coaching program and mentorship program.

Recommendation No. 20

Continue development of Bench Basics videos and on-demand training modules on Domestic Relations topics, tailoring them to educating judges before they take the bench or before they are assigned to a Domestic Relations docket.

Judicial Department personnel have access to a Judicial Learning Portal through the SCAO that houses on-line learning resources, including Bench Basics recordings that cover several fundamental topics in shorter 20-minute sessions that can be reviewed at any time for new judicial officers and as a refresher when judges are transitioning to a different docket. There are over 75 different Bench Basics videos available that cover topics about civil, criminal, domestic relations juvenile, county court, and self-represented litigants. All judges have access to fourteen domestic relations Bench Basics videos through the Judicial Learning Portal. The Judicial Education Subcommittees have prioritized updating the Bench Basic video resources. The Subcommittees are reviewing scripts, need updates and discussing new modules.

The Judicial Department is developing more on-demand training resources, similar to the Bench Basics videos and other interactive training modules.

Recommendation No. 21

Continue development of educational resources to include on-demand training/ webinars, and specific case-based modules to address domestic violence (and in particular coercive control,

emotional abuse, litigation abuse, and financial abuse), child maltreatment, common custody issues, the appropriate use of therapy modalities,

The Judicial Department has recorded and posted all domestic relation trainings from the Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) Institute, Domestic Relations & Probate Institute to the Judicial learning Portal.

The Department will continue the Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) News E-Brochure (Digital Content) that: 1. Explains court decisions from the Court of Appeals affecting protection orders and firearm relinquishment; 2. Markets the DV 101 E-Course created during the last grant period. Judicial will continue to develop and publish courses on VAWA topics and develop and publish "VAWA News for Judges" brochures, which are delivered to 400 judges and magistrates every quarter. The content provided in the brochures is generally timed to inform judges on changes in the law, legal trends, new research findings, or high-profile VAWA cases. The Department will continue its local outreach initiative, meeting with community groups involved in domestic violence issues.

Judicial Education Committee, Subcommittees, and the SCAO Judicial Education Unit are identifying ways to continue development of on-demand educational resources.

Recommendation No. 22

Special consideration should be paid to the development of model parenting plan orders, the crafting of orders to specifically minimize future conflict, and identification of resources in each district to support transitioning families.

The Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations have identified this recommendation as a priority and will be evaluating current and newly requested training opportunities.

Model Parenting Plan orders (designed to minimize conflict) have been provided to new judicial officers and Domestic Relation judicial officers at the June 2024 Domestic Relations Institute and December 2024 New Judges Training.

Recommendation No. 23

A website should be developed that collects domestic relations education opportunities both within the Judicial Department and external education from partner organizations.

State Court Administrator Office, Judicial Education Unit created the email address judicialeducation@judicial.state.co.us. This email address is active and open to the public. The webpage https://www.coloradojudicial.gov/executive-division/judicial-officer-education was published with information on judicial education and to solicit input, announce opportunities and establish a process for members of the public to apply for subcommittee roles. This website will collect domestic relations education opportunities both with the Judicial Department and education opportunities from partner organizations. Additionally, the State Court Administrator's Office, Judicial Education Unit has created the email address judicialeducation@judicial.state.co.us. This email address will be available

to solicit any input and suggestions. Two webpages have been created and will be accessible via the Colorado Courts external website. Judicial Education staff in the State Court Administrator's Office are currently being trained to be content editors that will be responsible for creating, maintaining, and editing the content for the webpages.

Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations

Chair:

Hon. Marie Avery Moses

2nd Judicial District Judge

Moses was appointed to the bench in 2021. Prior to her appointment, Judge Moses was a partner at Lass Moses Ramp & Cooper, a law firm she joined in 2011. Before that, she spent time at Kelly Garnsey Hubbell & Lass (2008 to 2011) and Cook, Cooper & Moses (2004 to 2008). She specialized in family law and criminal defense matters. She has collaborated with the Colorado Legislature to draft legislation pertaining to uniform laws, civil unions, parenting time, decision-making authority, maintenance, child support, paternity, domestic violence, and third-party visitation issues.

Members:

Hon. Michelle Chostner

10th Judicial District Judge

Chostner was appointed to the district bench in 2023. Prior, she served as a magistrate judge in the 10th Judicial District since 2021, handling small claims lawsuits, probate cases, low-level traffic court, and truancy. Before that, Chostner served as a deputy district attorney in several districts across Colorado including Adams County. In Adams, she was a deputy district attorney covering most of the northeast Denver Metro area and rural areas east of Denver from 2008-2013.

Hon. Elise Myer

9th Judicial District Judge

Meyer was appointed to the bench in 2023. Prior to the bench, Ms. Myer was the head of the Office of the Colorado State Public Defender in Glenwood Springs, a position she has held since 2022. She was Deputy Public Defender in the Glenwood Springs Office from 2011-2022.

Maha Kamal, Esq.

Maha is a private practice family law attorney. Maha manages her own solo practice, the Colorado Family Law Project, which she started in 2016. Her firm offers sliding scale services for both full representation and unbundled services. She has held positions on the Colorado Bar Association (CBA) Family Law Section Executive Council (2022-2023) and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Executive Council (2022-2023). She Co-Chairs the Paraprofessionals and Legal Services (PALS) Supreme Court Subcommittee with retired Judge Angela Arkin. Maha also provides pro bono family law services for the ACLU, the Rocky Mt. Victim Advocacy Center (RMvLC), and the Rocky Mt. Immigration Advocacy Network (RMAIN).

Courtney Sutton, Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA) Public Policy Director

Courtney is the Public Policy Director at COVA. She is a passionate advocate for survivors, equity, and social justice. Courtney received her Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology from the University of Colorado Springs and her Bachelor of Science from the University of Tennessee at Martin. Prior to COVA, she served the community of El Paso County at TESSA

in a variety of roles, including Safety and Support Manager. position with COVA as the Public Policy Director. She is a passionate advocate for survivors, equity, and social justice.

One other community member TBD.

Judicial Education Criminal Subcommittee Roster

Chair:

Hon. Keri A. Yoder

7th Judicial District Judge

Judge Yoder was appointed to the 7th Judicial District Court bench in 2016. A resident of Telluride, Judge Yoder has been practicing law on the Western Slope since 1999. Prior to her appointment, Judge Yoder worked for nearly 14 years as a prosecutor in the 7th Judicial District—most recently serving as the Assistant District Attorney.

Members:

Hon. Allison P. Ernst

10th Judicial District Judge

Ernst was appointed to the bench in 2016. Prior, Judge Ernst was a deputy public defender for the Colorado Public Defender's Office from 2005 to 2011. She also was in private practice with the law firm of Becker & Ernst until her appointment to the bench in December 2016. She practiced primarily criminal and family law.

Amy Petri Beard, Esq.

Deputy District Attorney, Weld County District Attorney's Office

Mrs. Petri Beard has been with the Weld County DA's office since February 2024 and joined their SVU unit, focusing on adult and child sex assault cases. A former Senior Deputy District Attorney in both the 1st and 17th Judicial Districts, she handled adult felony cases involving child victims (including physical and sexual assault offenses) and adult sexual assaults. She has been a prosecutor for 14 years with 13 of them focused on sexual assault cases (with both child and adult victims).

Zachary Brown, Esq.

Chief Deputy, Public Defenders Office

Zak Brown is Chief Deputy Public Defender. He's worked in the Office of the Colorado State Public Defender (OSPD) for 11 years. Prior to coming to the State Office, he worked in the Durango and Pueblo offices as a lawyer, handling all types of cases, including juvenile cases. Mr. Brown also was a supervisor in Pueblo, where he supervised lawyers, paralegals, social workers and interns.

Magistrate Dalia Labrador

18th Judicial District

Dalia was appointed as a magistrate in 2023. Prior, she was a private practice criminal defense attorney at G. Law Defense. Representing victims of violence or sexual assault. Ms. Labrador has experience both on the State and Defense side. Ms. Labrador learned how prosecutors bring charges from her job at the Chicago Cook County State's Attorney's Office, which included time in both the Narcotics Unit and the First Municipal Branch.

Soledad Diaz

Violence Free Colorado

Soledad Diaz, Public Policy and Community Impact Director at Violence Free Colorado. Born in Chile, Soledad studied Law at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. She has dedicated her professional life to serving underprivileged communities and has focused her career on social justice and anti-violence work. In the US, she has worked as a bilingual legal advocate, and Shelter Program Director, which had provided rich experience in direct services for Survivors of Domestic Violence.

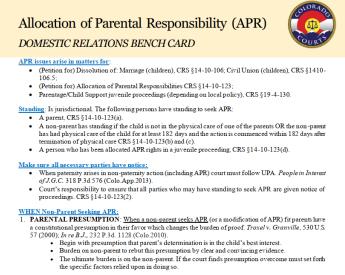
Gina Lopez

Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Gina joined CCASA in October 2018 and is the Systems Response Program Director, a remote-work position. As part of the Programs Team with CCASA, she provides training, technical assistance, education and culturally specific intimate partner violence victim services discussions and multi-systems responses. A member and resident of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe in Towaoc, Colorado and had been the Program Coordinator for the Tribe's first-ever tribal comprehensive victim services from late 2015 to 2018 supervising DV/SA and suicide prevention programs and conducting direct services advocacy and suicide support. She also facilitated a multi-Tribal coalition called NAUHZCASA (Navajo, Apache, Ute Hopi, Zuni Coalition Against Sexual Assault) that had existed over 10 years. Before entering the field, she worked in various positions within her Tribal government and business entities. In her down time, she is a fierce aunty to many kiddos and young adults in her Tribal community.

Domestic Relations Benchcard - Allocation of Parental Responsibility

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2. INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT (ICWA): If APR case involves a non-parent, as "parent" defined in ICWA, ICWA requirements apply, *i.e.*, notification of Indian tribe(s). *(see* ICWA bench card).

Domestic Relations Benchcard - Bankruptcy

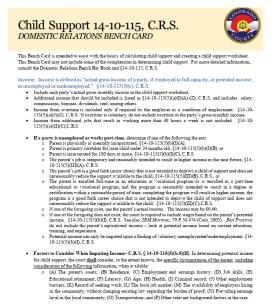
Page 1 of 3

Bankruptcy DOMESTIC RELATIONS BENCH CARD Fundamentals A pending BK or plan to file during the pendency of a DR case may result in inadvertent violations of BK or DR orders Title 11 of the U.S. Code ("Bankruptcy Code"), governs BK; 11 U.S.C. § 101 et zeq. Most BK filings are f.A. 7 (liquidation, monthly income limits), Ch. 11 (individual or business liquidation or reorganization) or Ch. 13 (recegnization). Ch. 21 and Ch. 11 reorganizations result in repsyment plans; Completion of the liquidation or reorganization will result in discharge of dischargeable debts. Chapter 7 (injuidation) BK court appointed trustee reviews debtor's assets to determine if any non-exempt assets can be liquidated to pay back unsecured relations State and Federal exemptions apply to different assets of debtor and are intended to protect them from collection. C.R.S. § 13-54-102, § 13-54-104, and § 38-41-201(Q)¹ Ouly debtors below a certain monthly income threshold qualify for Ch. 7. 11 U.S.C. § 707(2) Debts are dischargeed within approximately 4 months² Non-dischargeed bedbts include: Domestic support obligations ("DSO"). 11 U.S.C. § 523(5) a dischargeable debts include: Domestic support obligations ("DSO"). II U.S.C. § 522(5) Debt to a spouse, former spouse, or child of debtor and not [a DSO] that is incurred by debtor in the course of a diverse or spansing on its assignation agreement, divorce decree or other order of a court of resord, or a determination make in accordance with State or territorial law by a governmental unit. II U.S.C. § 523(15) Debts that cannot be discharged in Ch. 7 include: Most taxes, student loans, DSO, and property division orders in a divorce II U.S.C. § 525(2). Cannot file another Ch. 7 for 8 years, most negative credit rating (on report for 10 yrs.) Having to much income, a desire to protest mon-sempt asset, and/or the discharge of those debts which are non-dischargeable under a Ch. 7 are common reasons to purvue a Ch. 13 Chapter 11 (reorganization plan) uppler 11 (reorganization plan) □ Useb by individuals and business entities (for more complex financial situations) (expensive and lengthy) □ May be used by individuals if debt exceeds Ch. 13 cap, income exceeds Ch. 7 cap, or they don't warm assets liquidated under Ch. 7. Often used by sole propriority, such as doctors and lavyres, to reorganize their personal and business debt that are inextricably intertwined. Nore being used as an alternative to Ch. 13 to try to reorganize DSO. Debtor mary retain more control or write inffrast, used as a question their signapoint debt and mary propose a plan for payments to his creditors over time. Creditors can object. Many hoops to jump thru to be confirmed. apter 13 (reorganization plan) Debror() must repay a portion of their debts over 3 to 5 year period, using 100% of disposable income during that period, secured and priority creditors are paid first, and unsecured creditors paid last, unsecured creditors may reserve burn 1-100% of their claims depending on terms of plan. Creditors may object and/or seek to dismiss case. Certain debt limits apply, so not everyone is eligible for a Ch. 13. C. allow classing of extrain debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge object in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge object in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be non-dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be not dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in debt which would be not dischargeable under Ch. 7 DSOs not discharge of extra in dest miss to be paid in full during the plan. 11 U.S.C. § 707(b)(2)(A)(ii) ³ Chapter 1.

*CEA Comestic Relations Service Tar Book 2023 Edition, Section 12, John Exeleterry (author) and Jordan Fox and Cynthia Clando (Comitia *Bankruppt for State Court Jugges (vised), 2016 Judidal Conference, Judges Howard R. Talman and Thomas B. McHamara. *Ada Bench Bar Sock.

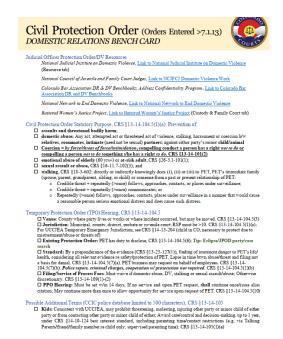
Domestic Relations Benchcard - Child Support

Page 1 of 3



Prevailing carnings level in the local community looks at the typical hours available to workers in the parent's job sector as established by any reliable source generally used and relied on by the public or persons in a particular

Domestic Relations Benchcard - Civil Protection Order



Domestic Relations Benchcard - Common Law Marriage

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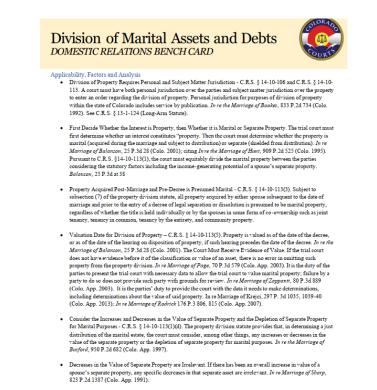


Domestic Relations Benchcard - Contempt of Court

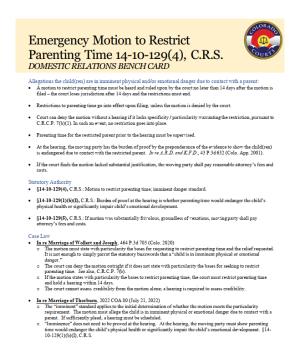


Domestic Relations Benchcard - Division of Marital Assets & Debts

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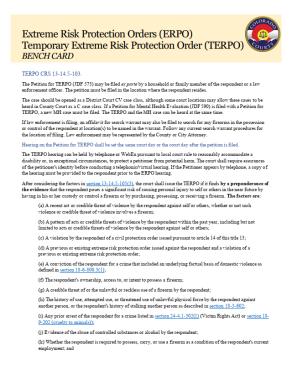


Domestic Relations Benchcard - Emergency Motion to Restrict Parenting Time



Domestic Relations Benchcard - ERPO and TERPO

Page 1 of 3



Domestic Relations Benchcard - Colorado's Licensed Legal Paraprofessionals (LLPs)

Colorado's Licensed Legal Paraprofessionals (LLPs)

LLPs can:

- Contract with the client. Obtain, explain, prepare, sign, and/or file pleadings, motions, exhibits, supporting documents, sworn financial statements, disclosures, discovery, separation agreements,
- documents, strong financial statements, disclosures, discovery, separation agreements, pareating plans, and proposed orders.
 Provide legal advice/advocacy:

 Communicate with the oppoint party or the OP's LLP/attorney regarding a thoorized family have traces filings, Tale IV-D Administrative Process cases and matters reasonably related thereto
 inform, coursel, stars, and advocate for a client in negotiations or mediation with the oppoint party or the OP's LLP/attorney.

 - tend Court: O Provide organizational and emotional support by being present at the counsel table. Assisting the client in understanding the proceedings, relevant orders, and next step O Communicate with the client during the proceeding. I tatesact with the Court (making opening statements, cloing arguments, answering the JO's questions), but CANNOT examine any witness.

LLPs must refer the client to a lawyer for issues outside their scope of licensure.

LLPs cannot:

- Examine a witness (C.R.C.P. 207.1(2)(h)).

- Examine a winness (C.R.C.P. 2071(20)h).
 Represent their client in mutress in which an expert seport or testimony is sequired to value an asset or determine income due to the inherent complexity of the syst or anonne at issue.
 Prepare documents (toch as a QDRO) allocating non-liquid extinement assets or documents essenting the sk4/distribution of business assets or commercial property.
 Handle matters in which a party is a beneficary of a trust and information about the trust will be selectuat to resolution of the matter.
 Prepare or lingate pre- or post-mainful agreement.
 Perform tasks or address sinces that ful outside of the LLP's authorized scope of practice pursuant to C.R.C.P. Rule 2071: immigration, adoption, relinquishment, D & N, command, or baakrapter cases; paindiction disputes, ponsitive contempt, non-parent APR, multiple parent parentage disputes.

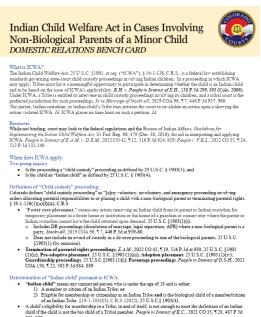
Want to review further? See C.R.C.P. Rule 207.1.

In jPOD:

- LLPs have a 600000 series bar number in pOD/CCE (ex; 600001).
- LLPs will be listed as representing clients solely and/or in addition to any attorneys. The LLP can remain in the case to assist the party even if they are unable to handle a particular issue.
 More FAQs can be found at:
- apremecoust.us/Future%20Lawyers/LLPExamination.asp

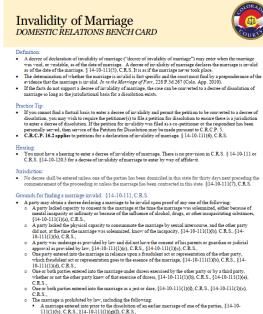
Domestic Relations Benchcard - Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) in Cases Involving Non-Biological Parents of a Minor Child

Page 1 of 4



- 36, 270. I Iodian Tiobse determine tribul membership or eligibility for tribal membership, not the court. E.A.M., 516 P.34 at 928(citing 25 C.F.R. §23.108(b) (2022)); §19-1-126(1).

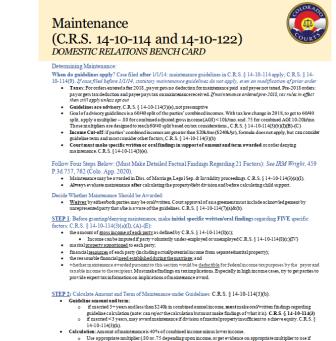
Domestic Relations Benchcard - Invalidity of Marriage



- Control points matter and the manifest provide the state of the state

Domestic Relations Benchcard - Maintenance

Page 1 of 3



Use appropriate annihibiter (30 or 7.5 depending upon income, or get evidence on appropriate multiplier to use if income over 5240; per year). CRS. 5, 14-10-114 (300, 0)(A)4-(C)
 Capped: guideline annount of maintenance + recipient spouse 's AGI may not exceed 40% of combined income.

Domestic Relations Benchcard - Marital Agreements

Marital Agreements DOMESTIC RELATIONS BENCH CARD

- The Uniform Premarial and Marial Agreements Act (UPMMA) governs the validity and enforceability of marial agreement sentered before). §14-2-301, C.R.S. et seq.

 • Marial greement cas be cancel dpice to the marine garders after hearings marine and the sentered before). §14-2-301, C.R.S. et seq.

 • Marial greement cas be cancel dpice to the marine garders after hearings marine and the sentered before). §14-2-301, C.R.S. et seq.

 • A presupplic/assemptial/presemptial/presement is effective so of the date of the marine agreement is effective so of the date the parties uping a greement. §14-2-307, C.R.S.

 • Junidation is designated in the marinal agreement. If the marinal agreement is ident on juridiction, the UPMMA control. §14-2-304, C.R.S.

 • Colora do Arose endering marinal agreement. JRMPronkz, 542 P.26345 (Colo. 1975).

 • The party challenging the marinal agreement. Jensent beyond proof by the prepondenze of the evidence. Jn re Extrate of Logator, 641 P.2695 (Colo. 1982).

- The marital agreement must be in writing and signed by both parties. §14-2-306, C.R.S. Verbal or or almarital agreements are not enforceable.
- not enforceable. The main lap gerement must include a waiver of rights unless the parties are represented by an a torney. §14-3-309(1)(c), C.R.S. The wainer of rights must be conspic room and include specific language stating the parties may be giving up rights by signing the a greement. If inselfier party has an atomey, them artial agreement is enforceable if the parties have access to independent coursel and the agreement includes a wave or rights.
- a greem entincinades a watver of rights. The marinal a greement must include adequate financial disclosures. §14-2-309(1)(d), C.R.S. The terms cannot violate public policy of Colondo.

nds to challenge a marital agreement , §14-2-309, C.R.S. Any of the following can invalidate a marital agreement

ounds to challenge a marital agreement, §14-2-309, C.R.S. Any of the following can invalidate a marital agreement: Consent to the agreement was involuting vortundr dues. • The UMMAA does not defined duese. Counts have held "there can be not dures" without there being a threat to do some cat which the threatening party hado be gain that to do - some illegal exaction or some fraud or decysion. "Follow is Gribbin, 409 So 2.04 S.%, 861 (Ha. App. 4 Dist. 1986). Colorado jury instructions define dures as "a condition of mind produced by an impropre extemal preview or imbace othat parts citally destroys the free agency of a party and causes him to do an act or makes connectatool file some volkion." CJF-CO: JOCO (2023).

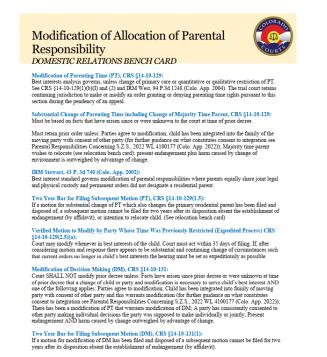
- Representation/Waiver.
 Under the UDMAAA, there is a two-step process for challenging the validity of a premarital a greement involving the question of independent counsel. (C. R. 5, 114-2-300(1)6). First, if the party lad independent legal counsel, them this ground for challenge ges a vary. *M*: Second, if the party did not have independent legal counsel, them in order for the a greement to be enforceable, the party must have had cores to independent legal counsel, them in order for the a greement to be the rights and obligations that are modified by the a greement or a notice of varive of rights. C. R. 5, 5, 14-2-300(3).
 Having "necess to counsel" it statutority defined in the UDMAAA and means that, before signing the greement or an antice of varive of rights. C. R. 5, 5, 14-2-300(3).
 Having "necess to counsel" its statutority defined in the UDMAAA and means that, before signing the greement or an antice of varive of rights. C. R. 5, 5, 14-2-300(3).
 Having "necess to counsel" time to: (a) Decide whether to retain a la vayer to provide adependent legal integeneentian (c) (ON in the la vary et a vice is and (d) (b) the other party is represented (c) (ON in the la vary et a vice is a d(d) (c) counsel and we greeness of midependent legal representation (c) (C) that the la vary is dive; a std) (c) of the other party a green party and greene and (c) (b) the other party is represented (c) (ON in the la vary et a vice is a d(d) (c) of the other party is represented (c) (C) of the independent legal larger exemption of the other party agreeness of midependent legal larger exemptions of the device and (d) (d) the other party is represented (c) (C) of the larger varies (c) add (c) of the other party is represented (c) (c) of the larger varies (c) add (c) of the other party is represented (c) (c) of the larger varies (c) of the other party agreeness (c) of the larger varies (c) add (c) of the other party is represented (c) (c) of the larger varies (c) of the
- Adequate Financial Disclovare. Before signing the agreement, the party did not receive adequate financial disclovare.
 The agreement must include a "a reasonably accurate description and good-faith estimate of value of the property, liabilities
 and income of the other party," if 41-2399 (4)(0), C.E.5.

Published February 2024

Contact Alexis Fredrickson at alexis.fredrickson@judicial.state.co.us for any proposed revisions or accessibility issues

Domestic Relations Benchcard - Modification of Allocation of Parental Responsibility

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Domestic Relations Benchcard - Determining Parentage/Maternity/Paternity

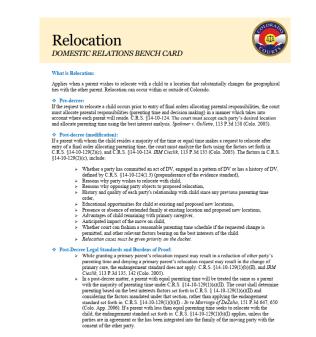
Page 1 of 2



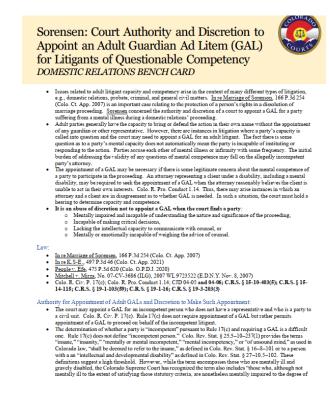
on is presumed to be a natural parent of a child if: Marriage (or just divorced): Individual is/was married to child's natural parent and child born during marriage or w/m 300 days after marriage terminated;

Domestic Relations Benchcard - Relocation

Page 1 of 2

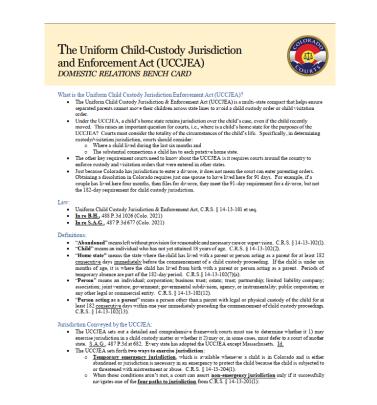


Domestic Relations Benchcard - Sorensen: Court Authority and Discretion to Appoint Adult GAL for Litigants of Questionable Competency



Domestic Relations Benchcard - The Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA)

Page 1 of 4



Domestic Relations Benchcard - Uncontested Dissolution of Marriage/Legal Separation

Page 1 of 3



 Financial Obligations for the Benefit of the Children - CRS §14-10-115

 • Child support - the guidance amount shall be used as a solvatible presumption for the establishment or modification of additasyport. C. S. 14 + 10-113(30).

 • If the parties have a writen signalation for child support, exert must review the guidaline assorant and parties 15% to determine the adjustment of the start association of the start associatin on the start association of the start association o

Grantee: Colorado Judicial Department Project: VAWA Grant – Colorado Judicial

STATE OF COLORADO INTERAGENCY GRANT AGREEMENT

COVER PAGE

Paying State Agency	DCJ Grant Number		
Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice	2024-VW-25-583-00		
Performing State Agency (Grantee)	Federal Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)		
Colorado Judicial Department	N6N5R8ZDANR3		
	Is this Award for Research and Development (R&D)?		
	No		
Agreement Performance Beginning Date (Start Date)	Initial Agreement Expiration Date (End Date)		
January 1, 2025	December 31, 2025		
Agreement Maximum Amount	Local Match Amount		
Federal Award # 15JOVW-23-GG-00562-MUMU \$146,166.00	Federal Award # 15JOVW-23-GG-00562-MUMU		
	\$48,722.00		
Total Grant Funds Awarded:\$146.166.00			
	Total Match Required: \$48,722.00		
	Total Grantee Match Required: 0%		
Agreement Authority (State Authority)	Grant Description		
The Division of Criminal Justice is authorized to disburse these	This project provides training and technical assistance to		
funds by Colorado Revised Statute 24-33.503 and 507.	judicial officers statewide on VAWA-related issues.		
Chant Dumpage			

Grant Purpose

The federal S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Program allows agencies to support a broad range of activities to address violence against women, specifically victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. This grantee was selected for award by the Crime Victims Services Advisory Board.

Exhibits and Order of Precedence

The following Exhibits and attachments are included with this Grant:

- 1. Exhibit A1, Sample Option Letter.
- 2. Exhibit A2, Sample Grant Funding Change Letter
- 3. Exhibit B, Grant Requirements.
- 4. Exhibit C, Special Conditions.
- 5. Exhibit D, Statement of Work.
- 6. Exhibit E, Budget.
- 7. Exhibit F, Federal Requirements.

In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this Grant and any Exhibit or attachment, such conflict or inconsistency shall be resolved by reference to the documents in the following order of priority:

- 1. Exhibit F, Federal Requirements.
- 2. Fiscal Rule Chapter 3-5.
- 3. Exhibit C, Special Conditions.
- 4. The provisions of the other sections of the main body of this Agreement.
- 5. Colorado Special Provisions in §17 of the main body of this Grant
- 6. Exhibit B, Grant Requirements.
- 7. Exhibit D, Statement of Work.
- 8. Exhibit E, Budget.

Appendix 4

Agency Information								
Agency Name:	Colorado Judicial Department							
Project Title:	ect Title: VAWA Grant Judicial - CY2025							
Source of Funding								
	○VOCA/General Funds ●S.T.O.P. VAWA ○SASP							
Type of Projec								

Prosecution (Prosecutor or Investigator Batterers' Intervention Program (i)Only) Education ⁽¹⁾ \square Training and/or Technical Assistance Law Enforcement (Officer or Victim Services 🛈 \square Investigator Only) Other Multidisciplinary Team (i) (Explain)

Project Description Section

Activities

Describe the project, staff and services you plan to provide with these grant funds.

The Colorado Judicial VAWA program is wide-ranging. Colorado judicial officers are constitutionally required to preside over cases as neutral factfinders, including cases involving domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. However, while judicial officers must remain neutral, judges who preside over cases involving VAWA issues can play an essential role in ensuring DV or sex assault victims receive a full and fair opportunity to participate in each aspect of the judicial process. Judges must make correct decisions regarding the admittance of evidence, decisions on motions, instructing juries, and other rulings required in criminal and civil cases. Judges must make correct decisions regarding the admittance of explanations, and other rulings required in criminal and civil cases. Judges must make correct decisions regarding the interval of explanations, jury instructions, and other rulings required in criminal and civil cases. Further, Colorado will be expanding to 23 judicial jurisdictions (from 22 judicial jurisdictions) in 2025.

The VAWA project allows judges to receive training on the information they need to protect the defendant's rights required by law. They also meet the needs of victims, who, without proper court procedures, can be unwittingly retraumatized during court proceedings. For domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and teen dating violence cases, judicial officers must understand the dynamics involved in the alleged crimes to make correct and legally sustainable decisions during a trial. As judges have different educational needs, judicial Education is aware of the need to develop training for new and more experienced judges whose needs may differ.

A new focus for the next grant cycle will be creating and training court personnel on victim education. This work comes from the Colorado Legislature House Bill 23-1108 (HB23-1108). Following HB23-1108,

EXHIBIT D, STATEMENT OF WORK Appendix 4

Colorado Judicial formed the HB23-1108 Task Force that included representation from the Courts, Rose Andom, Violence Free Colorado, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Colorado Public Defenders Office, and leaders from victim advocacy organizations. The Task Force was created to study victim and survivor awareness and responsiveness training for judicial personnel. The Task Force was responsible for reviewing current educational opportunities for judicial personnel, best practices for providing training, and identifying any gaps or resources needed. The Colorado Judicial Task Force HB-23-1108 presented final recommendations to the Colorado legislature in a final report. The goals include forming the Judicial Education Subcommittee on Domestic Relations & the Judicial Education Criminal Subcommittee, which will focus on the needed goals and new training.

We intend to maintain active projects, including developing a performance support system (PSS) to provide state judicial officers immediate access to statutory and case-based information on VAWA-specific topics. The WikiCourt website allows judicial officers who would like to obtain information on a specific issue to type in a keyword (e.g., "use of force," "residence," etc.) and receive information that could answer a particular question. The WikiCourt database is a compilation of data from various training programs, bench books, case opinions, etc., all in one location for instant access.

The first draft of the Domestic Violence Bench Book will be completed by the end of the 2024 Grant Cycle. Into the 2025/2026 Grant Cycle, the Domestic Violence Bench Book will be reviewed and amended by relevant SCAO staff. Once edits are complete, a recorded webinar series will be created to introduce the new Domestic Violence Bench Book to judicial officers, This webinar series will highlight the key areas of law covered within the text, and explain how the bench book can be used effectively in the courtroom.

Colorado Judicial will continue creating and providing the VAWA Institute for Colorado Judicial Officers. The Institute contained four training sessions that all focused on the judicial officer and courtroom responses to sexual assault perpetrators and survivors. There was a special session titled "Socially & Culturally Responsive Courtrooms Through the Lens of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, and Sex Trafficking," where attendees received ethical, diversity, and inclusion continuing legal education credits from the State of Colorado.

Colorado Judicial plans to also continue the successful VAWA News E-Brochure (Digital Content): 1. Explains court decisions from the Court of Appeals affecting protection orders and firearm relinquishment; 2. Markets the DV 101 E-Course created during the last grant period.

Judicial will continue to develop and publish courses on VAWA topics and develop and publish "VAWA News for Judges" brochures, which are delivered to 400 judges and magistrates every quarter. The content provided in the brochures is generally timed to inform judges on changes in the law, legal trends, new research findings, or high-profile VAWA cases. Judicial will continue its local outreach initiative, meeting with community groups involved in domestic violence issues in the Denver area. Judicial will work with private and public organizations to develop training that serves the needs of victims in numerous places. Although judges must always remain neutral, understanding the policies and concerns of all shareholder groups increases our ability to develop policies that provide for a more effective and efficient judicial system, thereby protecting victims' rights. Judicial Education is in constant contact with various public and private organizations regarding VAWA issues. Colorado Judicial proposes to perform best practices research of other state programs that it can discuss and potentially enact with Colorado Judicial officers (e.g., online service of protection orders, etc.)

Appendix 4

Surveys will be sent to participants after each training to determine the effectiveness of the trainings as well as gage the interest and need for future training on the topics. Judicial conducts a training needs assessment for judicial officers each year, and DV/SA trainings will be created to meet the demands of the training assessment. In addition to the needs of judicial officers, community outreach through the grant cycle will allow training to be created and altered to not just meet the needs that judicial officer have identify, but also those that the community who work with survivors of violence deem necessary. This will create communication and collaboration that will center the needs of survivors and lead to more healing, trauma informed courtrooms.

Coordinated Community Response

Please list all agencies/organizations that you will provide referrals to/receive referrals from, meet with (including task forces and/or work groups), or engage in consultation with during the grant cycle. In your response, include: the name of the other agency, the type of that agency (i.e. victim services, law enforcement, court, etc.), and a brief description of the nature of the collaboration.

1. Rose Andom Center, A domestic violence service center. Rose Andom Center is a survivor-centered, trauma-informed collaborative. Judicial plans on working with their Executive Director and staff to provide referrals but also discuss trainings that would benefit judicial officers.

2. Colorado District Attorney's Office: Anne Kelly, Senior Deputy District Attorney - lead attorney domestic violence acute response team, 20th Judicial district and Victoria Kelley, Domestic Violence Prosecution Specialist, Family Violence Unit, 2nd Judicial District. Anne and Victoria are creating (amending an existing training for prosecutors) on Firearm Relinquishment of HB 21-1255. Both Anne and Victoria also provide feedback on training opportunities and topic in criminal domestic violence cases with their feedback on current ability to support DV crime victims in Colorado Courtrooms.

3. University of Colorado School of Medicine: Amber McDonald, Ph.D., LCSW is the Deputy Director of and Assistant Professor for the Stress, Trauma, Research, Trauma & Adversity (START) Clinic at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry. Dr. McDonald is currently working on a training (or series of training) to highlight the benefits and risks of mandating physiological treatments (such as anger management or reunification therapy) in court orders.

4. Ending Violence Against Women Project: Linda Johnston, Project Director Ending Violence Against Women Project. Linda is currently working with the VAWA Education Specialist to create trainings on the most effective temporary and permanent Protection Orders for judicial officers.

Service Grids

Training Table

Estimate below the number of individuals by discipline that will be trained by grant funded and/or match personnel during the 12-month grant cycle.

Est. # of People Trained	People Trained	Est. # of People Trained	People Trained
	Advocacy Organization Staff (1)		Mental health professionals
	Attorneys/Law Students 🛈		Prosecutors
	Batterer Intervention Program Staff		Sex offender treatment providers
	Corrections personnel 🛈		Sexual assault nurse examiners/sexual assault forensic examiners
130	Court personnel ^①		Social service organization staff (non- governmental)
	Disability organization staff (non- governmental)		Substance abuse organization staff
	Educators ⁽¹⁾		Supervised visitation and exchange center staff
	Elder organization staff (non- governmental)		Translators/interpreters
	Faith-based organization staff		Tribal government/Tribal government agency staff
	Government agency staff $^{(1)}$		Victim advocates (non-governmental) ⁽¹⁾
	Health professionals $^{(1)}$		Victim assistants (governmental) ⁽¹⁾
	Immigrant organization staff (non- governmental)		Volunteers
	Law enforcement officers		Other (Explain)
	Legal services staff $^{(i)}$		

TOTAL <u>UNDUPLICATED</u> ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE TO BE TRAINED =

130

Demonstrated Impact

In this section, tell us:

- 1. What you hope to accomplish with these grant funded activities
- 2. How you'll measure your progress in meeting your goals
- 3. How your measurements will be used to adapt your funded project's design and delivery

Our mission is to provide a developmental learning pathway for judicial officers to gain education, skills and knowledge related to VAWA that can be integrated into their daily practices. Post session evaluation surveys will be administered to collect feedback. Evaluations will be matched with objectives for each course. Evaluation surveys include questions regarding what they will do differently as a result of the training. If resources allow, follow up interviews would ideally be conducted to determine what information was retained and applied. Additionally, we conduct routine needs assessment surveys to help identify any gaps and offer courtroom obervation and feedback for judicial officers receiving mentoring. Surveys will be sent to participants after each training to determine the effectiveness of the session as well as gage the interest and need for future training on the topic. Judicial education conducts a training needs assessment for judicial officers each year, and DV/SA trainings will be created to meet the demands of the training assessment. In addition to the needs of judicial officers, community outreach through the grant cycle will allow training to be created and altered to not just meet the needs that judicial officer have identify, but also those that the community who work with survivors of violence deem necessary. This will create communication and collaboration that will center the needs of survivors and lead to more healing, trauma informed courtrooms.

Additional activities associated with the project

Check any additional activities that will be carried out as part of your grant-funded project.

	Develop, substantially revise or implement protocols and/or policies	Multidisciplinary Response Team for Sexual Assault
\boxtimes	Develop or substantially revise products $^{(1)}$	Improving language access
	Develop, install or expand data collection and/ or communication systems	Fatality review
	Develop, support or train a specialized unit $^{(1)}$	Coordinating Meetings Between Tribal and Non-Tribal Entities
	Multidisciplinary Response Team for Domestic Violence	