

**Maricopa Association of Governments
Protocol Evaluation Project
DRAFT Protocol Interview Guide
Law Enforcement**

Project Overview:

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Protocol Evaluation Project is assessing the protocols used to arrest and prosecute domestic violence offenders at the misdemeanor level. A protocol inventory was developed to inform this work. The inventory reflects the protocols reported by each of the 25 cities and towns in the region as well as Maricopa County. The inventory was compared to national promising practices to determine which protocols are considered to be the most effective. Feedback from local stakeholders prioritized areas of need that could be addressed by the protocols considered to be promising practices. The analysis indicates that 15 protocols cited as national promising practices were also identified as local priorities not being implemented well within the region. Follow-up interviews are being conducted to determine what elements support implementation of these protocols. Training curriculum will be developed to remove barriers to the successful implementation of these 15 protocols.

Chart Instructions:

Thank you for your time and support of this project. Your feedback will provide the foundation for the training and technical assistance to be developed as part of this project. The Domestic Violence Protocols Chart on the following page reflects the 15 protocols prioritized as described above. An “X” indicates this protocol has been implemented by your agency. A copy of all protocols reported by law enforcement in the region is also included as Attachment A. Please take a moment to verify your agency’s information and indicate any necessary changes. The questions for this interview will focus only on the protocols from the chart on the next page.

An interview may be scheduled with you either over the phone or in person to discuss the following chart. If you prefer to submit this information electronically, please send the completed chart to Rachel Brito at rbrito@azmag.gov or by fax to (602) 254-6490. If you have any questions, please call Renae Tenney at (602) 254-6300. Thank you for your time as we work collaboratively to keep survivors of domestic violence safe and to hold their abusers accountable. For more information about the MAG Protocol Evaluation Project, please visit <http://www.azmag.gov/Projects/Project.asp?CMSID=1053&CMSID2=3780>. Thank you!

Domestic Violence Protocols

Categories	Promising Practices and Local Priority Protocols	(POLICE DEPT NAME HERE)	1. What supports or hinders the implementation of these protocols? <i>(Please indicate specific factors.)</i>	2. Which protocol has the most impact? <i>(Check if applies)</i>	3. Which protocol needs to be implemented right away? <i>(Check if applies)</i>	4. Which protocol can be improved quickly? <i>(Check if applies)</i>
Initial Police Officer Response	It is the responsibility of the dispatcher to determine if call for service should be dispatched as "Domestic Violence"					
On-Scene Investigation	Interview victim and assailant to complete department reports					
	Use supportive interview techniques to ask about previous incidents, frequency, severity					
	Attempt low-key approach as mediator rather than authoritarian					
	Interview witnesses fully ASAP					
	Document any witness info about prior incidents to establish pattern/history of abuse					
	Interview child witnesses in age appropriate manner. Be alert to signs of trauma or abuse.					
	Identify in report emergency medical personnel who responded.					
	Take video statement of victim (if possible)					
	Follow up with victim, in person, to see if injuries are now visible or if injuries observed at the scene have changed. Arrange for daily follow up if won't be available.					

Arrest Decision	Arrest and book or submit a long form complaint on domestic violence and Order of Protection violators with adequate probable cause, even if the victim does not desire prosecution.					
	If both parties involved are arrested in a domestic violence situation, officer shall fully investigate claims of self-defense.					
On-Scene Assistance to Victims	Should offer the victim help in locating lodging.					
	Provide domestic violence assistance information to all victims or potential victims.					
Reports and Data Collection	Officers shall adhere to the Report Writing Guide and to the Maricopa County Attorney's Office protocol as it applies to domestic violence.					

1. What training would you like to enhance implementation of these protocols?
2. Any additional information you think would be helpful to this process?

Thank you!