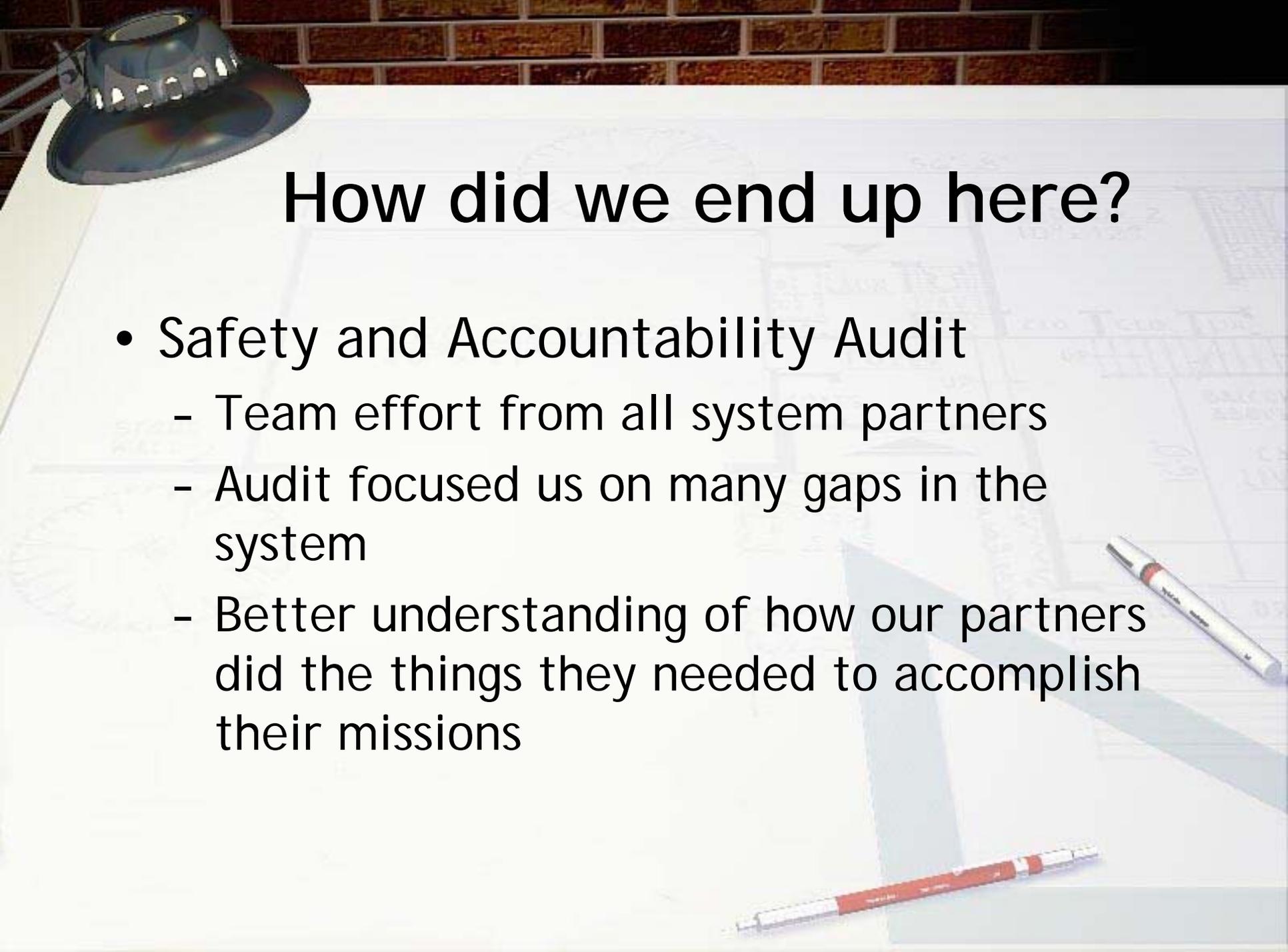


A desk with a lamp, a blueprint, and drafting tools. The lamp is a silver desk lamp with a glass shade. The blueprint is a technical drawing of a house with various rooms and dimensions. The drafting tools include a compass, a ruler, and several markers. The text "The St. Paul Blueprint for Safety" is centered on the blueprint.

The St. Paul Blueprint for Safety



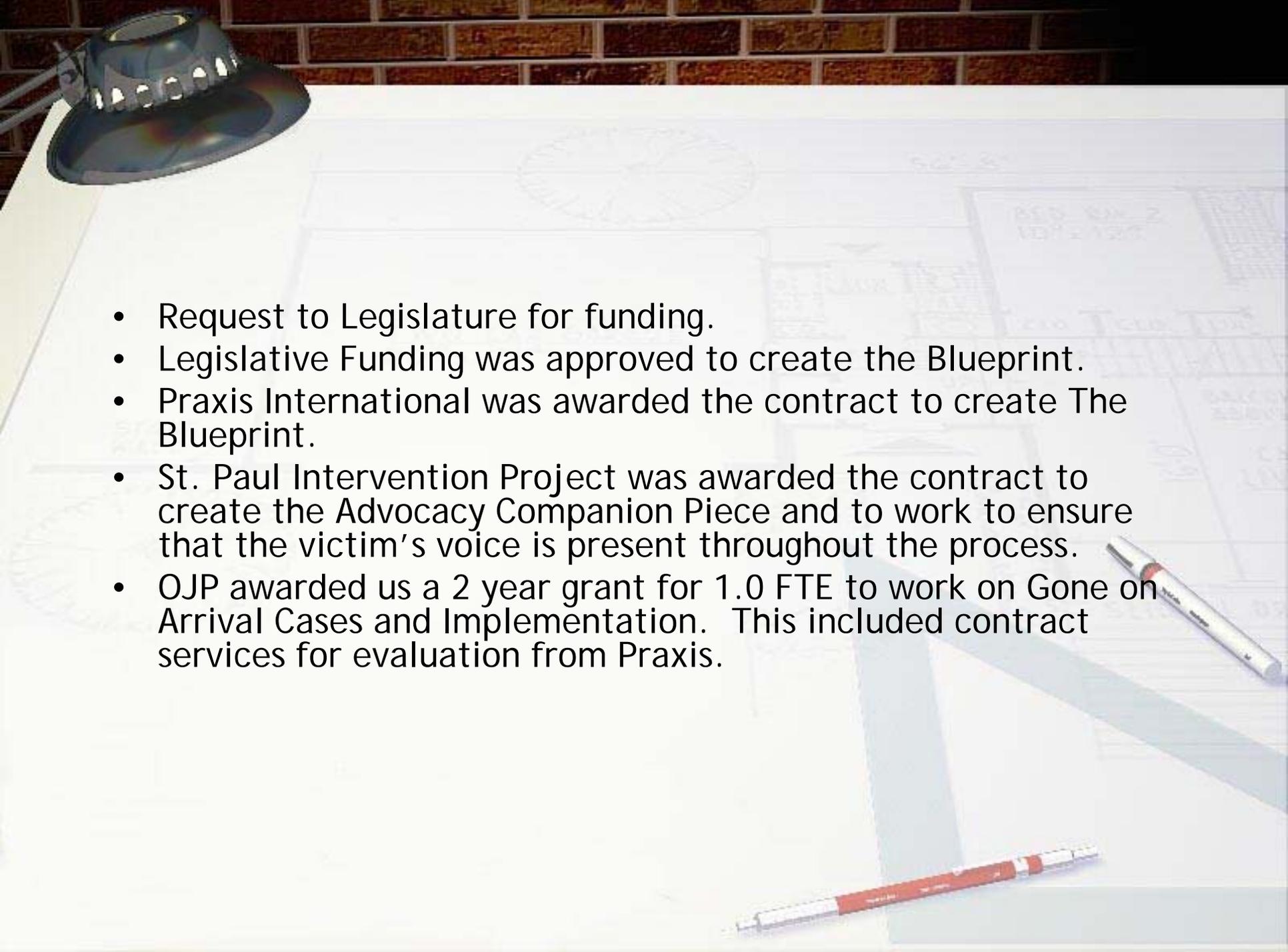
How did we end up here?

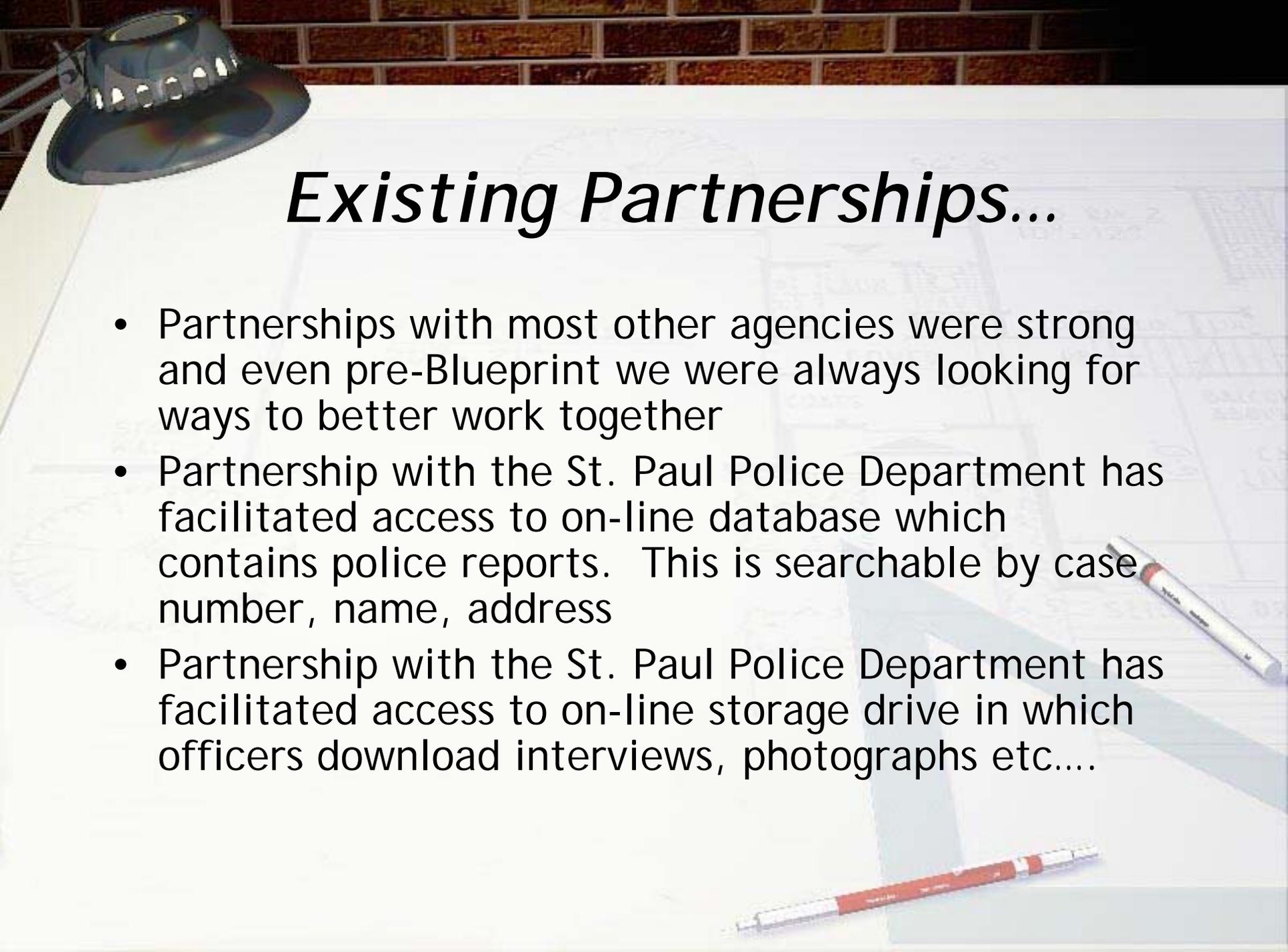
- Safety and Accountability Audit
 - Team effort from all system partners
 - Audit focused us on many gaps in the system
 - Better understanding of how our partners did the things they needed to accomplish their missions

An architectural drawing is spread across a white desk. The drawing includes a circular plan, a rectangular room labeled 'BED RM 2' with dimensions '10' x 12'', and a 'STONE WALL' section. A large, light blue arrow points from the bottom right towards the center of the drawing. Various drafting tools are scattered on the desk: a silver desk lamp in the top left, a yellow folding ruler at the bottom left, a pair of silver compasses, and several markers in green, blue, and red. A large, faint blue arrow is also visible on the drawing itself, pointing towards the center.

The audit left us all thinking....

What if I could get everyone in the system to pass along the information they gather in a consistent, coordinated manner to those who need it?

- 
- A desk setup featuring a silver desk lamp in the top left corner, a white ruler, and two pens (one red, one silver) in the bottom right. The background is a light blue architectural blueprint with various lines and text, including the words 'RED PLAN 2' and 'ID/2420'.
- Request to Legislature for funding.
 - Legislative Funding was approved to create the Blueprint.
 - Praxis International was awarded the contract to create The Blueprint.
 - St. Paul Intervention Project was awarded the contract to create the Advocacy Companion Piece and to work to ensure that the victim's voice is present throughout the process.
 - OJP awarded us a 2 year grant for 1.0 FTE to work on Gone on Arrival Cases and Implementation. This included contract services for evaluation from Praxis.



Existing Partnerships...

- Partnerships with most other agencies were strong and even pre-Blueprint we were always looking for ways to better work together
- Partnership with the St. Paul Police Department has facilitated access to on-line database which contains police reports. This is searchable by case number, name, address
- Partnership with the St. Paul Police Department has facilitated access to on-line storage drive in which officers download interviews, photographs etc....



Participating Agencies

- St. Paul City Attorney's Office
 - Ramsey County Attorney's Office
 - Second Judicial District (bench)
 - St. Paul Police Dept.
 - Community Corrections
 - Project Remand (supervised release)
 - Emergency Communications Center (911)
 - Sheriff's office
 - St. Paul Domestic Abuse Intervention Project (advocacy agency)
- 



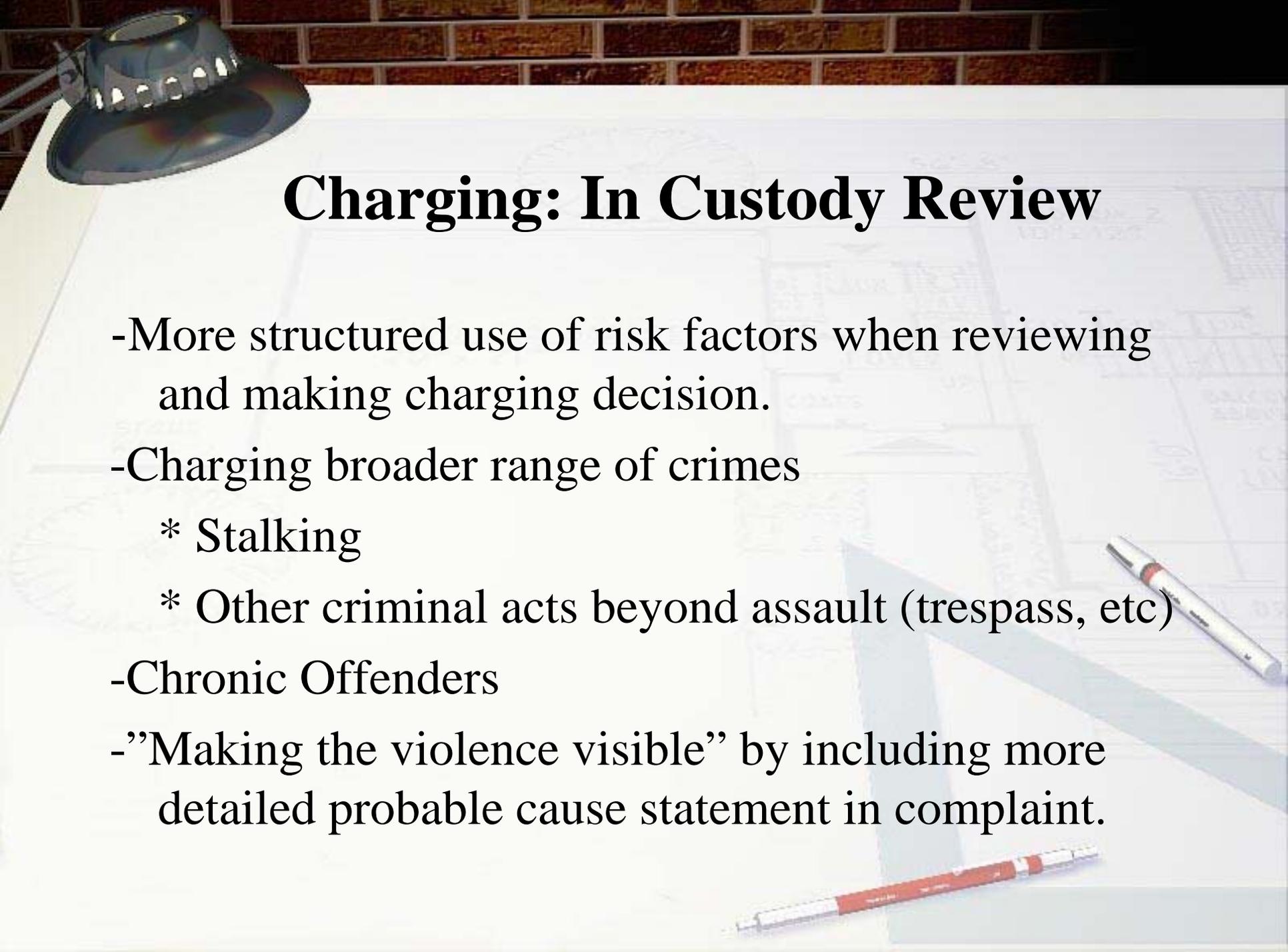
**Blueprint implementation is on-going.
Issues we have encountered include:**

- Internal and External Resistance
- Legal Barriers (data privacy)
- Concerns regarding unintended consequences
- Organizational Values
- Need to maintain relationships when faced with stressors like funding cuts and systemic change

A desk lamp with a blue shade is positioned in the top left corner. The background features a brick wall and a desk with blueprints. A red pen is visible in the bottom right corner.

The Blueprint Impacts All Phases of Prosecution:

- **Charging**
 - In Custody
 - Out of Custody (Gone on Arrival Cases)
- **Bail setting**
 - Arguments at arraignment
 - Evaluation of terms and conditions of release
 - Complaint Drafting
- **Plea Negotiation/Trial Preparation**
- **Probation Violations**



Charging: In Custody Review

- More structured use of risk factors when reviewing and making charging decision.
- Charging broader range of crimes
 - * Stalking
 - * Other criminal acts beyond assault (trespass, etc)
- Chronic Offenders
- ”Making the violence visible” by including more detailed probable cause statement in complaint.



Charging: GOA Cases

- GOA offenders are often most dangerous
 - Shift in Protocol: Treat these cases as custody
 - Early triaging allows police and prosecutors to focus resources on cases with merit.
 - Prosecutor can help guide investigation.
 - Sure and swift consequences
- 



Impact of GOA Project

Pre-GOA Project.....

- *76 days to charge a case

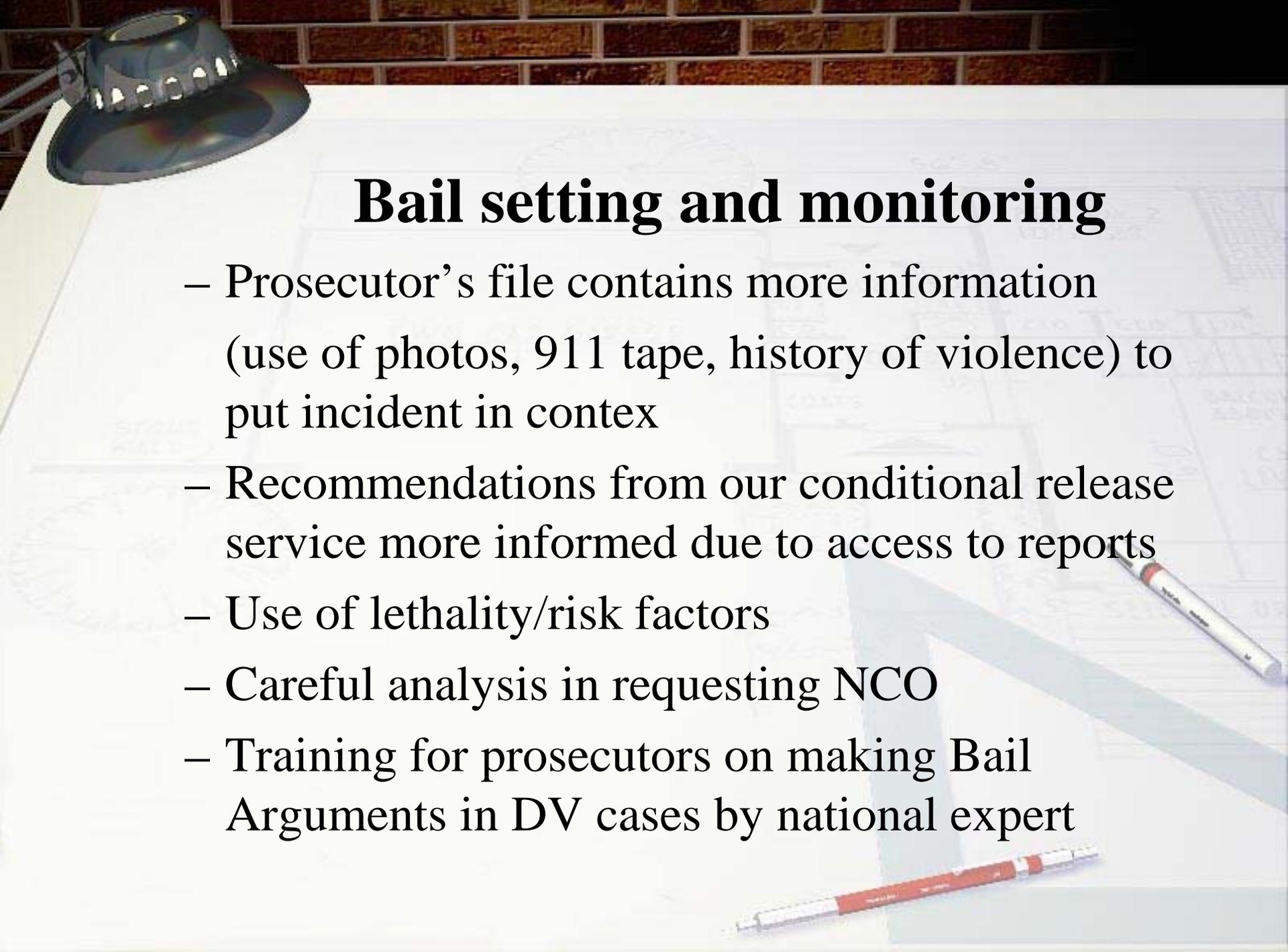
- *35 convictions on GOA cases in prev. year

First Year GOA Project Stats....

- *8 days to charge a case

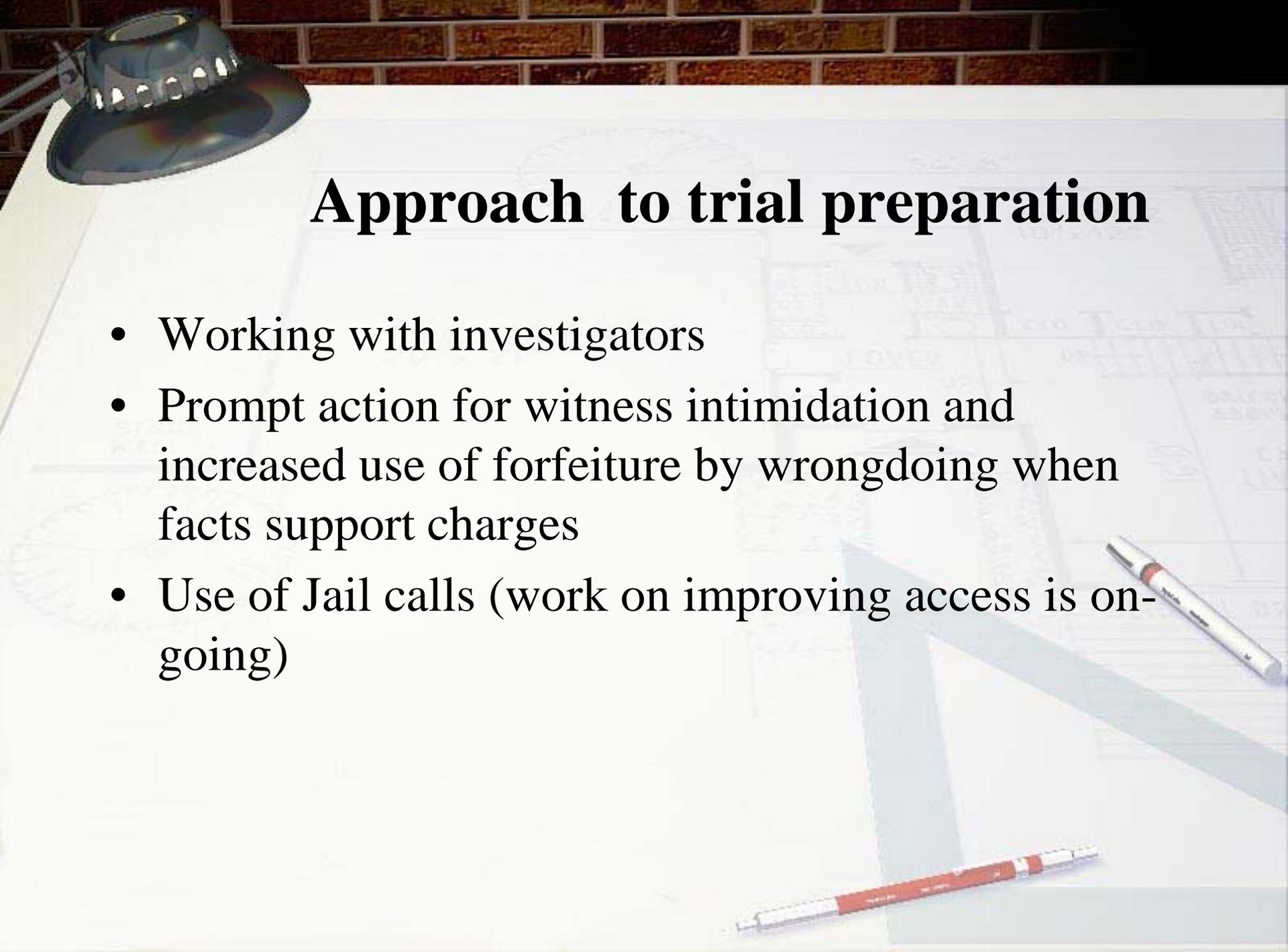
- *120 convictions on GOA cases in first year!





Bail setting and monitoring

- Prosecutor's file contains more information (use of photos, 911 tape, history of violence) to put incident in context
- Recommendations from our conditional release service more informed due to access to reports
- Use of lethality/risk factors
- Careful analysis in requesting NCO
- Training for prosecutors on making Bail Arguments in DV cases by national expert

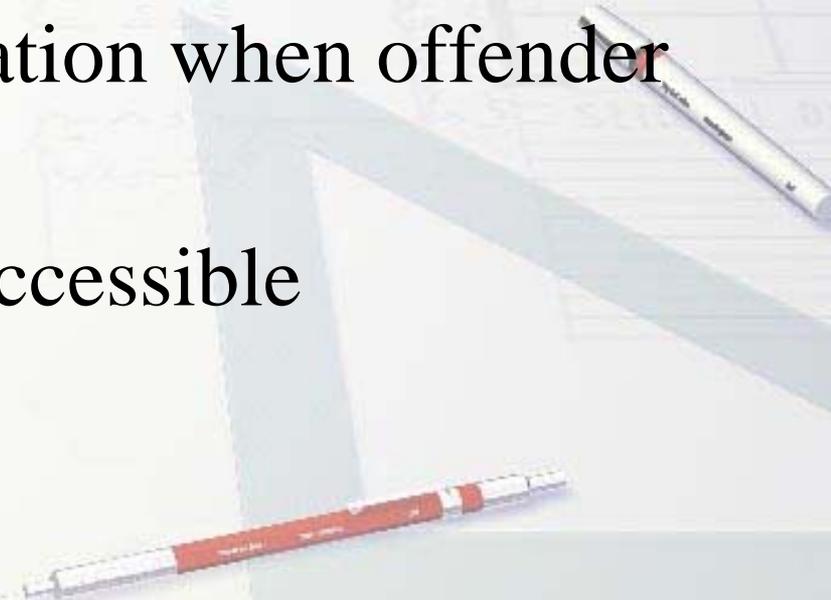


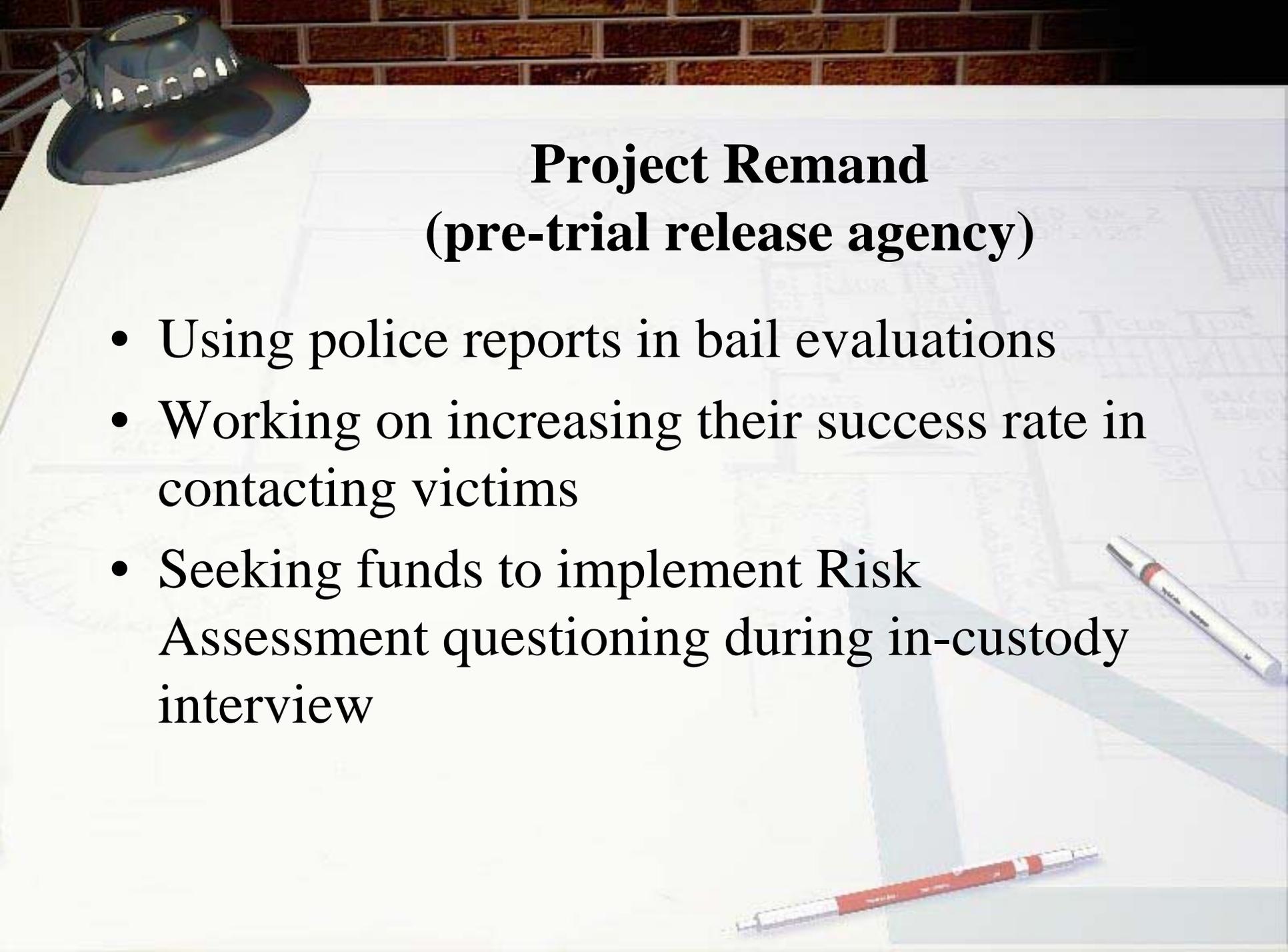
Approach to trial preparation

- Working with investigators
- Prompt action for witness intimidation and increased use of forfeiture by wrongdoing when facts support charges
- Use of Jail calls (work on improving access is ongoing)



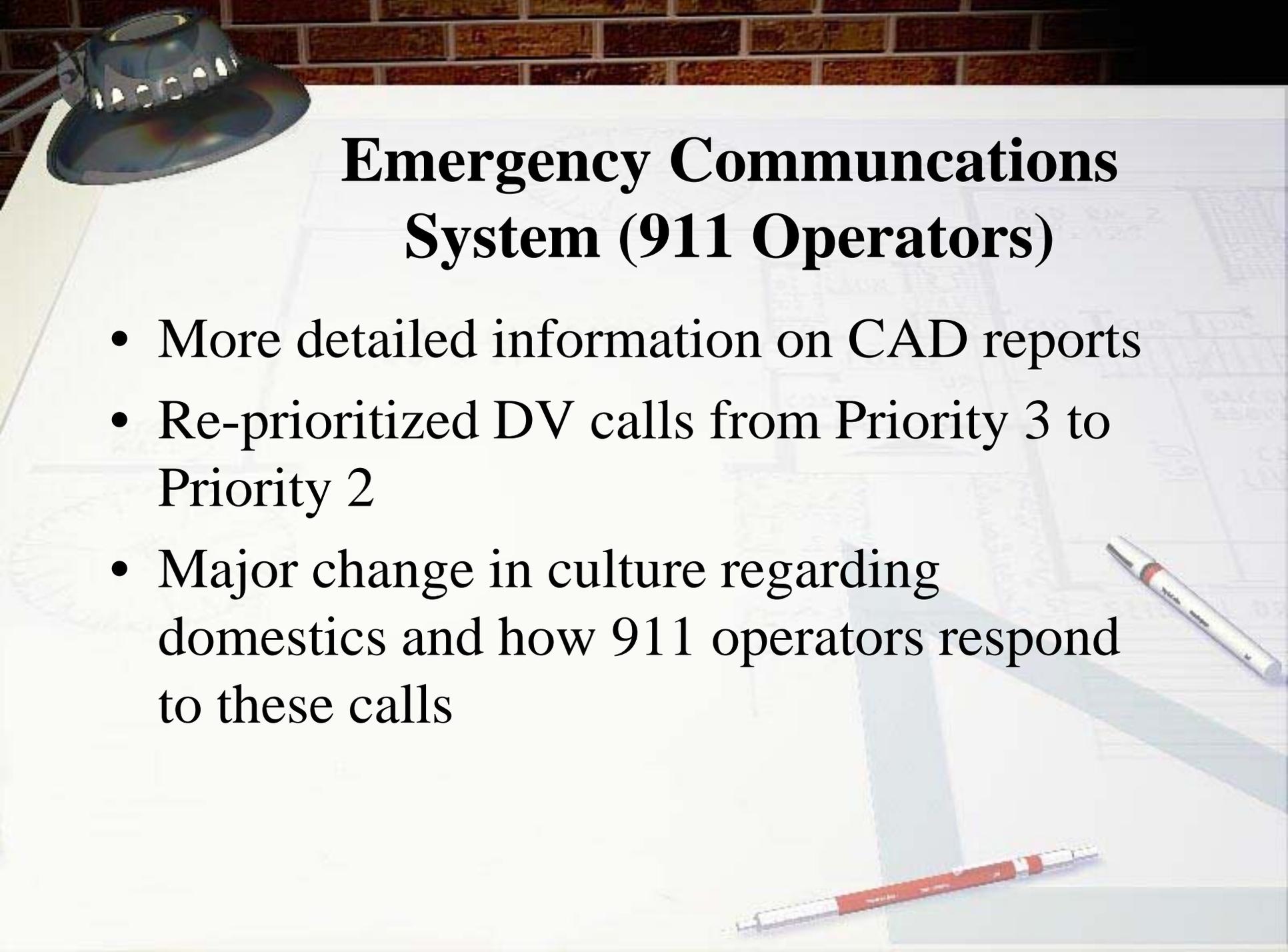
Sheriff's Office

- Prioritizing domestic violence warrants
 - Posted signs in court house warning that NCO's & OFP's will be enforced
 - Improved victim notification when offender is released
 - Making jail calls more accessible
- 



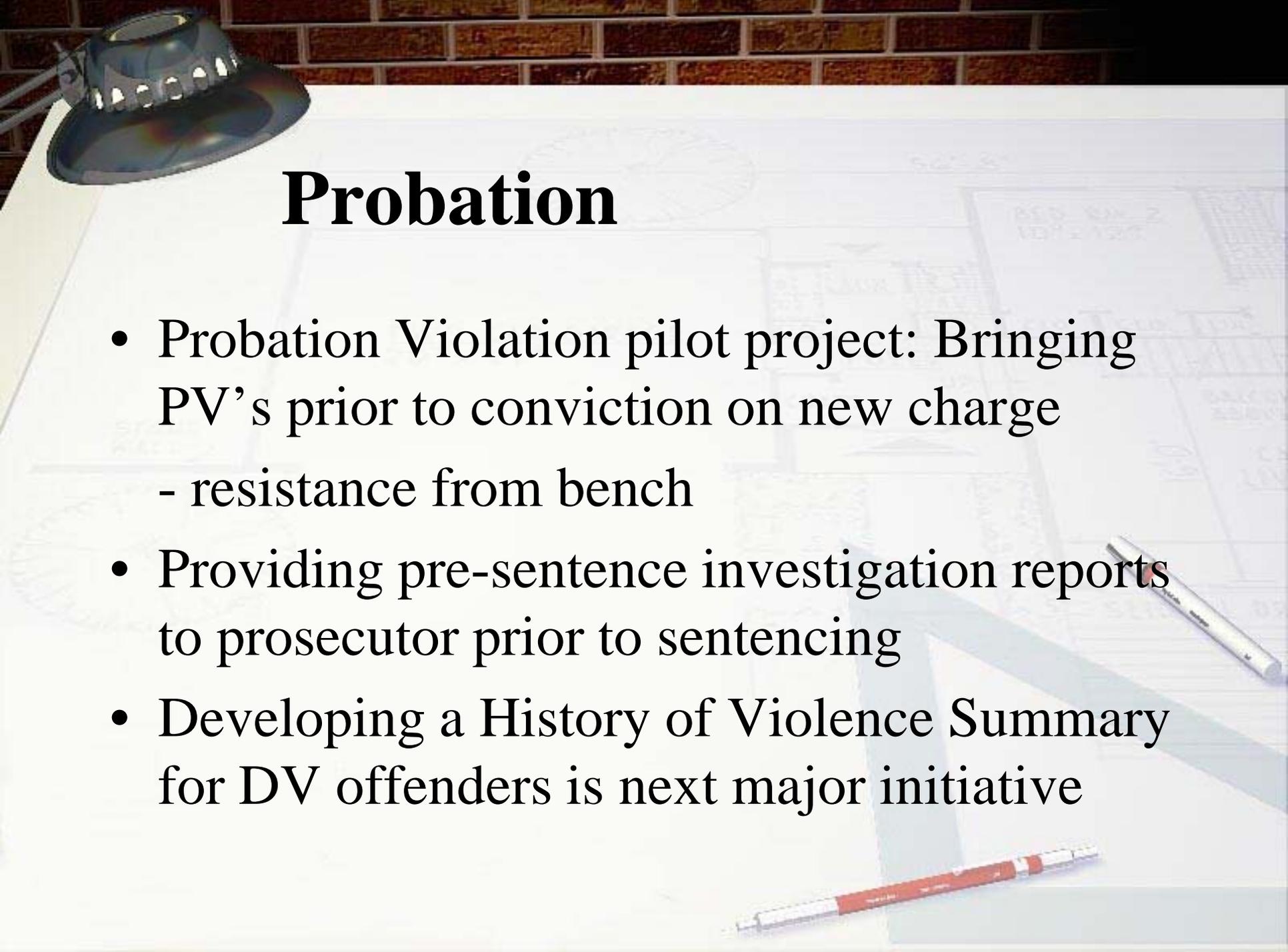
Project Remand (pre-trial release agency)

- Using police reports in bail evaluations
- Working on increasing their success rate in contacting victims
- Seeking funds to implement Risk Assessment questioning during in-custody interview



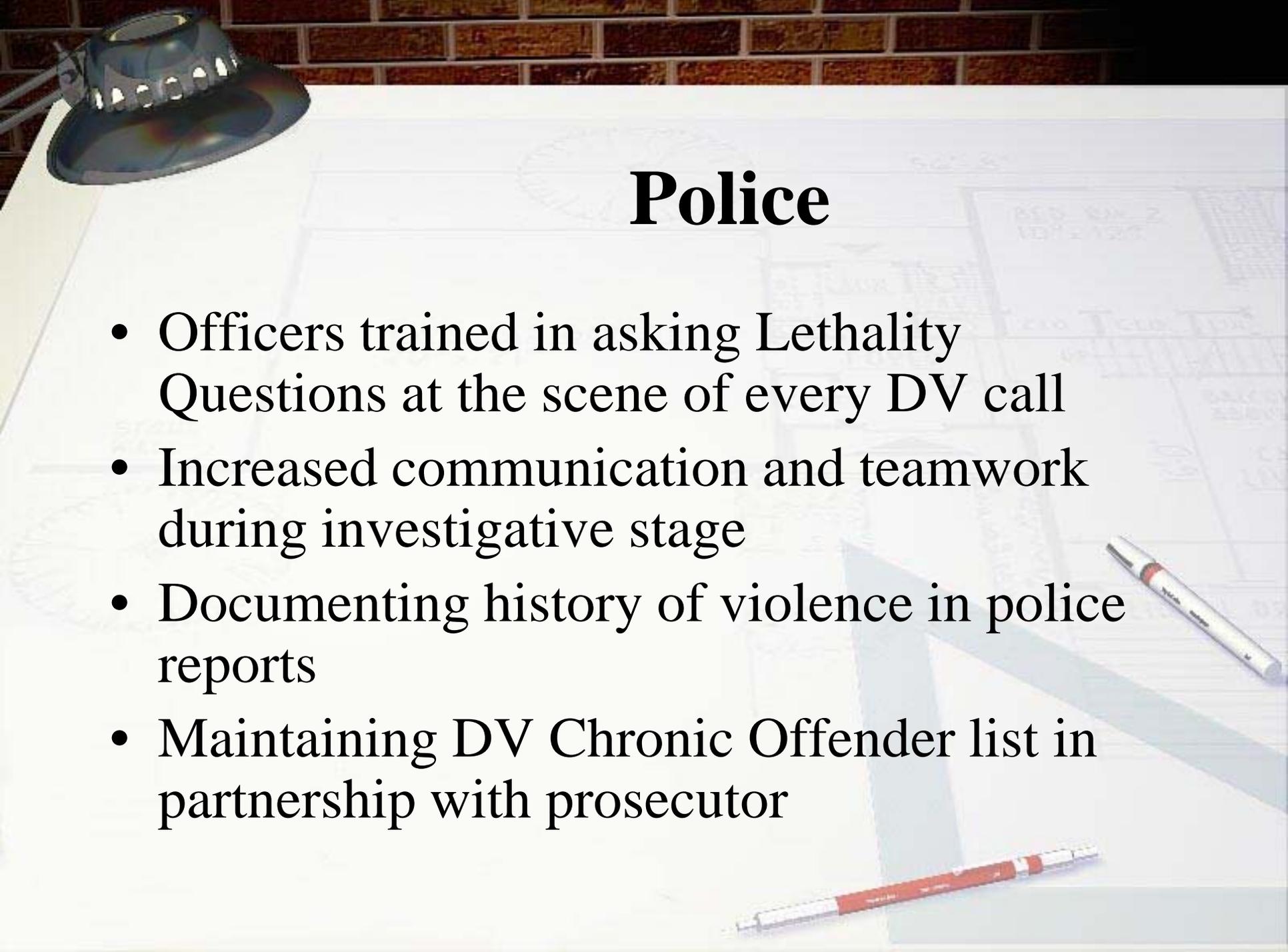
Emergency Communications System (911 Operators)

- More detailed information on CAD reports
- Re-prioritized DV calls from Priority 3 to Priority 2
- Major change in culture regarding domestics and how 911 operators respond to these calls



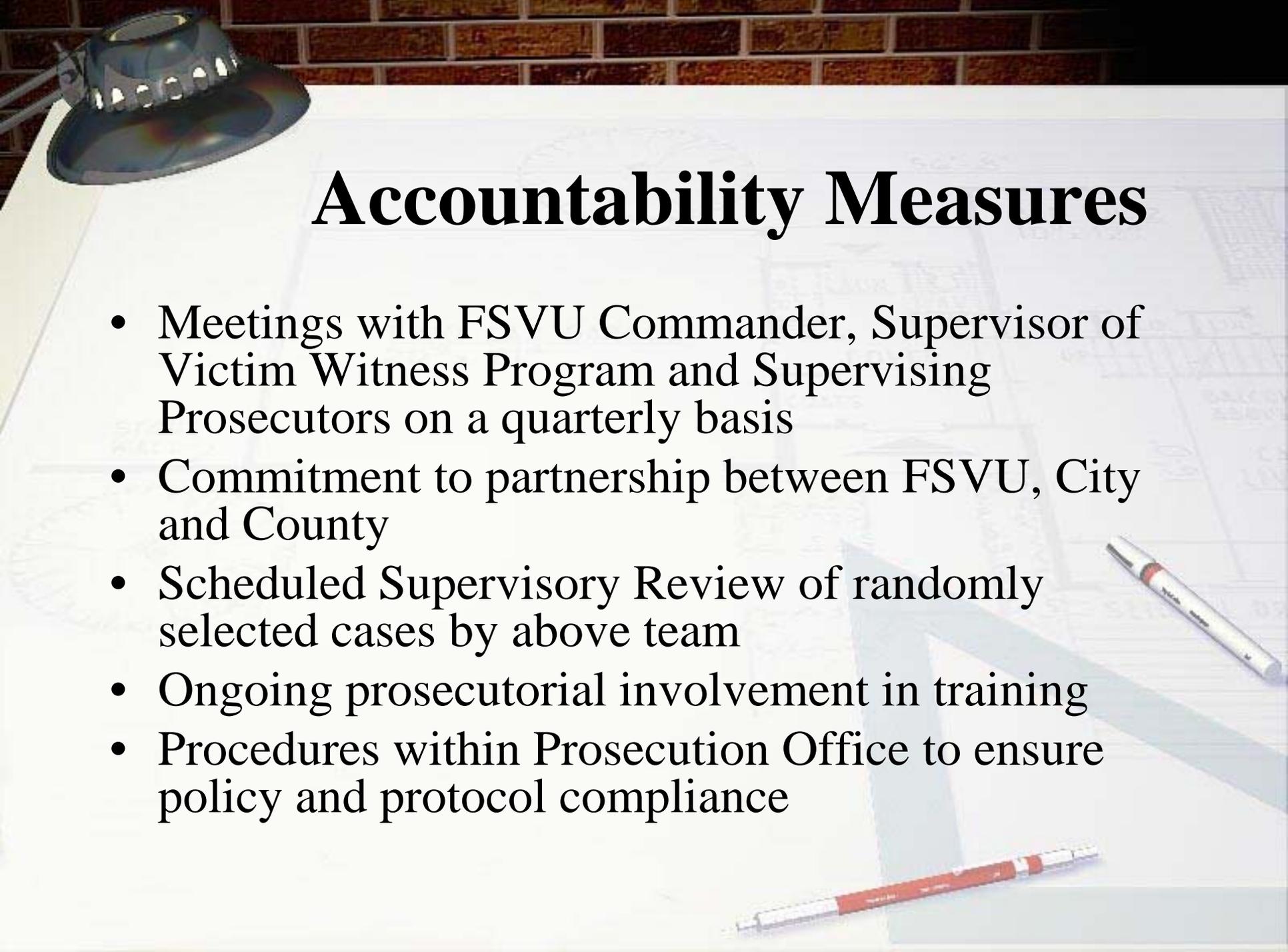
Probation

- Probation Violation pilot project: Bringing PV's prior to conviction on new charge
 - resistance from bench
- Providing pre-sentence investigation reports to prosecutor prior to sentencing
- Developing a History of Violence Summary for DV offenders is next major initiative



Police

- Officers trained in asking Lethality Questions at the scene of every DV call
- Increased communication and teamwork during investigative stage
- Documenting history of violence in police reports
- Maintaining DV Chronic Offender list in partnership with prosecutor



Accountability Measures

- Meetings with FSVU Commander, Supervisor of Victim Witness Program and Supervising Prosecutors on a quarterly basis
- Commitment to partnership between FSVU, City and County
- Scheduled Supervisory Review of randomly selected cases by above team
- Ongoing prosecutorial involvement in training
- Procedures within Prosecution Office to ensure policy and protocol compliance



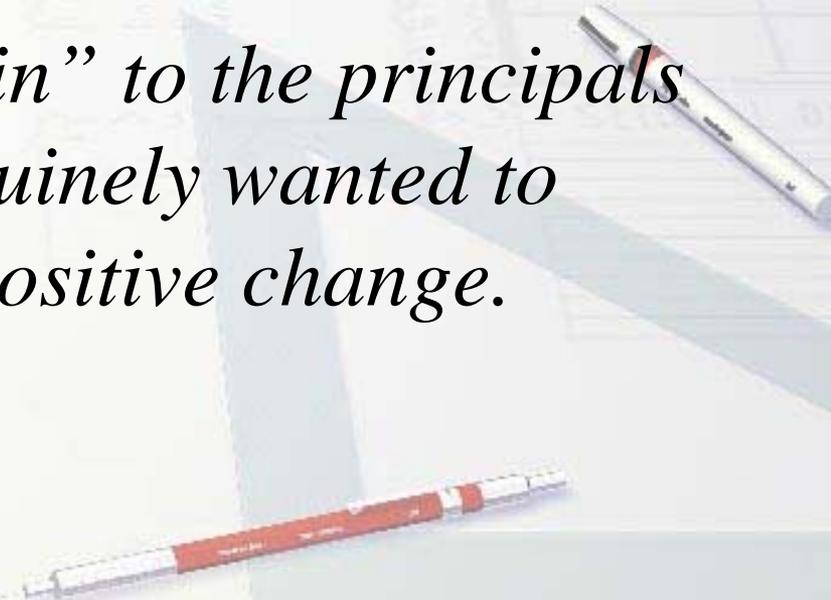
Some changes have been easy!

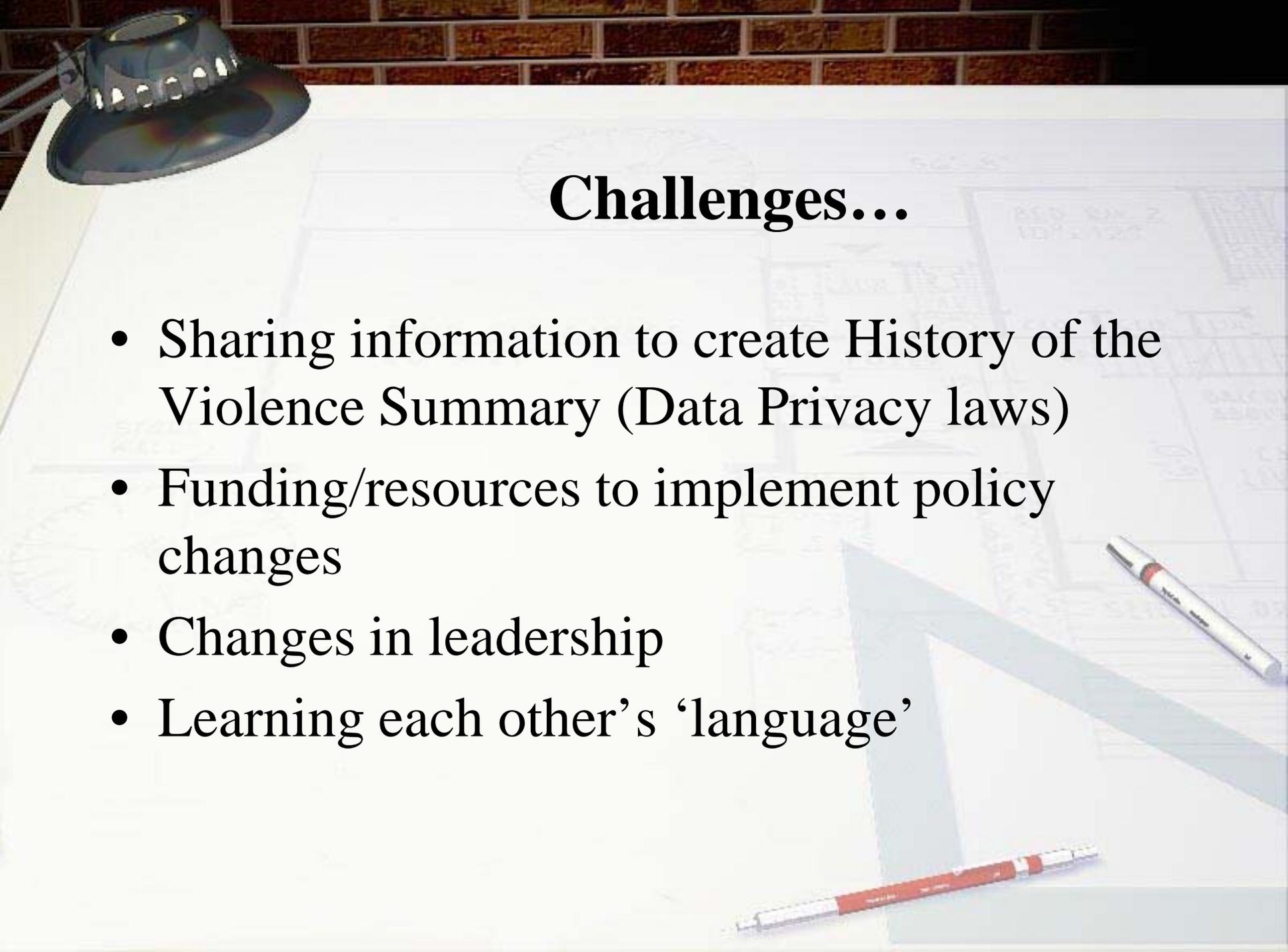
Issuing policy statements

Putting together memos for other departments

Meetings with other agency leaders

*** Every agency “bought in” to the principals of the Blueprint and genuinely wanted to work together to effect positive change.*





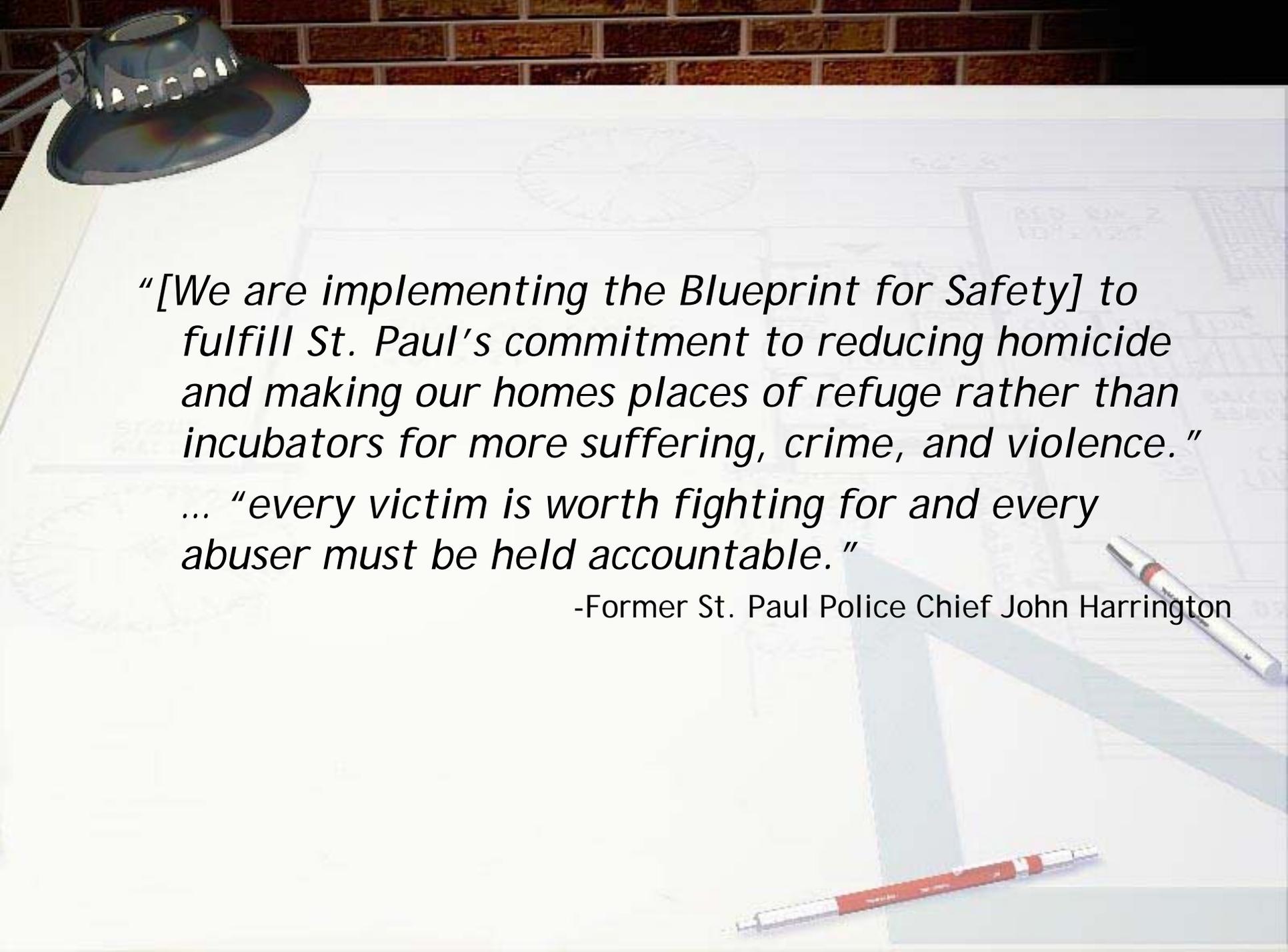
Challenges...

- Sharing information to create History of the Violence Summary (Data Privacy laws)
- Funding/resources to implement policy changes
- Changes in leadership
- Learning each other's 'language'



Other Thoughts.....

- Oversight group
 - Set realistic deadlines and be willing to move
 - Make sure you have the right people at the table
 - Always look for unintended consequences
 - Dissect complaints and problems
 - Victim's voice must always be at the table
 - Beware of the “we don't have the resources” argument
- 
- 

A desk with a lamp, a ruler, and a pen. The lamp is in the top left corner, casting light on the desk. A ruler is in the bottom right corner, and a pen is in the middle right. The background is a brick wall.

*"[We are implementing the Blueprint for Safety] to fulfill St. Paul's commitment to reducing homicide and making our homes places of refuge rather than incubators for more suffering, crime, and violence."
... "every victim is worth fighting for and every abuser must be held accountable."*

-Former St. Paul Police Chief John Harrington



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International

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