COCONINO COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM

ANNUAL REPORT, 2014
SUBMITTED TO:
MARK BRNOVICH, ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

AUGUST 5, 2015
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Barry Yoyhoeoma  
Chief, Truxton Canyon Law Enforcement
July 31, 2015

To the Arizona Domestic Violence Community:

Since our team was authorized in the fall of 2009, our county has benefitted from increased understanding of the dynamics of intimate partner violence and a coordinated effort to identify and intervene effectively in potentially lethal cases. In 2014, the Flagstaff Police Department and Coconino County Sheriff’s Office adopted a lethality assessment and strangulation reference sheet for domestic violence incidents. Law enforcement added these tools to the existing Domestic Violence Supplemental Report to assist in identifying high-risk cases. Many officers have been trained on these tools and our fatality review team received training on strangulation from Deputy County Attorney Stacy Krueger. We are currently reviewing a near-death strangulation case, and have identified strangulation and attempted strangulation as a common theme in domestic violence related fatalities.

The case we reviewed in 2014 involved a perpetrator and victim with long-term mental health and substance abuse problems. We continue to identify a lack of primary and secondary mental health treatment as a significant factor contributing to domestic violence fatalities. Our law enforcement and mental health providers are actively engaged in coordinating efforts and implementing creative solutions to the gaps in our mental health system. At least 20% of Flagstaff police officers are now trained in Crisis Intervention Techniques and both the Sheriff’s Office and Flagstaff Police Department partner with a Flagstaff mental health facility, The Guidance Center, to identify frequent mental health service consumers and monitor behavior before it reaches a crisis. We applaud our community’s efforts while emphasizing the need for greater investment in mental health services.

In our 2014 review, we also identified the toll of domestic violence on children. Prior to the homicide, both perpetrator and victim had inflicted emotional harm on their children and the perpetrator was charged with sexual abuse of a previous partner’s child. Once again, we recommend increased awareness of and resources for the secondary victims of domestic violence, children.

We view domestic violence fatality reviews as an important resource in our coordinated efforts to prevent future deaths. We appreciate the support of our community, the willingness of friends and family to share their knowledge, and the generosity of team members in contributing their time and expertise to these reviews.

Sincerely,

Kathleen J. Ferraro, Ph.D., Chair

Contact: Dr. Kathleen J. Ferraro, Department of Sociology, PO Box 15300, NAU, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5300 (928) 523-9412.
Executive Summary

In 2014 our team completed one review of a domestic violence fatality. The homicide occurred in a motel that houses transients and locals without a regular place of residence. The couple had only been dating five weeks and did not have a history of domestic violence contacts for this particular relationship. The perpetrator had a lengthy history of violent and nonviolent criminal behavior, domestic violence and sexual misconduct dating to childhood. The victim also had a violent and nonviolent criminal record as an adult and substance abuse problems beginning in youth. The homicide followed a night of heavy drinking and resulted from the perpetrator’s physical blows to the victim who had serious health problems prior to the assault.

We were able to interview the victim’s daughter, the perpetrator’s ex-wife, and the perpetrator’s god-brother, who is also a pastor who ministers to many of the transient and substance abusing people in Flagstaff. The Deputy County Attorney who prosecuted the case also met with our team and explained the rationale for the plea bargain. The victim’s daughter recounted a lifetime of abandonment and emotional abuse due to her mother’s alcoholism. She was saddened but not surprised by her mother’s death. The perpetrator’s god-brother also relayed a lengthy history of problematic behaviors by his god-brother. This homicide was not an unexpected outcome for either party. Indeed, the perpetrator once told his god-brother “I’m afraid I’m going to kill somebody someday.”

Recommendations

1. Create a community education program covering the dynamics of domestic violence and resources within the community for both victims and offenders. This educational program should include programming specifically designed to educate and train faith based leaders.
2. Adopt a training program, which includes domestic violence policies and protocols, for the hotel/motel management community on how to respond to domestic violence incidents that occur within their establishments. This would include local recognition for completion of the training program.
3. Increased funding and coordination for mental health services. This should include training for law enforcement agencies on identifying and addressing the needs of the mentally ill when responding to calls for service, as well as increased coordination between the criminal justice system and mental health service providers. Particular attention should be paid to those with recurring mental health issues who exhibit violent tendencies and connecting these individuals with appropriate services, in addition to incarceration.
4. Create a community education program, tailored to the African American community, to dispel myths regarding mental health concerns and provide awareness of mental health services available in the community.
5. Provide education to victims of domestic violence regarding the dynamics of abuse and resources available. Particular attention should be paid to those in the criminal justice
system as offenders of any crime, as there are a number of victims that become involved in the criminal justice system. The primary focus for training and resources should be provided by the probation department for those victims sentenced to a term of probation.

6. Improve awareness of the impact of domestic violence among educational and child safety workers, including increased awareness of the co-occurrence of child abuse and intimate partner abuse and/or homicide.

Accomplishments

In 2014, the Flagstaff Police Department and the Coconino County Sheriff’s Office adopted additional reporting forms for domestic violence incidents. Chief Kevin Treadway worked with other Arizona police departments, particularly Glendale Police Department, to develop tools reflecting increased knowledge of the dynamics of coercive control as well as the lethal risk represented by strangulation. Officers now conduct a lethality assessment as well as a strangulation assessment when reporting on domestic violence cases. These improvements, also adopted by the Sheriff’s Office and the Page Police Department, provide evidence relevant to processing cases and identifying high risk offenders.

Flagstaff Medical Center (FMC) now screens all emergency room patients for domestic violence and refers people to Coconino County Victim Witness Services. FMC also has a SANE nurse, Pam Turner, who performs forensic strangulation evaluations. Ms. Turner is trained in strangulation examinations and documents evidence as well as providing information and referrals to victims. The Page Hospital is planning to institute strangulation and sexual assault examinations this year.

The Flagstaff Police Department has also acquired body cameras worn by responding patrol officers, corporals and sergeants. The cameras assist in prosecution by providing visual documentation of the scene, offender conduct and victim injuries and reactions. While it is too early to assess the impact of body cameras on the prosecution of domestic violence, initial evaluations are very positive.

We have also witnessed increased coordination of mental health and criminal justice services. Police officers receive mental health training on how to protect the public while also assisting people with mental health issues. Law enforcement is also partnering with Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) on several initiatives. The criminal justice system has been educated on the effects of trauma on long-term adjustment and behavior and has responded with specialized treatment efforts. For example, the Coconino County Detention Facility supports the Exodus program, now directed by Dr. Valarie Hannemann. Exodus incorporates trauma informed care. It helps inmates understand their behavior and provides tools for self-regulation. People who graduate from Exodus have a much lower recidivism rate than others. NARBHA also operates a mobile crisis unit and a crisis line to assist people experiencing mental crises. Last year, the Guidance Center opened a crisis unit capable of providing up to four people with 23 hours of care. Previously, such individuals would have typically been on the street
and possibly incarcerated. The Guidance Center also has generated a list of the fifty most frequent mental health consumers who are monitored to prevent crises from emerging. Our community is actively pursuing cost-effective methods for implementing trauma informed care that will reduce domestic violence fatalities.

Many of our team members participate directly in implementing improvements in policy and practice that reflect the growth of knowledge about domestic violence. Our team meetings provide an opportunity not only to review specific cases but to share ideas and information from the range of agencies involved in the response to domestic violence. We appreciate the dedication of the team and the larger community in working to solve the problem of domestic violence fatalities.

Team Membership

Our team was quite stable during 2014 with the continued involvement of most of the 2013 members. We said good-bye to MacDonald Rominger as he retired from his position as Supervisory Senior Resident Agent of the FBI Flagstaff-Gallup-Pinetop/Lakeside Resident Agencies. Mac was a key contributor to our work and we have missed his presence on the team. Our new member from the FBI is Brian Applin. We were fortunate to add two new members, Dr. Adrienne Celaya and Dr. Nitika Sharma, both post-docs at NAU’s Family Violence Institute. Dr. Celaya was the Coordinator and Data Analyst of the Miami Dade County, Florida Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team and Florida’s state-wide Fatality Review Team. Her 2014 doctoral dissertation from Miami University examined the effects of individual, couple and neighborhood factors on intimate partner violence among natives and immigrants. Dr. Sharma earned her Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 2014. Her dissertation explored and analyzed the fixity and fluidity of menstruation rituals among Hindu women of Nepalese origin. She has also conducted research on Bhutanese refugees settled in the United States and on voluntary childlessness.

MISSION AND GOALS OF THE TEAM

The Coconino County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team has as its mission and goals the following:

Mission Statement

The mission of this team is to analyze the circumstances of past fatalities and near fatalities in an effort to better understand the dynamics of such deaths and make recommendations for prevention and system improvements. The purpose of this project is not to lay blame, but rather to actively improve all systems that serve persons involved with domestic abuse, and to prevent violence and fatalities in the future.

Goals

• To improve the response to domestic violence and abuse within Coconino County.
• To promote better coordination and communication among and between agencies, departments, and organizations that work with victims of domestic violence and abuse.
• To make effective and specific recommendations designed to positively impact the ability of the community and relevant agencies to assist and serve the victims of domestic violence and abuse.
• To prevent domestic violence fatalities.

**PROCESS**

The team is organized democratically and decisions are made collectively. The process we follow involves case selection, collection of relevant materials, individual review of the materials, summarization of case materials by the Chair, interviews with family members and other relevant community members, interview of the perpetrator, when possible, team discussion of facts and creation of the timeline, summation and development of findings and recommendations.

**Case Selection.** We have developed case selection criteria in accordance with authorizing legislation, ARS 41-198 (Attachment D). Any homicide, suicide, or near-death that is traceable to domestic violence, as defined in ARS 13-3601, is suitable for review. However, deaths occurring from law enforcement intervention are not considered for review. The Team selects cases in which:

• The fatality occurred within the geographical boundaries of Coconino County
• No criminal legal issues remain unresolved
• There is adequate information on which to base a review
• The review process will aid in coordinating the response to domestic violence and in preventing domestic violence fatalities

The Team strives to review cases that represent that broadest range of characteristics and concerns surrounding domestic violence fatalities. We rely on the list of domestic violence fatalities maintained by the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence to identify possible cases for review. Team members also monitor deaths attributable to domestic violence through their work and routine review of news reports. We are also assisted by the Coconino County Medical Examiner, Lawrence Czarnecki, who has information on deaths throughout the county that may not appear in the news media.

**Homicides within Coconino County:** Twenty-three deaths traceable to domestic violence occurred in Coconino County between 2000 and 2013. In 2014, there were two domestic homicides in Coconino County. There has been a steady decline in domestic homicides within Coconino County, from eight deaths in 2011 to four in 2012 and two in 2014. This mirrors the decline in domestic homicides nationally.
Our completed review this year was of a beating death of a woman by a man she had been dating for five weeks. We selected this case because all legal issues were resolved, we were able to obtain information from family members of perpetrator and victim, and it provided information about violence in the transient community.

**Review of Cases:** Upon selection of the case, Team members obtained relevant documents from their agencies. These documents were then scanned by the agency or by the Team Chair and delivered electronically to all Team members via Dropbox. Prior to receiving electronic documents, all participating Team members read and signed a confidentiality form explaining the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of documents and the prohibition on sharing information with anyone not an official member of the Team (Attachment E). Each Team member reads the documents prior to a meeting. The Team Chair announces the meeting time and place electronically by sending an agenda through e-mail. The announcement of the meeting is posted in accordance with public meeting law. The Team meets on Friday afternoons, the second Friday of each month, from 1:30 to 3:00 at the offices of the Coconino County Attorney. Once any public business has been concluded, the Team adjourns to Executive Session to conduct the review.

Once all members are familiar with the case, we generate a time-line for the case. The Chair suggests a tentative time-line that is then modified and expanded upon by the entire Team. After the first meeting to review the case, we identify missing information and assign team members to seek out that information. This has involved interviews with community members, neighbors, and family members as well as clarification of system involvement. The broad range of participants representing most relevant agencies and possessing experienced interviewing skills has been vital to our success in obtaining case information.

**Findings and Recommendations:** In the final phase of our process, we discuss all the information we have gathered and identify the timeline, red flags, and agency intervention. The Team then determines any actions that would help move toward recommended changes or help the Team clarify issues. Upon completion of the review, all documents are removed from the Dropbox and any hard copies are shredded.

**SUMMARY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW, 2014**

**Case summary:** John* was a troubled individual who had a lengthy history of anti-social and criminal behavior. He was adopted at an early age and had four adopted brothers and three adopted sisters. He is African American and grew up in Flagstaff at a time when the city was quite segregated and Black boys would be beaten for dating white girls. At age 6, he had a “playboy club” in the backyard where he was discovered molesting other children and he also molested one of his sisters. He abused animals and once killed a cat by trapping it in the oven. His parents used physical punishment to try to control him. According to his god-brother, the levels of punishment were severe and would be considered child abuse today. John began smoking marijuana and drinking alcohol at age 12 and his first arrest for drug and alcohol possession was at 19. He was subsequently arrested on multiple

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* Pseudonyms are used for perpetrator and victim.
occasions for violent, non-violent, domestic violence related, and substance abuse related charges. His more serious crimes included child molestation, sexual assault, and attempted murder by setting his victim on fire. He served time in DOC and was on probation. John had seven children, two with his wife, two with his deceased girlfriend and three from previous relationships. His wife spoke with the team and told us John was a very good guy when he wasn’t drinking, but he had a history of violence against her and her children and a pattern of infidelity. Although he had been ordered to mental health treatment as a condition of probation, he never attended and violated probation. The team interviewed his god-brother who is a local pastor. His god-brother told us John could not refrain from alcohol or keep a job and had suffered from mental health issues and substance abuse his entire life. John told his god-brother that he was afraid he would kill someone someday.

Jane also had a lengthy history of substance abuse and arrests for property, violent and substance abuse crimes. She had served a sentence for aggravated DUI. Jane was a member of the Navajo Nation and grew up on the reservation. She became an alcoholic in her early teens and was diagnosed with depression. She had seven children from four men and abandoned her children for weeks at a time. Several team members interviewed one of her daughters who served as mother to the other children. She said that Jane called her “Mom” and expected her to care for her siblings. When Jane had her youngest daughter, she brought her home to the daughter we interviewed, who was 9 years old, and immediately left without providing food or money. Although CPS took custody of the children several times, they were returned to the home without effective intervention. The daughter told us that most of the extended family members are alcoholics and did not want authorities to intervene in their lives. The daughter called tribal police several times, but they never responded. Although school officials questioned her many absences, they did nothing to assist her or her siblings. Jane had relationships with seven other men in her church before becoming involved with John. She had a two-year relationship with another abusive man, and she had also been arrested for domestic violence and mandated to a batterer intervention program. She did not complete the program.

Jane had been dating John for approximately five weeks before he killed her. On the night of the homicide, the two were drinking in a motel with several other men. John left to purchase cigarettes and when he returned he accused Jane of being involved with one of the other men. The two fought, and John punched Jane several times. There were no witnesses to this assault. Jane lost consciousness and John put her in the shower in an attempt to revive her, which was unsuccessful. He put her in the bed and left the motel. Jane was dead on the arrival of police. John called his god-brother and after telling him what happened, his god-brother called the police who arrested John.

The county attorney who prosecuted the case spoke with our team. She explained that John was offered a plea agreement for second-degree murder because the victim would not have been seen in a positive light and her family did not seek severe punishment for the offender. He is serving a 16-year sentence in the Arizona DOC.
Red Flags:

- John had an extensive criminal history
- John had prior arrests for domestic violence
- John had a history of substance abuse to include alcohol, marijuana, heroin and cocaine
- John had a history of assaults on others
- John had a history of sexual assault, as well as child molestation
- John had a history of mental health issues (self-reported schizophrenia and bipolar disorder)
- John had a history of animal abuse
- John had displayed morbid jealousy and emotional abuse of Jane in front of Jane’s daughter
- John was sexually abused by an uncle during childhood
- Jane had a history of minor crimes, including domestic violence assault & assault of a minor child
- Jane had a history of substance abuse

Major findings: John never received appropriate treatment for his mental health problems that manifested in early childhood. We learned that the African American community in Flagstaff does not readily accept a possible mental health explanation for children’s behavioral issues. In John’s case, physical punishment was the only reaction to his violent conduct and sexual abuse of others. Although our community has increased in sophistication and has adopted progressive programs to address mental health, we believe further education is needed to ensure children are appropriately diagnosed and treated. Today, John’s cruel abuse of animals would receive serious intervention.

John’s adult criminality was also not adequately addressed. He moved in and out of the system and was able to avoid mental health treatment, despite being ordered to attend. Jane also did not receive appropriate treatment for her depression and alcoholism. Although the church tried to provide support, they were not effective in stopping the downward spiral they witnessed in both John and Jane.

Jane’s children were not supported by tribal police, school officials or child welfare agents. They were left to fend for themselves. Schools must be more aware of signs of family dysfunction that negatively affect children.

Motel and hotel owners need to be educated about violence in their establishments. While some owners are proactive and report criminal behavior, others turn a blind eye and allow heavy drug and alcohol use and interpersonal violence to go unchecked. This creates a dangerous environment for residents, visitors and citizens and has a greater negative affect on owners in the long term than immediate evictions and police interventions.
**Timeline**

John began drinking and smoking marijuana at age 12.

John charged with possession of marijuana, assault & liquor offences (5 days in jail).

1983

John charged with aggravated assault & sexual assault.

1984

John charged with child molestation, 2 counts of sexual assault on a minor & oral sexual conduct.

1985

John moved to Maricopa County.

1986

John was adopted & grew up in Flagstaff.

1987

John failed to appear in court.

1988

John charged with auto burglary & DV-related assault & kidnapping.

John charged with a liquor offense, disorderly conduct & DUI.

1989

John charged with aggravated assault, filing a false report, resisting arrest, reckless burning, 3 counts of failure to appear & DV-related family offense assault.

1990

John charged with obstruction of police (7 days in jail).

1991

John charged with aggravation assault, endangerment & aggravated DUI (convicted for DWLS (pled id / id fi)).

1992

John charged with shoplifting, contempt of court, aggravated assault and burglary (convicted/sentence to DOC).

1993

John begun 5-year DOC sentence.

1994

John began using heroin (self-reported).

John charged with shoplifting, contempt of court, aggravated assault and burglary (convicted/sentence to DOC).

1995

John charged with shoplifting, contempt of court, aggravated assault and burglary (convicted/sentence to DOC).

John charged with shoplifting, contempt of court, aggravated assault and burglary (convicted/sentence to DOC).

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John charged with shoplifting, contempt of court, aggravated assault and burglary (convicted/sentence to DOC).

John diagnosed with schizophrenia (self-reported).
DVFRT: Recommendations from 2014 Case Review

- Create a community education program covering the dynamics of domestic violence and resources within the community for both victims and offenders. This educational program should include programming specifically designed to educate and train faith based leaders.
- Adopt a training program, which includes domestic violence policies and protocols, for the hotel/motel management community on how to respond to domestic violence incidents that occur within their establishments. This would include local recognition for completion of the training program.
- Increase funding and coordination for mental health services. This should include training for law enforcement agencies on identifying and addressing the needs of the mentally ill when responding to calls for service, as well as increased coordination between the criminal justice system and mental health service providers. Particular attention should be paid to those with recurring mental health issues who exhibit violent tendencies and connecting these individuals with appropriate services, in addition to incarceration.
- Create a community education program, tailored to the African American community, to dispel myths regarding mental health concerns and provide awareness of mental health services available in the community.
- Provide education to victims of domestic violence regarding the dynamics of abuse and resources available. Particular attention should be paid to those in the community.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>John diagnosed with bipolar disorder (self-reported)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>John charged with assault, failure to appear, DWLS &amp; racing/speeding &amp; fictitious plates (30 days in jail &amp; 1 year probation – PHX)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>John charged with 2 counts of DWLS &amp; 2 counts of failure to appear (7 days in jail)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>John was charged with shoplifting &amp; filling a false report (1 day in jail – Tempe)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>John charged with possession of cocaine – Orange County, FL (sentenced to DOC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>John strangled his wife</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>John diagnosed with bipolar disorder (self-reported)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>John charged with possession. DWLS, failure to appear; possession of drug paraphernalia, &amp; open container (6 months in jail &amp; 3 years probation – PHX)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>John charged with violation of probation (sentenced 2.5 years in DOC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>John charged with aggravated assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>John killed Jane and was charged with Second Degree Md</td>
</tr>
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- Improve awareness of the impact of domestic violence among educational and child safety workers, including increased awareness of the co-occurrence of child abuse and intimate partner abuse and/or homicide.

OTHER ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY OUR WORK TO DATE

As many members of the Team work daily with domestic violence victims, offenders, or both, we note some continuing concerns. The level of mental health resources available for people experiencing domestic violence is inadequate. Rather than cut funding for mental health services, we need an expansion of both the quantity of available services and an increase in services that address the co-occurring conditions of domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental illness. This is particularly true in reservation communities that are in need of more law enforcement and prosecution personnel as well as treatment resources.

We are also concerned that in the case reviewed this year, and in most cases reviewed previously, children witness ongoing abuse between their parents. We support all the recommendations of the Attorney General’s National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence (http://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/cev-rpt-full.pdf) which emphasize the importance of providing trauma informed care to all children who witness violence in their homes and communities and training educational personnel to recognize and respond to these children. The Flagstaff Police Department is working with FUSD to provide education on domestic violence, but there is no standard, required training for educational personnel to identify and respond effectively when students are experiencing domestic violence in their homes. Additionally, children who lose a parent to domestic violence require specialized intervention from the moment of death. In 2013, several team members attended a conference where Dorothy Lennig, of the House of Ruth in Baltimore, MD, one of the oldest domestic violence programs in the country spoke about child witnesses. She has developed a response team that attends to all domestic homicides with surviving children and explained the problems children encounter when they are not allowed to talk about the incident and their feelings. We believe that a similar program is needed in Arizona and that funding is required to establish a program with highly qualified staff.
Team Member Profiles

**Kathleen J. Ferraro, Chair**

Dr. Kathleen J. Ferraro earned her doctorate in Sociology from Arizona State University in 1981 and is the Chair and a Professor of Sociology & Social Work at Northern Arizona University. Prior to moving to NAU in 2003, she was an Associate Professor and Director of Women’s Studies at ASU where she served as a professor for 20 years. She began work in the domestic violence movement in 1975 as a shelter volunteer at Rainbow Retreat in Phoenix. Since then, she has published 37 scholarly journal articles, book chapters and reports on domestic violence. Her research has examined domestic violence policing and prosecution, victim’s coping strategies, the role of faith, incarcerated women and debates within domestic violence scholarship. Her book *Neither Angels nor Demons: Women, Crime, and Victimization* was a Choice Outstanding Academic Title in 2007. It is an analysis of the lives of women who kill their abusive partners or engage in other serious crime as a result of intimate partner victimization. She has also given numerous presentations and trainings on domestic violence in the United States and Europe. She has been a member of the Arizona Governor’s Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women, the board of the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative and the founding boards of several shelters and community programs for women. She has served as an expert witness on the effects of battering in over 125 criminal, civil and clemency cases.

**Deborah Fresquez, Vice-Chair**

Debbie Fresquez has been the leading expert Domestic Violence Victim Advocate for Victim Witness Services for Coconino County for the past ten years. In 2009, she was recognized by the Coconino County Coordinated Response team to domestic violence for her contributions to victims of domestic violence. She holds a Bachelor in Liberal Studies with an emphasis in Psychology from Northern Arizona University. In 1995, Fresquez retired as a Deputy Sheriff for the Coconino County Sheriff’s Department. She completed the Arizona Victim Assistance Academy in Flagstaff, Arizona in 2007 and the National American Victim Assistance Academy in Louisville, Kentucky in 2008. She currently sits on the Coconino County Coordinated Response Team to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and is co-chair on the Coconino County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board. In 2011 Deborah was appointed by Dr. Neil Websdale professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Northern Arizona University and director of the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative as Coordinator of the Fatality Review and Safety Audit for Coconino County. In 2010 Deborah created the first Domestic Violence Support Group for woman and children in Coconino County and facilitates the domestic violence impact panel for Coconino County. In 2014 Deborah was appointed as co-chair of Children of Incarcerated Parents committee. In January of 2015 Deborah was asked to sit on the Committee on the
Impact of Domestic Violence and the Court CIDVC, and in April 2015 was awarded the Distinguished Service award from the Arizona Attorney General.

**Stephanie Mayer, Secretary**

Stephanie Mayer works at the Family Violence Institute at Northern Arizona University.

**Gwendolyn Adaki**

Gwendolyn Adakai, member of the Navajo Nation, is a Victim Specialist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Law Enforcement Services, duty stationed in Flagstaff, Arizona. She has been in the position for over 1 year. Before she was a social worker providing direct human services to Native American tribes surrounding Phoenix, Arizona. She has 10 plus years in direct human services and administration. Gwendolyn Adakai holds a Master of Social Work degree from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Social Work from Arizona State University.

**Alex Alvarez**

Dr. Alex Alvarez earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of New Hampshire in 1991 and is a Professor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Northern Arizona University. From 2001 until 2003 he was the founding Director of the Martin-Springer Institute for Teaching the Holocaust, Tolerance, and Humanitarian Values. His main areas of study are in the areas of collective and interpersonal violence, including homicide and genocide. His first book, *Governments, Citizens, and Genocide* was published by Indiana University Press in 2001 and was a nominee for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences book of the year award in 2002, as well as a Raphael Lemkin book award nominee from the International Association of Genocide Scholars in 2003. His other books include *Murder American Style* (2002), *Violence: the Enduring Problem* (2008), and *Genocidal Crimes* (2009). He has also served as an editor for the journal *Violence and Victims*, was a founding co-editor of the journal *Genocide Studies and Prevention*, was a co-editor of the H-Genocide List Serve, and is an editorial board member for the journals *War Crimes, Genocide, and Crimes Against Humanity: An International Journal*, and *Idea: A Journal of Social Issues*. He has been invited to present his research in various countries such as Austria, Bosnia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden. Dr. Alvarez also gives presentations and workshops on various issues such as violence, genocide, and bullying.

**Bruce Applin**

Bruce is a Supervisory Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).

**Bill Burke**

Bill Burke is currently the chief prosecutor for the City of Flagstaff. He has 18 years of
experience as a prosecutor in Flagstaff and Mesa. He has taught at various police academies as well as for the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys’ Advisory Council on such subjects as domestic violence and DUI prosecution and enforcement. Bill holds a Bachelor of Arts from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in History as well as a Juris Doctorate from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, IL.

**Emmeleta Burrual**

Emmeleta Burrual is a Program Specialist with Native Americans for Community Action.

**Adrienne Celaya**

Adrienne Celaya is a post-doctoral scholar at the Family Violence Institute. In the spring of 2014 she received her doctoral degree in Sociology from the University of Miami, where her dissertation examined the effects of individual, couple and neighborhood factors on intimate partner violence among natives and immigrants. Her professional endeavors include serving as Coordinator and Data Analyst for Miami Dade County’s Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team, with whom she worked with for eight years. While in Miami, she also served as a member on several committees to include the Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative, FCADV’s Batterer Accountability Subcommittee, the Attorney General’s Statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council of Miami-Dade County, and the Domestic Violence Coordinated Response Committee. Her research interests include intimate partner violence, family violence lethality research, Latino/immigrant violence, and immigration policy analysis. Specifically, her research focuses on issues surrounding minorities and immigrant populations, and their larger implications in the criminal justice system and the provision of social services.

**Tim Cornelius**

Tim Cornelius is currently the Criminal Investigations Lieutenant for the Coconino County Sheriff's Office. During his 19 year career with the Coconino County Sheriff's Office, Tim has worked in the Jail Division, Flagstaff Patrol, Corporal in Flagstaff Patrol. In January of 1998, Tim was promoted to Detective and transferred into the Criminal Investigation Division. He became a member of the Arizona Homicide and International Homicide Investigators Associations. He was directly involved in 12 homicide investigations and was the lead detective in four homicides. All were solved, and all of the suspects were convicted. Tim was promoted in 2004 to the rank of Lieutenant for the Williams and the Grand Canyon sub-stations. In 2006 he was transferred back to the Flagstaff patrol division. Time was transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division in May of 2010. He began supervising one sergeant and six detectives and two Cold Case detectives.

**Lawrence Czarnecki**
Dr. Lawrence Czarnecki has been a medical examiner for the Coconino County Health Department for 5 years. He worked as a medical examiner in Kansas for a few years prior to moving to Arizona. He attended Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and trained at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix for five years in a combined Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency. He then trained at the University of New Mexico in a one year Forensic Pathology fellowship. He is board certified in Anatomic, Clinical and Forensic Pathology.

**Sarah Douthit**

Sarah is currently employed with the Coconino County Adult Probation Department and holds the position of Deputy Chief Probation Officer. Since 1999, Sarah has held a variety of positions in the criminal justice system in Arizona to include Adult Parole, Adult Probation and the Arizona Supreme Court. Sarah holds a bachelor’s degree in Philosophy from ASU and a master’s degree in Education from NAU.

**Marcel A. Duclos**

Marcel A. Duclos, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, Human Services, and Alcohol/Drug Counseling, held faculty appointments at the New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord, NH for twenty-eight-years. A professional educator and counselor for three decades, he holds credentials as a NCC, CCMHC, ACS, LADC and LCS LCMHC CCMHC. He is a certified Body Psychotherapy Specialist in the treatment of Addictions and Trauma. He has served as a Consultant/Therapist in a Child Welfare Demonstration Project for the Division of Children, Youth and Families in Child Protective Services. He is the former Executive Director of Headrest, Inc. in Lebanon, NH. He has training in Philosophy, Theology, Developmental Psychology, Pastoral Psychology, Jungian Analytical Psychology, EMDR, Core Energetic Evolutionary Therapy and Internal Family Systems Therapy. He is the co-author, with Connie Robbilard, of *Common Threads: Stories of Life After Trauma*. Currently he serves as the Clinical Director at Northland Family Help Center.

**Hiba Duval**

Hiba recently received her BS in Psychology from Northern Arizona University. She was voted onto the team in February 2012. Hiba is working to be an active member of the Flagstaff community and on the NAU campus. She participates in Theatrikos Community Theater, working mostly with the Theatrikids program, and is a part of the Resident Hall Association for the Courtyard Community.

**Sarah Erlinder**

Sarah is an attorney with the Coconino County Public Defender’s Office. She represents people charged with felony and misdemeanor offenses throughout Coconino County,
including domestic violence offenses. Sarah graduated from Wesleyan University and the University of Wisconsin Law School. During law school she was a board member of the Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender & Society where she put on the journal’s annual symposium, which addressed gender issues in the criminal justice system.

**Lena Fowler**

Lena Fowler is the current Coconino County Supervisor for District 5 and the current Vice-Chair of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors.

**Elaine Fridlund-Horne**

Elaine Fridlund-Horne graduated in 1987 from Western State University, College of Law in Fullerton, CA. She had a general law private practice in the State of California from December 1988 to until she relocated to Arizona in January of 1995. In October 2006, Elaine Fridlund-Horne was appointed as a Judge Pro Tem for the newly formed Integrated Family Court (IFC) Pilot Program and remained the sole Judge for the IFC until her formal election to the Coconino County Superior Court in 2010 and her re-election in 2014. As the IFC Judge, the Honorable Fridlund-Horne is assigned all family law cases involving minor children, half of all minor dependency matters, all minor guardianships, adoptions and all non-parent custody/visitation matters. Judge Fridlund-Horne serves as the Presiding Conciliation Court Judge and the Associate Presiding Judge of the Coconino County Superior Court.

**Valarie Hannemann**

Dr. Valarie Hannemann earned her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in 1990 and is the Director of the EXODUS Program at the Coconino County Jail. Valarie has been a Licensed Psychologist for over 25 years who provides psychotherapy to adolescents and adults in a private practice setting. One of her specialties is working with women and men who have experienced domestic violence. One of her main areas of interest as the Director for the EXODUS Program (a life-skills program aimed at reducing recidivism) at the Coconino County Jail is designing and implementing programming and interventions which address the mental health issues surrounding domestic violence and drug/alcohol abuse. She has given numerous presentations on how mental health issues impact domestic violence.

**Wendy Kasprzyk-Roberts**

Wendy Kasprzyk-Roberts is the Integrated Family Court Coordinator for Coconino County Superior Court, managing 18 programs and services for the court as well as providing grant writing, training, mediation and outreach for court programs. She has been with the court since January, 2012. Prior to joining the superior court, Wendy was the Victim Services
Grants Program Coordinator for the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) where she managed the statewide Crime Victim Assistance and Victim Compensation Grants and had an active role in outreach, communication and training with professionals in the criminal justice system. Wendy was appointed to the Governor’s Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women in November, 2013 - January, 2015. She has extensive experience working with victims of crime, the criminal justice system and victim rights. Wendy holds a Master’s of Administration in Public Management from Northern Arizona University.

**Stacy L. Krueger**

Stacy Krueger is a Deputy County Attorney for Coconino County Attorney’s Office. Her caseload consists of felony prosecution, primarily focused on felony domestic violence offenses. Stacy regularly trains law enforcement, both locally and statewide, on domestic violence issues and also serves as a panel member for the Coconino County Domestic Violence Impact Panel. She graduated magna cum laude from the University of Toledo College of Law. During her time in law school, she participated in the college’s domestic violence clinic and was also a member of the Reinberger Fellowship Program in prosecution. Stacy also holds a Master’s degree in higher education counseling from Youngstown State University.

**Heather Marcy**

Heather Marcy is the Lay Legal Advocate at Northland Family Help Center (NFHC), and provides legal advocacy to community and shelter residents surrounding civil issues where Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault is reported. Heather participates in the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) Legal Committee and is on the Executive Committee for the Coconino Continuum of Care to End Homelessness. This year, Heather began managing the NFHC grant writing and oversight. Heather has provided direct service support to survivors and victims of DV/SA over the past 10 years through NFHC’s emergency Domestic Violence Shelter as a case manager and through work at a local domestic violence transitional housing program, Sharon Manor. Heather graduated from Northern Arizona University with a BS in Psychology and Criminal Justice in 2005.

**Mandy Metzger**

Mandy Metzger was elected to the Coconino County Board of Supervisors in 2008 and has served two terms as Chair of the Board. She is president-elect of the Arizona County Supervisors Association. As a supervisor, Mandy represents District 4, which encompasses nearly 6,000 square miles and is home to 20 communities including portions of the Hopi Tribe and Navajo Nation.

Mandy’s past service as a senior policy advisor on Capitol Hill in the issue areas of public lands, judiciary and education, has made her a strong supporter of programs and policies
that provide for safe communities, enhanced educational opportunities, improved infrastructure and sustainable economic development.

Mandy works to keep a pulse on issues within the County and her district by meeting regularly with local, tribal, legislative and congressional leaders. She also serves on numerous boards and commissions to advocate for healthy and resilient communities.

**Scott Mansfield**

Scott Mansfield is Lieutenant assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division at the Flagstaff Police Department. He not only supervises the Detective Division but also the METRO Narcotics Street Crime Task Force, SWAT Team, Bomb Team, and Negotiations Team. Scott has worked in the department as a patrol officer, patrol corporal, Detective, Selective Enforcement Sergeant, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, and has served on the SWAT team. While being assigned as the Criminal Investigation Lieutenant, Scott has worked on some notable projects such as implementing a new and revamped process for the service of Orders of Protection and Injunctions Against Harassment. This new process has increased the service levels of these documents dramatically. The latest project Scott has completed was the implementation of the new Lethality and Coercive Control Risk Assessment Tool for the Flagstaff Police Department. With this new project, the Flagstaff Police Department is working with Victim Witness to provide services to the victims of Domestic Violence in hopes to stop the cycles of violence in abusive relationships.

**Melissa Rhodes**

Melissa Rhodes, MSW, LCSW does clinical social work with Navajo children and their families. The past eleven years have been dedicated to clinical work with Hopi and Navajo children and adolescents, trauma work in Flagstaff and psycho-educational services through the Coconino County Integrated Family Court. Prior clinical social work has included individual and family therapy with child, adolescent and adult clients in private practice, school and community mental health settings. Melissa has a long-standing interest in helping children and families heal from trauma and loss of all origin. She is also involved with Coconino County Victim Witness Services as a volunteer victim advocate and has assisted with the Domestic Violence Support Group.

**Warren Sanford**

Warren Sanford is a third-generation Flagstaff resident and served as judge protem for the Flagstaff and Williams. He earned a Master of Public Administration degree and undergraduate degrees with honors in philosophy and justice studies from NAU, with emphases in restorative justice and international justice models. Warren actively engages his passion for collaborative and restorative justice programs through community service and post-conviction outreach. He believes in a responsible approach to crime and justice, and accountability for one’s actions. Part of his professional involvement in collaborative
justice is working toward solutions for domestic violence and a path of healing for victims, offenders and the community as a whole.

**Maureen Gisele Schat**

Maureen Schat has worked in the field of domestic and sexual violence prevention since the mid-80's in varying capacities, ranging from prevention educator to advocate to board member. Maureen has a BA in Sociology with a minor in Criminology. In May of 2013, Maureen accepted the position of CCRT (Coordinated Community Response Team) Coordinator for Coconino County; she is an employee of Northland Family Help Center. Maureen currently teaches a Healthy Relationships class in the Exodus program at the Coconino County jail (CCSO).

**Nitika Sharma**

Nitika Sharma worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the Family Violence Institute in 2014 to 2015. She graduated in the spring of 2014 from the University of Colorado, Boulder with a Ph.D. in Sociology. Her doctoral dissertation explored and analyzed the fixity and fluidity of menstruation rituals among Hindu women of Nepalese origin. Her research interests are in the areas of gender inequality, gender-based violence and qualitative research. In her graduate career, in addition to her dissertation research, she began research on the Bhutanese refugee population resettled in the U.S. and also initiated a research project with Dr. Amanda Shigihara to examine the dynamics of voluntary childlessness. At the FVI, she primarily explored grant opportunities and participated in ongoing and new research projects.

**Alicia Stewart**

Alicia M. Stewart currently lives in Page, Arizona where her six children and three grandchildren reside. A survivor herself, Alicia has worked for the movement serving survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, as well as their families and was formerly with the Page Regional Domestic Violence Shelter. Alicia currently serves on the CCRT Steering and Sub-Committees as well as the DVFRBT. Alicia has co-facilitated the Survivor Making Change groups for six years and the Making Change Offender Intervention Program for the past four years. Previous to working with PRDVS, Alicia worked in tourism for 12 years. She is currently pursuing a Degree in Social Work.

**Kevin Treadway**

Chief Kevin Treadway has been with the Flagstaff Police Department for 27 years. He holds a BS in Business Administration, and a Masters in Educational Leadership, both from NAU. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, and the FBI LEEDs (Law Enforcement Executive Development) seminar. He served on the Board for the Arizona Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates for 5 years, and was the President in 2010. He also
attended the West Point Leadership in Police Organizations Course. He has worked in the department as a patrol officer, DARE instructor, hostage negotiator, accident reconstructionist, and spent 9 years in criminal investigations in a variety of functions. Prior to becoming Chief, he was a Deputy Chief in Support Services and Operations for 6 year.

**Pam Turner**

Pam Turner is a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department at Flagstaff Medical Center (FMC). Pam has been employed at FMC for the past 34 years. Pam has specialty training in Forensic Nursing and is a Certified Adult/Adolescent Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. She also is a Certified Forensic Nurse and specializes in the care of domestic violence patients, sexual assault patients and other patients that are victims of crime. Pam was a member of the working group that implemented a Domestic Violence Screening Tool along with education to staff in the Emergency Department to screen patients for DV. She is a member of the Family Advocacy Council and a member of the County Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. She was one of the founders of Northern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault (NACASA) in 2001. In 2009, she was awarded the Arizona Attorney General’s Distinguished Service Award for Advocacy/Direct Service and in 2008 she was selected as the Arizona Daily Sun Female Citizen of the Year for her tireless efforts on behalf of victims’ rights and assistance and for making Flagstaff a better place.

**Jamie L. Whelan**

Jamie L. Whelan earned a BA from Lack Haven State University and an MA in Learning and Behavioral Disorders from Northern Arizona University. She is a senior lecturer and the Supervisor of the Praxis Partnership Program in the College of Education at NAU. She works with public, private, and charter schools in an effort to maintain student rights and clarification of IDEA principles and their application in a school setting. She is a past president and current board member of Coconino County Victim Witness Services.

**Cindy Winn**

Cindy Winn has held the position of Coconino County Chief Adult Probation Officer since November, 2007. She has been employed in various capacities with the Adult Probation department for the past 28 years. She is a member of the Arizona Commission on Victims in the Courts, the Arizona Committee on Probation Education, the Arizona Committee on Probation, and the Coconino County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) Executive Committee. She currently serves as President of the Arizona Chief Probation Officer’s Association. Cindy holds a Master’s Degree in Sociology.

**Barry Yoyhoeoma**

Chief Barry Yoyhoeoma, a member of the Hopi Nation, is the Chief of Police for Supai.
ATTACHMENT A

41-198. Fatal or near fatal domestic violence review teams; duties; membership; report; confidentiality; violation; classification; definitions

A. A political subdivision of this state or a combination of political subdivisions may establish a fatal or near fatal domestic violence review team to:

1. Examine fatal or near fatal incidents of domestic violence to better understand the dynamics of these fatalities or near fatalities.

2. Report to the office of the attorney general its findings and recommendations as to how fatal or near fatal incidents of domestic violence may be prevented and how the system can be improved. The report shall not contain any information that identifies individuals in specific incidents of domestic violence related fatalities or near fatalities.

3. Determine the number and type of incidents it wishes to review.

B. A review team shall not review a fatal or near fatal incident of domestic violence until a criminal investigation or proceeding connected with the fatality or near fatality is completed.

C. A review team shall designate one of its members to serve as chairperson. The chairperson shall call meetings as necessary and is responsible for submitting the report prescribed in subsection A, paragraph 2 of this section.

D. All information and records acquired by a review team are confidential and are not subject to subpoena, discovery or introduction into evidence in any civil or criminal proceeding or disciplinary action. Information that is otherwise available from other sources is not immune from subpoena, discovery or introduction into evidence through those sources solely because they were presented to or reviewed by a review team.

E. A member of a review team or any person who presents information to a review team shall not be questioned in any civil or criminal proceeding or disciplinary action regarding the information presented. This subsection does not prevent a person
from testifying regarding information obtained independently of the review team or as to public information.

F. Review team meetings are closed to the public and are not subject to title 38, chapter 3, article 3.1 if the review team is reviewing a fatal or near fatal incident of domestic violence case. All other review team meetings are open to the public.

G. The political subdivision shall establish the membership of a review team. Each review team may be comprised of the following:

1. A representative from a county or municipal law enforcement agency.

2. A representative of a county or municipal court.

3. A representative of a county or municipal prosecutor's office.

4. A representative of a local domestic violence prevention program.

5. A victim of domestic violence.

6. A representative of a county or state public health agency.

7. A representative of the office of the county medical examiner.

8. If child protective services received a report on any person residing with the victim before the fatal or near fatal incident of domestic violence, a representative of child protective services who serves the area covered by the review team for the duration of the review of that fatality or near fatality.


H. The office of the attorney general shall receive the reports of the review teams and distribute copies of them to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the governor, the peace officer standards and training board, the state domestic violence coalition and the chief justice of the supreme court, on or before January 31 of each year. Copies shall also be provided to the secretary of state.

I. When a review team concludes a fatal or near fatal incident of domestic violence review, the review team shall return all information and records concerning the
victim and the family to the agency that provided the information or, if directed by that agency, shall destroy that information.

J. A person who violates the confidentiality requirements of this section is guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor.

K. For the purposes of this section:

1. "Domestic violence" has the same meaning prescribed in section 13-3601.

2. "Fatal incident of domestic violence" means a homicide or suicide that is committed by a party to the domestic violence and not committed by an on-duty police officer acting within the scope of employment.

3. "Near fatal incident of domestic violence" means an assault that is committed by a party to the domestic violence where the victim suffered life threatening injuries.

4. "Political subdivision" means a county, city or town.
ATTACHMENT B

COCONINO COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM

BY-LAWS AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

ARTICLE I - ORDINANCE AUTHORITY

The Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team is created/appointed by the Flagstaff City Council and the Coconino County Board of Supervisors in accordance with A.R.S.41-198 and as subsequently amended.

ARTICLE II – MISSION

The mission of this Team is to analyze the circumstances of fatalities and near fatalities in an effort to better understand the dynamics of such deaths and make recommendations for prevention and system improvements. The purpose of this project is not to lay blames, but rather to actively improve all systems that serve persons involved with domestic abuse, and to prevent violence and fatalities in the future.

ARTICLE III – POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCEFATALITY REVIEW TEAM (DVFRT)

A. **Advisory Body.** The DVFRT is an advisory body to the Arizona Attorney General’s Office. The DVFRT will serve as a resource to Membership, law enforcement agencies, the City, Country, and State on issues related to domestic violence. Its powers are advisory only, unless additional powers and authority is provided by ordinance or state of federal law or regulation.

B. **Powers and Duties.** The powers and duties of the DVFRT shall be:

1. Examine incidents of domestic violence related fatalities and near fatalities to better understand the dynamics of these incidents.

2. Report to the office of the Arizona Attorney General, the Flagstaff City Council, the Coconino County Sheriff’s Office and Coconino County Board of Supervisors its findings and recommendations as to how incidents of domestic violence related fatalities and near fatalities may be prevented and how the system can be improved. The report shall not contain any
information that identifies individuals in specific incidents of domestic violence related fatalities.

3. Determine the number and type of incidents it wishes to review.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS

A. **Membership.** Membership shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of each of the following agencies. Those representatives shall be appointed by the Mayor of the City of Flagstaff and Chair of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors, upon recommendation of the respective agency head.

Child Protective Services
Coconino County Attorney’s Office
Coconino County Domestic Violence Probation Officer
Domestic Violence Shelter Professional
Flagstaff City Attorney’s Office
Flagstaff Police Department
Medical Examiner
Public Defender
Sheriff’s Office
Superior Court/Family Court Judiciary
Victim Services

Based on a majority vote of the Team, other members may be recommended for appointment by the Mayor and the Chair of the Board of Supervisors, based on demonstrated expertise in the field of domestic violence.

B. **Appointment.** The Mayor of Flagstaff and the Chair of the Board of Supervisors shall appoint members for a three-year term. Team members and the agency each represents will sign a confidentiality agreement.

C. **Term.** Members shall serve terms of three years and may be reappointed to successive terms. In the event a member becomes incapacitated or resigns or is unable to perform the duties of the office or is otherwise removed, the Mayor and Chair of the Board of Supervisors shall appoint another member to fill the unexpired term of the member replaced.

D. **Removal of Members.** A Team member may be removed by the Mayor and the Chair of the Board of Supervisors for non-attendance at three consecutive meetings, conviction of a crime involving more turpitude, repeated disruptive behavior after warning, or when in the opinion of the Mayor and Chair of the Board of Supervisors removal is in the best interest of the Team.
E. Officers.

1. **Chairperson.** The Chairperson shall be elected by a majority of the members of the Team at a properly noticed and constituted meeting to serve for a term of three years. The Chairperson may be re-elected to serve successive terms as deemed appropriate by the Team members. In the event the Chairperson resigns, becomes incapacitated or unable to perform the duties of office or is otherwise removed, the Team members will elect a replacement for the unexpired term by a majority vote at a properly noticed and constituted meeting.

**Duties of Chairperson.** The Chairperson shall be responsible for:

a. establishing a regular meeting schedule;

b. presiding over Team meetings, including deciding upon all points of order or procedure;

c. appointing a chair and board members to serve on committees, ad-hoc committees, and subcommittees of the Team;

d. preparing agenda items for future meetings prior to Team meetings, and in consultation with other board members;

e. considering other such matters and concerns of the Team as set forth in these by-laws or as directed by the Mayor and Chair of the Board of Supervisors.

2. **Vice Chairperson.** The Vice Chairperson shall be elected by a majority of the members of the Team at a properly noticed and constituted meeting to serve for a term of three years. The Vice Chairperson may be re-elected to serve successive terms as deemed appropriate by the Team members. A vacancy in the office of Vice Chairperson shall be filled for the unexpired term by a majority vote of the Team members.

**Duties of Vice Chairperson.** In addition to such other duties, if any, as may evolve upon the Vice Chairperson by virtue of the meetings of the office, or as assigned by the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall preside over meetings of the Team in the Absence of the Chairperson.
3. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall be elected by a majority of the members of the Team at a properly noticed and constituted meeting to serve for a term of three years.

**Duties of the Secretary.** The Secretary shall take all minutes of Team meetings and keep all Team reports in accordance with Arizona statutes. The minutes of all Team meeting shall be provided to the Team in summary/verbatim form.

4. **Legal Representation.** The City and/or County Attorney, or their designee shall provide legal representation and advice to the Team as necessary.

5. **Committees.** The Team shall establish such committees, ad-hoc committees, and subcommittees as the Team deems necessary and appropriate for carrying out Team business. The Chairperson shall appoint the members of the committees, ad-hoc committees, and subcommittees created. Such committees report to the Team in an advisory capacity and such committees shall exist only so long as necessary to fill the purposes for which they were created. Members of committees, ad-hoc committees, and subcommittees are not required to be DVFRT Members. The Chairperson may remove a committee member at any time with or without cause. Removal of a committee member who is also a Team member does not remove that individual from the team; it merely relieves the individual from his/her duties on that committee.

   The Chairperson of a committee, ad-hoc committee, or subcommittee will be appointed by the Team Chairperson only so long as necessary to fill the purposes for which the committee was created. The Chairperson of such committee must be a Team member.

   Meetings shall be called by the Chairperson of such committee or upon petition by a majority of the committee’s members. Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern meeting procedures.

   Committee recommendations are to be forwarded to the DVFRT for official action.

6. **Compensation.**

   The Membership of the Team as well as officers serve in a voluntary capacity.
A. **Schedule.** When there exists business to be conducted and a quorum can be obtained, the Team shall meet quarterly and at such other times when called by the Chairperson after consultation with Team members.

B. **Quorum.** A quorum of the Team shall consist of a majority of its appointed members. Any action voted on by a majority vote of the quorum present shall be considered an action of the Team. In the event a quorum is not present for a meeting, the Team is prohibited from discussing any items from the agenda and the meeting shall be rescheduled. In the event a quorum is present at the beginning of a meeting and is not maintained throughout the meeting, no votes requiring action may be taken after the loss of a quorum.

C. **Open Meetings.** The Team and its committees, ad-hoc committees, and subcommittees shall hold all meetings and conduct all business in accordance with Arizona Open Meeting Law A.R.S. 38-431 et seq and shall be open to the public. DVFRT meetings are closed to the public and are not subject to Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 3.1 if the Team is reviewing a domestic violence fatality or near fatality case.

D. **Procedure Not Contained in By-Laws.** All meetings of the Team shall be, to the extent not in conflict with these by-laws, conducted according to the latest edition of Roberts Rule of Order, with the exception the Chairperson of the DVFRT, committee, ad-hoc committee, or subcommittee shall be permitted to vote on any motion.

E. **Proxy Voting, Electronic and Telephonic Participation.**
   1. Proxy voting shall not be permitted.
   2. Electronic and telephonic participation may be permitted where, in the opinion of the Chairperson, members can participate fully.

F. **Agenda Items.** Any member of the Team may propose items for the agenda. The Chairperson shall approve the agenda for each Team meeting.

**ARTICLE VI – MISCELLANEOUS**

A. **Conflict of Interest.** Any member of the Team who has a substantial interest as defined in A.R.S. 28-502 in the outcome of any matter brought before the Team shall make known that interest and the minutes of the meeting shall reflect that the member made such fact known. The member shall refrain from voting or in any way participating in that matter.

B. **Amending the By-Laws.** The By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Team after not less than seven (7) days notice has been given to all members of
the Team and a copy of the proposed amendment sent with notice. Any change in the By-Laws shall require a concurring vote of three-fifths of the members present.

Amended June 2011
ATTACHMENT C

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RESOLUTION NO. __________

FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 2009-42

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZONA, ESTABLISHING A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM.

WHEREAS, the Coconino County Board of Supervisors and the City of Flagstaff City Council have long supported efforts to prevent and reduce domestic violence in Coconino County; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that includes the use of or threat of violence and intimidation for the purpose of gaining power and control over another person; on average three women are murdered by their partners in the United States every day; in Arizona 95 people were killed in domestic violence related homicides in 2005, 111 people were murdered in 2006 and 126 people in 2007; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence accounts for over 50% of female homicides in the United States; and

WHEREAS, examination of incidents of domestic violence fatalities can help assess how law enforcement, court systems, and social services can be improved to help prevent such incidents; and

WHEREAS, employees of the Coconino County Sheriff’s Office, the City of Flagstaff Police Department, and the Coconino County Attorney’s Office are highly trained in investigation and prosecution of domestic violence matters; and

WHEREAS, A.R.S. § 41-198 authorizes Coconino County and the City of Flagstaff, political subdivisions of the State of Arizona, to establish a domestic violence review team; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors and the City Council finds that consideration of the public safety, health, and general welfare of potential domestic violence victims warrants the formation of a domestic violence review team;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:
Section 1. That the Board and Council hereby authorize the establishment of a domestic violence fatality review team in accordance with Section 41-198 of the Arizona Revised Statutes. The Board delegates to the County Manager and the City Council delegates to the City Manager the authority to appoint members of the team. In addition to the appointed members, the Team, with the concurrence of the County or City Manager, may invite additional persons to review specific cases when those persons have information directly relevant to the case under review. The Team has no subpoena power and no authority to compel attendance at its meetings.

Section 2. That pursuant to subsection 41-198.F, Arizona Revised Statutes, team meetings to review a domestic violence fatality case shall be closed to the public, but all other team meetings shall be open to the public and subject to Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 3.1 of the Arizona Revised Statutes (the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Arizona).

Section 3. That the Board and Council delegate to the County Manager and the County Attorney the authority to assure the meetings and conduct of the team comply with all applicable law.

Section 4. That the Team will submit a report to the Office of the Arizona Attorney General, with copies to the Board and Council, prior to January 31 of each calendar year in which the Team reports its findings and recommendations as to how incidents of domestic violence related fatalities may be prevented and how the system can be improved. The report shall not contain any information that identifies individuals in specific incidents of domestic violence related fatalities.

Section 5. That the authorization for the Team automatically terminates on January 31, 2014, unless re-authorized by the Board and Council prior to that date.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Flagstaff City Council on this ________ day of __________, 2009, and by the Coconino County Board of Supervisors on this ________ day of __________ ________, 2009.

_________________________  _________________________
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD       MAYOR

ATTEST:                     ATTEST:

_________________________
CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED AS TO FORM:    _________________________
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
ATTACHMENT D

Case Selection Criteria

The Coconino County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board will select cases to review in accordance with authorizing legislation, ARS 41-198. Any homicide or suicide that is traceable to domestic violence, as defined in ARS 13-3601, is suitable for review. The Board will select cases in which:

- The fatality or near-fatality occurred within the geographical boundaries of Coconino County
- No criminal legal issues remain unresolved
- There is adequate information on which to base a review
- The review process will aid in coordinating the response to domestic violence and in preventing domestic violence fatalities

The team will strive to review cases that represent the broadest range of characteristics and concerns surrounding domestic violence fatalities.
ATTACHMENT E

COCONINO COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM
CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

By signing this form, I do hereby acknowledge and agree to the following:

I agree to serve as a member of the Coconino County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (CCDVFT). I acknowledge that the effectiveness of the fatality review process is dependent on the quality of trust and honesty team members bring to it. Thus, I agree that I will not use any material or information obtained during the CCDVFT review process for any reason other than that for which it was intended. I further agree to safeguard the records, reports, investigation material, and information I receive from unauthorized disclosure. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-198 (I), I will destroy all information and records concerning the victim and the family at the conclusion of a review. I will refrain from representing the views of the CCDVFT to the media. I understand and acknowledge that the unauthorized disclosure of confidential records, reports, investigation materials and information may result in civil or criminal liability and exclusion from the CCDVFT. Violation of the confidentiality provision of A.R.S. § 41-198 is a Class 2 Misdemeanor.

______________________ ____________________ __________
Name     Signature    Date
HISTORY OF THE COCONINO COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams were first created in Arizona after Arizona Revised Statute 41-198 (ARS 41-198) was signed into law in 2004 (Attachment A). This piece of legislation authorized the creation of fatality review teams within the state. ARS 41-198 stipulated that these teams would be organized at the local level of government, established rules for confidentiality, protected these same teams from litigation, and suggested membership representation from relevant agencies. In 2008, the Governor’s Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women decided to refocus its efforts in order to reach out to areas beyond Phoenix and Pinal County and, accordingly, in late 2008 and early 2009 work began on creating a Fatality Review Team for Northern Arizona. Sonja Burkhalter, Executive Director of Northland Family Help Center, attended the initial meeting on revitalizing fatality review teams hosted by the Governor’s Commission and requested that Deborah Fresquez and Myra Ferell-Womochil, Co-Chairs of the Coconino County Coordinated Community Response Team, initiate efforts to develop a fatality review team. They contacted representatives from Flagstaff city government, Coconino county government, city and county law enforcement, the Coconino County Attorney’s office, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff Medical Center, and various non-profit agencies, such as the Northland Family Help Center and Victim Witness Services, who began meeting in December, 2009 to form a Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team.

Fatality review is a recently developed tool designed to address the issue of domestic violence related deaths. According to the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative, Domestic violence fatality review refers to the “deliberative process for identification of deaths, both homicide and suicide, caused by domestic violence, for examination of the systemic interventions into known incidents of domestic violence occurring in the family of the deceased prior to the death, for consideration of altered systemic response to avert future domestic violence deaths, or for development of recommendations for coordinated community prevention and intervention initiatives to eradicate domestic violence.” Importantly, these teams tend to operate with a “no-blame and shame” philosophy designed to encourage honest and open participation from a wide variety of relevant agencies. In short, the mission of the team is to analyze the circumstances of past fatalities in an effort to better understand the dynamics of such deaths and make recommendations for prevention and system improvements.

Working through the first half of 2009, the interested parties established an Oversight Committee that was dedicated to the establishment of a local fatality review team. This process involved discussing the needs and concerns of the affected city and county governments and agencies, meeting with leading experts on Fatality Review and representatives from the State Government, as well as having members attend various trainings and workshops on fatality review. In June 2009 the oversight committee developed two subcommittees in order to finalize the creation process. One designed and drafted a resolution for the city of Flagstaff and Coconino County, while the other worked on developing a set of bylaws and rules of procedure that would guide the operation of the proposed team (Attachment B). One important decision point was the choice that this team would operate as a joint team for both the city of Flagstaff and Coconino County. This is a fairly unique organizational structure and could potentially serve as a model for future teams. Finally, on August 10, 2009, the resolution was presented as a discussion item at a Flagstaff City Council and Coconino County Board of Supervisors joint meeting (Attachment C). Subsequently, the Flagstaff City Council voted approval of the resolution on September 8, 2009, followed by the County Board of Supervisors on November 17.

These votes and adoption of the resolution officially appointed the 26 members of the oversight committee to the new Fatality Review Team by the City and County Managers. These members represent a diverse range of organizations and agencies that allow the team to draw upon a wide range of experience and insight and also allow for a great deal of information to be gathered during the review process itself. Team officers were subsequently elected and the team began an assessment of all the potential cases that could be reviewed. The first case to be reviewed was selected from a possible pool of 11 domestic homicides that occurred between 2000 and 2009 within Coconino County. Given the relatively small population of the city and county, the team found that the pool of possible cases was somewhat limited when compared to larger urban areas.
ATTACHMENT H
FLAGSTAFF POLICE DEPARTMENT & COCONINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE LETHALITY AND COERCIVE CONTROL ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Lethality Assessment Questions

High Risk: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
Victim Notified of High Risk: ☐ Yes ☐ No

1. Has the suspect ever used physical violence against you? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
   a. If yes, have you ever been hospitalized because of the violence? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
      (Document past injuries hospitalized for and which hospital victim was at)
2. Has the suspect ever strangled you? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused (If yes, document in narrative)
3. Has the suspect ever threatened you with a weapon? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
   (If yes, document incident and what weapons suspect has access to in narrative)
4. Has the suspect ever assaulted you with a weapon? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
   (If yes, document past incident and what weapons suspect used in narrative)
5. Has the suspect ever threatened to kill you? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused (If yes, document in narrative)
6. Has the suspect ever attempted to kill you? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused (If yes, document in narrative)
7. Have there been physical assaults or assaults with weapons in the past by the suspect that you did not report to
   police because you were afraid of violent repercussions or death? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused (If yes, document in narrative)
8. Has the suspect ever threatened you, your family or themselves with physical violence or death if you ever
   left them? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused (If yes, document in narrative)
9. Do you feel like the violence against you has been escalating in severity and/or frequency?
   ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused (If yes, document in narrative)
10. What is the worst incident that has happened between you and the suspect? (Document in narrative)

Coercive Control Assessment Questions

1. Has the suspect ever used or threatened violence against your children? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
2. Has the suspect ever used or threatened violence against family pets? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
3. Has the suspect ever accidentally injured children or pets during a fight or argument with you?
   ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
4. Has the suspect ever made you have sex or perform a sexual act when you didn't want to? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
5. Does the suspect control your access to money? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
6. Does the suspect make it difficult for you to visit with friends and/or family? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
7. Has the suspect ever threatened you with violence or a negative consequence for not complying with their
   demands? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
   a. If yes, have they followed through with their threats? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
8. Does the suspect monitor your correspondence such as phone calls, text messages, emails, letters, social media?
   ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
9. Does the suspect use physical size or past incidents of violence to intimidate you? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
10. Does the suspect use access or harm to your children or pets as a way to control you? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
11. When you are away from the suspect do they check up on you and who you are with? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
12. Have you ever felt like the suspect was following or stalking you? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
13. Has the suspect ever made up impossible rules for you to follow with harsh consequences for breaking them?
    ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
14. Does the suspect restrict your access to vehicles or check your mileage if you use one? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
15. Does the suspect make humiliating remarks, use name calling, swearing, or criticizing statements towards you
    and/or about you to others? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
16. Does the suspect damage your property or search through your private things? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
17. Have you ever attempted to leave the suspect? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused
   a. If so, how many times? ☐ 1x ☐ 2x ☐ 3x ☐ or more
18. If you had left the relationship with the suspect in the past, was there a negative result after leaving?
    ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Refused (If yes, document in narrative)

See Reverse Side For Scoring Guidelines
# ATTACHMENT I
## FLAGSTAFF POLICE DEPARTMENT & COCONINO COUNTY SHERIFF’S STRANGULATION REFERENCE SHEET

### Strangulation Reference Sheet

Questions to Ask: Method and/or Manner:

- How was the victim strangled?
  - One hand (R or L)  
  - Two hands  
  - Pressure (R or L)  
  - Neck/Foot  
  -大数据 (describe)  
  - Also smothered?  
  - From 1 to 10, how hard was the suspect’s grip? Low=1, High=10  
  - From 1 to 10, how painful was it? Low=1, High=10  
  - Multiple attempts?  
  - Multiple methods?  

What was the position of victim during strangulation?

- Standing  
- Straddled  
- Against the wall  
- Other  

During strangulation, did victim feel dizzy, faint or like they were going to lose consciousness?

- Did victim less consciousness?

Could the victim breath during strangulation?

- During strangulation was breathing impeded at all?
- Did suspect intentionally cover victim’s nose or mouth? If so, how many times?

Is the suspect RIGHT or LEFT handed?

- What did the suspect say while he was strangling the victim before and/or after?
- Was the victim shaken simultaneously while being strangled? Straddled? Held against the wall?
- Was the victim head being pounded against the wall, floor or ground?
- What was the suspect’s demeanor?
- Did the suspect make any threats? If so, what?
- Describe what the suspect’s face looked like during strangulation?

What did the victim think was going to happen?

- How or why did the suspect stop strangling victim?
- Did the victim lose control of their bladder or bowels?
- Did the victim vomit?
- Did the victim try to defend themselves? If so, how?

Was anyone else present? If yes, who? If yes, get contact information.  
Have you talked with anyone else about the assault? If yes, who? If yes, get contact information.  
Describe prior incidents of strangulation? Prior domestic violence? Prior threats?

### Symptoms and/or Internal Injury:

- **Visible Injuries:**
  - Face
  - Eyes and Eyeballs
  - Neck
  - Ear
  - Mouth

- **Breathing Changes:**
  - Difficulty Breathing
  - Hyperventilating
  - Unable to Breathe
  - Coughing

- **Voice Changes:**
  - Rasp Voice
  - Hoarse Voice
  - Unable to Speak

- **Swallowing Changes:**
  - Trouble Swallowing
  - Painful to Swallow
  - Neck Pain
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting

- **Agnosia:**
  - Loss of Sense of Time
  - Loss of Sense of Place
  - Loss of Sense of Identity

- **Dizziness:**
  - Headache
  - Fainting
  - Passed Out

- **Muscle Spasms:**
  - Urination
  - Defecation

- **Petechiae:**
  - R/L Eyelid
  - R/L Eyeball
  - R/L Eyelid
  - Bloody Nose

- **Retroaural:**
  - Bloody Nose
  - Battle Nose
  - Petechiae

- **Bloddy Ear Canal:**
  - Bloody Ear Canal

- **Bloddy Airway:**
  - Bloody Airway

- **Bruises:**
  - Neck
  - Shoulder
  - Chest

- **Abnormalities:**
  - Petechiae (on scalp)
  - Petechiae (on face)
  - Petechiae (on neck)

- **Hematoma:**
  - Hair Paled
  - Bump
  - Skull Fracture
  - Concussion

- **Limp:**
  - Lump
  - Laceration Mark(s)

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**FOR ALL CASES:**
**TAKE PHOTOS: OF VICTIM, SUSPECT & SCENE**
**CALL MEDICS**

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