### The Connecticut General Assembly



# Domestic Violence Criminal Justice Response and Enhancement Advisory Council Police Response to Crimes of Family Violence Model Policy Subcommittee

### **Meeting Minutes**

April 15, 2025

#### 11:00AM via Zoom and YouTube Live

ATTENDANCE: Chief Alaric Fox, Karen Foley O'Connor, Atty. Merit Lajoie, Johanna Canning, Nancy Tyler, Liza Andrews, Andrea O'Connor, Chief Ray Rosado, Andréa Devo,

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - Meeting called order by Chief Alaric Fox, Chief of Police in Enfield at 11:01am.
- II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
  - Welcoming remarks and members introduced themselves.
- III. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL
  - Minutes from the February 25th meeting was approved.
- IV. REVIEW AND DISCUSS UPDATES TO THE MODEL POLICY-Model Policy
  - A. Model Policy Revisions- Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) Policy Update
  - Change: Shift from LAP as "voluntary" to "mandatory"
  - Rationale:
    - o All departments in Connecticut are currently participating
    - o Ensures consistency and accountability
    - Mandated language clarifies officer protocol and aligns with LAP training Discussion: Johanna Canning raised concern about legal grounds for making LAP mandatory. It was clarified that participation is currently universal; change codifies status quo
  - B. Arrest Warrant Execution Protocol

Changes:

- o Officers and supervisors directed to expedite arrest warrants
- o Agencies must actively attempt service and attempt to notify victims post-arrest

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- o Highlights victim safety and urgent response protocols
- Victim Notification: Includes reminder of offender's potential release and provides contact info for updates
- Discussion:
  - Suggested to notify about Safe Connect, but determined redundant as it's covered earlier in protocol
  - Action: Referred to the Arrest Warrant Subcommittee for further review

### C. Firearm Surrender and Compliance Enforcement

- New Policy Section:
  - Based on longstanding informal protocol
  - Codifies response when a person subject to DV order fails to surrender firearms within 24 hours
- Requirements:
  - Law enforcement must investigate (not just follow-up) noncompliance
  - May lead to arrest for criminal possession if firearms are not produced
  - Updates outdated federal law reference
- Discussion:
  - Addressed real-world scenarios where noncompliance may be excusable (e.g., incarceration)
  - Goal is to ensure departments treat this as urgent and criminal in nature
- Motion: To approve Model Policy revisions for the suggested new LAP and Firearm Surrender language.
  - Motion by Karen O'Connor
  - Second by Andrea O'Connor
  - o Motion was approved and suggested language changes will be presented to the full council.

#### V. OTHER BUSINESS

Karen O'Connor offered to share the 2016 MOU supporting firearm surrender practices

- Next meeting: June 10, 2025
- Will be hybrid (post-legislative session)
- No specific homework yet; awaiting potential legislative developments

### VI. ADJOURNMENTADJOURNMENT

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- Motioned and seconded (names not captured)
- Meeting adjourned by Chief Fox