A CONVERSATION on DV Court Collaboration
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Prior to 1987

BLAME GAME
I didn’t say it was your fault. I said I was going to blame you.

The Hatfields & McCoys
It’s Good to Learn from Your Own Mistakes, but...

It is Even Better To Learn from Someone Else's

System Gap: The Turning Point Case

TO BOLDLY GO WHERE NO ONE HAS GONE BEFORE

Our Mission,
Should You Choose to Accept It...

• Maximize the safety of victims and their families;
• End community tolerance of domestic violence;
• Hold offenders accountable for their violence and abuse;
• Ensure fair and equitable treatment in the criminal justice system for persons affected by domestic violence.

Washtenaw County JODI Mission Statement
District Judges Agreed:

- Proper handling of misdemeanor DV is **HOMICIDE PREVENTION**;
- **VICTIM SAFETY** is top priority (trumps offender accountability);
- Created SPECIALIZED DV DOCKETS;
  – coordinated schedules to maximize resources of Prosecutor, Public Defender, SAFE House, Probation and others;

District Judges Agreed:

- SAFE House advocates staff courtrooms
- Up to date BIP information available
- Court has more time to listen
- Batterers see they are/will be held accountable
- DV cases given priority in scheduling

District Judges Agreed:

- Attorney appointed at arraignment
- Default position: “No contact”
- Judge at pretrial keeps case
- Frequent court reviews enhance accountability
- Victim input sought at every stage
- Upon conviction, long-term BIP ordered
- Immediate enrollment in BIP expected
- BIP must meet state standards.
- Immediate, graduated sanctions for non-compliance
Local Network of Partners that create the Wall of Accountability & Support

Prosecutor's Offices
Defense Bar
Police
Judge
Probation and Parole

Civil Protection
Law Enforcement
Batterer Intervention
Other Agencies
Community Residents/Victim Families

Prosecutor's Offices
Defense Bar
Victim Services

The Law of Demand and Supply

• What can you do if there is not a BIP in your community?

Coordinated Community Action Model

Coordinated Community Action Model
What is the state of your Coordinated Community Response

The “Community” should refer to the entire community

Not Only the Criminal Justice system

Play well in the Sandbox