

# Maricopa Association of Governments Protocol Evaluation Project



## *Stronger System, Safer Survivors*

**Tuesday, June 18, 2013, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

**Glendale Civic Center**

5750 W. Glenn Drive, Glendale, AZ 85301

Discover local promising practices for law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim advocates in responding to domestic violence crimes.

Connect with professionals from across Arizona dedicated to enhance the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence.

Participate in discussions to identify and put into place improvements resulting in greater survivor safety and offender accountability.

**Registration for the event is free. Space is limited.**



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8:30-9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00-9:45 a.m.	Morning Plenary Sessions
9:45-9:50 a.m.	Break
9:50-10:50 p.m.	Workshops
10:50-10:55 a.m.	Break
10:55 a.m.-Noon	Workshops repeated

### *Workshop Topics and Speakers*

- 1. Building Effective Volunteer Victim Advocate Programs**  
Chief Steve Campbell, Chief of Police, *El Mirage Police Department*  
Iva Rody, Victim Advocate, *El Mirage Police Department*  
Stephanie Smith, B.A., M.A., CVA, Victim Assistance Coordinator, *Peoria Police Department*  
Sherry Nielsen, B.S.B., Volunteer Program Specialist, *Gilbert Police Department*
- 2. Conducting Essential Safety Planning on Domestic Violence Calls**  
Melissa Brickhouse-Thomas, MSW, LCSW, Victim Assistance Caseworker,  
Critical Incident and Peer Support Coordinator, *Glendale Police Department*  
Tracey Wilkinson, M.S., Crisis Intervention Supervisor, Domestic Violence Action  
Team Coordinator, *Scottsdale Police Department*
- 3. Recognizing the Signs and Impacts of Traumatic Brain Injury**  
Ashley Bridwell, LMSW, Rehabilitation Program Coordinator, Adult Neurological  
Program Outpatient Rehabilitation BRAINS (Barrow Resource for Acquired  
Injury to the Nervous System) Clinic, *St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center*
- 4. Addressing Domestic Violence in Military Families**  
Patrick Ziegert, Community Outreach and Education Specialist, *AZ Attorney  
General's Office*  
Dean Pedrotti, M.B.A., Captain/Paramedic, *Phoenix Fire Department*  
Dena B. Hallman, Soldier and Family Assistance Program Manager,  
*Army Recruiting Battalion, Phoenix*
- 5. Reporting Quality Data Improves the Criminal Justice System's Response to Domestic Violence Cases**  
Phillip Stevenson, Ph.D., Director, Statistical Analysis Center, *AZ Criminal Justice  
Commission*  
Pat Nelson, Program Manager, Criminal Justice Systems Improvement Program,  
*Arizona Criminal Justice Commission*



## Workshop Descriptions

### 1. Building Effective Volunteer Victim Advocate Programs

Victim advocates are a key component in providing victims of domestic violence with the services they need and engaging them in the criminal justice process. Limited resources have law enforcement agencies seeking creative solutions for providing these vital services. This workshop highlights promising practices in building effective victim advocate programs by utilizing volunteers.

### 2. Conducting Essential Safety Planning on Domestic Violence Calls

Safety planning is critical in helping victims of domestic violence keep themselves safe and potentially reducing repeat calls to law enforcement. Essential safety planning should be conducted by law enforcement on the scene of domestic violence calls when victim advocates are not available. This workshop provides strategies and techniques for conducting safety planning and identifying immediate crisis supports for victims of domestic violence.

### 3. Recognizing the Signs and Impacts of Traumatic Brain Injury

Injuries sustained by victims of domestic violence such as multiple concussions, trauma to the head, and strangulation and/or suffocation can result in long term consequences that may impact cognitive function. Recognizing the signs and understanding the impact of these injuries can assist in determining effective intervention strategies. This workshop covers types of traumatic brain injuries, the causes, their impact on functioning, and resources for helping individuals.

### 4. Addressing Domestic Violence In Military Families

Soldiers returning from war can struggle with re-adjusting back into civilian life. This difficult transition can be complicated by elements including dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This workshop takes a look at strategies for recognizing PTSD, techniques for intervening when PTSD is present, and tactics for addressing domestic violence in military families.

### 5. Reporting Quality Data Improves the Criminal Justice System's Response to Domestic Violence

Complete, timely, and accurate data strengthens the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence. Data of high quality are imperative for tracking prior convictions, histories of violence, and charging repeat offenders with felony domestic violence charges. This workshop highlights the importance of data, data quality, and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Records Improvement Plan recommendations.

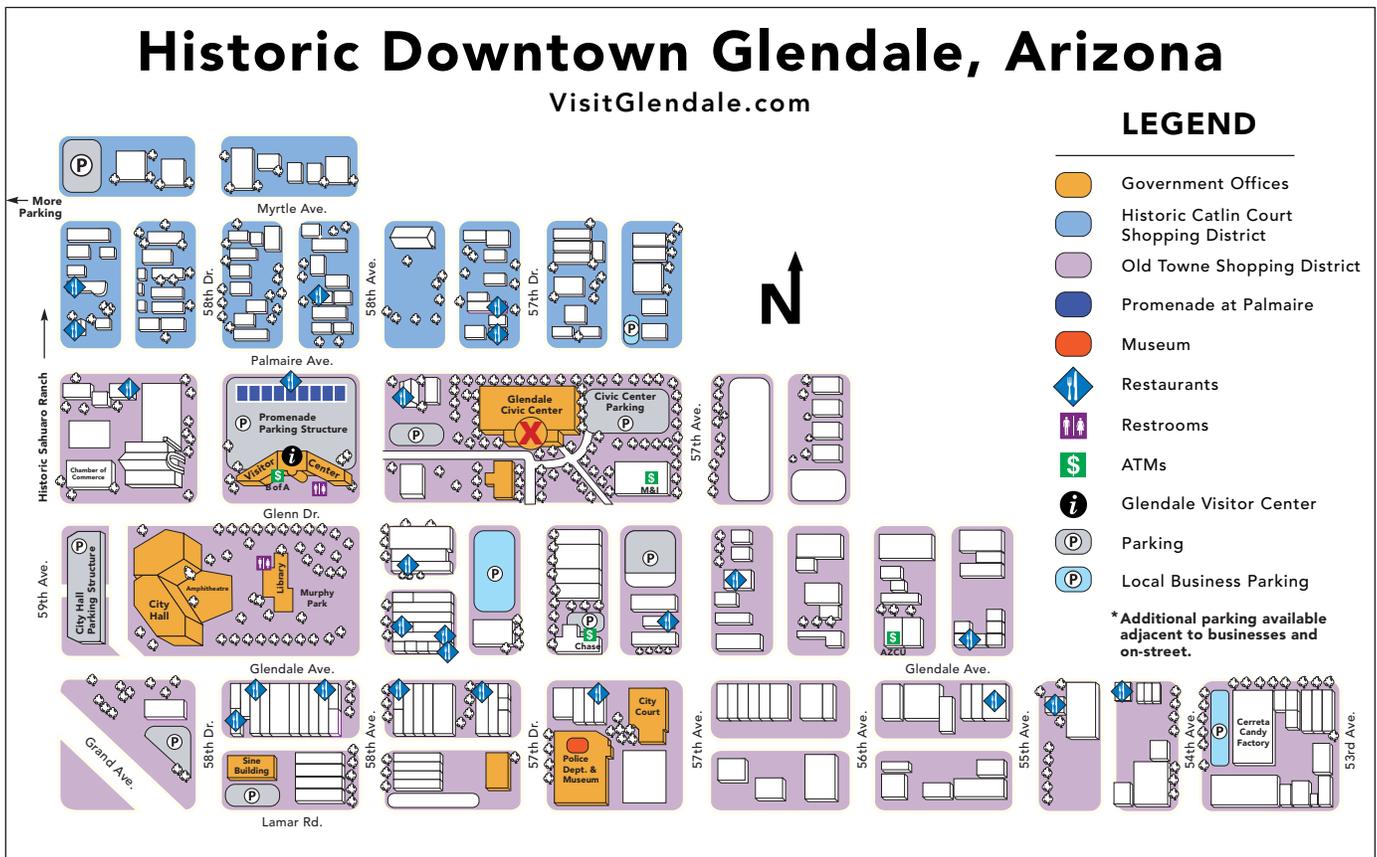
*This event has been determined to qualify for AZ POST continuing training credit.*

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Parking for the event is free.  
Please park in the Civic Center parking garage to the east of the Center.