### 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**

February 25, 2025

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

ATTENDANCE: Chief Alaric Fox, Karen Foley O'Connor, Atty. Gail Hardy, Shauna Harrington, Merit Lajoie, Johanna Canning, Nancy Tyler, Chief Rob Rosado, TFC Daniel Richman, and Capt. Ryan Maynard

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - Meeting called order by Chief Alaric Fox, Chief of Police in Enfield at 11:05am.
- II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
  - Welcoming remarks and members introduced themselves.2. Revised Timeline
- III. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL
  - Minutes from the October 29th meeting were approved.
  - Merit Lajoie and Johanna Canning abstained due to absence.

### IV. REVIEW AND DISCUSS UPDATES TO THE MODEL POLICY

- The committee agreed to shift the timeline for developing and submitting model policy changes.
  - o Work begins in December, with final proposals by July.
  - Policies approved by the full council in August can be submitted to POST (Police Officer Standards and Training Council) by October 1st to match the law enforcement "Red Book" publication.
- This new timeline aims to:
  - o Better align with legislative updates.
  - o Improve training efficiency and avoid policy changes mid-training cycles.
  - Reduce the administrative burden of updating departmental policies multiple times a year.

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#### V. OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. Coordination with Arrest Warrant Subcommittee
  - Led by Attorney Gail Hardy and Director of Law Enforcement Services, Shauna Harrington from CCADV.. Discussion included:
    - o Improving compliance with arrest warrants and firearm surrender orders.
    - o Enhancing tracking of warrant progress (drop-off, review, return).
    - o Addressing gaps in the service of warrants, especially when officers are on leave.
  - There was a consensus to include language "as soon as practicable" to accommodate departments of varying capacity.
- 2. Enhancing Language in Model Policy to add:
  - o Clearer timelines for warrant follow-up.
  - o Requirements for case reassignment when officers are unavailable.
  - o More structured procedures for victim notification and support.
- 3. Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)
  - Discussion on formal inclusion of LAP in the model policy as best practice.
  - Since all departments currently use LAP, the change would formalize its use without needing statutory mandate.
  - Karen O'Connor will draft suggested language for LAP inclusion.
- 4. Penalties for Violations of Protective Orders
  - Merit Lajoie raised concerns that enhanced penalties (e.g., elevating to Class C felony for violent violations) are not being used or recognized in law enforcement reports or prosecutions.
  - Discussion around updating model policy to:
    - o Include specific statutory references (e.g., 53a-223 vs. 223a).
    - o Clarify conditions for felony classification upgrades.
    - o Educate law enforcement on statutory nuances.

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### 5. Next Steps

- Karen O'Connor and Chief Fox will draft proposed language revisions for:
  - Warrant handling timelines.
  - o LAP integration.
  - o Protective order violation penalties.
  - o Updates to be reviewed in the next subcommittee meeting.

### VI. ADJOURNMENTADJOURNMENT

• Motion to adjourn made by Karen Foley. The meeting adjourned at 12:07pm