



**Domestic Violence Criminal Justice Response and Enhancement Advisory
Council
Offender Program Subcommittee**

MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 21, 2025

ATTENDANCE: Joe DiTunno, Merit Lajoie, Johanna Canning, Shauna Harrington, Ginger Wilk, Michael Tetrault

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Merit Lajoie called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Ms. Lajoie offered welcoming remarks, and the members introduced themselves.

III. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

- Johanna Canning made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from 2/19/25; Ginger Wilk seconded.

IV. DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS FOR THE SUBCOMMITTEE

- Joe DiTunno asked the members to consider the intersection of the Offender Program Subcommittee and the Arrest Warrants & Orders of Protection subcommittee and if it made sense to form one subcommittee. The group discussed overlap both in charges and in members and how this could save time and condone better participation.
- The members also discussed the goals of the subcommittees. The co-chairs discussed drafting an email to the co-chairs of the larger council for consideration of this merge.
- Recommendations
 - The group discussed the two recommendations that they brought to the larger council: (1) Creating a form for offenders seeking DV treatment from outside providers and (2) Adding a family violence treatment component to the Supervised Diversionary Program.
- Creating a Form

- The members discussed how the Chief State's Attorney's Office has taken on the responsibility of creating the form, with the co-chairs' input on development, and will be incorporating it into their policies and procedures.
- It was discussed that this recommendation was made with the intent of allowing offenders more opportunities to find treatment providers rather than being tied to a list of approved providers.
- A concern was raised about those clients who may fall through the cracks, either because they were not able to get the form signed, or because they lost the form.
 - Joe DiTunno suggested that a discussion around guidelines around a "Plan B" in this event.
- Supervised Diversionary Program
 - Concerns were expressed over the language in the draft legislation, including not knowing how it will be implemented or monitored based on the way it's currently written.
 - The subcommittee agreed that when concerns were raised initially, it should have gone back to the subcommittee for drafting.
- Joe DiTunno then focused the group on the scope of subcommittee, including discussing eligibility criteria for the Family Violence Education Program (FVEP) and looking at Department of Corrections (DOC) treatment programs.
- Joe DiTunno agreed to get data surrounding FVEP for the members.
- The members also agreed to ask a representative from the DOC to give a presentation on the different offender programs that they offer for those who are incarcerated.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

- N/A

VI. ANNOUNCEMENT OF TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- The co-chairs decided to wait until after the larger council meeting to decide on a next meeting date.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- Merit Lajoie made a motion to adjourn at 2:04 PM, seconded by Joe DiTunno.