

**Legal Process Committee of the San Mateo County Domestic Violence Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 14, 2022**  
**11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.**  
**Location: Zoom Video Conference**

**Present:** Jeniffer Alcantara (Superior Court), Laura Alvarez (ADZ Law), Lisa Bergman (Superior Court/FCS), Stephanie Bilinski (Legal Aid Society of SMC), Tanya Both (Superior Court/ADR), Jeffrey Carr (SMC Sheriff), Charles Cavallino, Co-Chair (CORA), Jessica Dayton (ADZ Law), Lauren De La Rosa-Koury (BayLegal), Melissa Gibbs (CORA), Elisa Kuhl, Co-Chair (Victim Services), Sharron Lee (District Attorney), Nicole Reyes (BayLegal), Lori Smiley-Klinger (Probation), Jake Trickett (SMC Sheriff), Savannah Valdez (Rally)

Also present: Martin Fox and Ava Wang

ISSUES	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Adopt/Approve Resolution Re: Teleconference Meeting	Jessica Dayton moved to adopt resolution per AB 361. Jeffrey Carr seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.	<b>Approved</b>
Introductions and Updates	<p><u>Court:</u> Masks are no longer required inside the court. Many hearings are going to continue to be hybrid remote and in-person.</p> <p><u>Family Court Services:</u> Currently staffed at 4 CCRCs + Supervisor. Turnaround time for DV matters is within two weeks. More recruitment is ongoing.</p> <p><u>Rally:</u> Rally resumed in-person visitation, however virtual visits are still an option. New policy for families with firearms at issue: virtual visits or in-person visits at the San Francisco location only. Rally is requiring vaccination or negative tests for anyone over 5 years old.</p> <p><u>CORA:</u> CORA has hired a third legal advocate, all three are bilingual in Spanish and English. Melissa will be out of the country and working part time in May, Charles will be the contact for urgent matters.</p> <p><u>Victim Services:</u> Brianna is no longer with the office. Paola Molina is the newest Victim Advocate joining the DV team.</p> <p><u>District Attorney:</u> Kyle Cakebread and Ryan McLaughlin have rotated out. Ryan Geisser and Maggie Buitrago are the newest DV DDAs.</p> <p><u>BALA:</u> BALA's office is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10am to 4pm for walk-in review and filing of completed DVTRO applications. Have pro se appointments and monthly pro bono DVRO clinics. Also have weekly brief services appointments for individuals who qualify for BayLegal's services. A lot of these slots are going unfilled. If someone plans to file DVRO, refer them to BayLegal's front desk. If someone needs advice prior to filing, have them call the legal line.</p> <p><u>LASSMC:</u> Office continues to be closed to in-person services and providing virtual services.</p> <p><u>ADZ Law:</u> Commissioner Lauren Zorfas (Ret.) has rejoined the firm and will be offering private judging and mediation services.</p>	

Review/Adopt Minutes from 1/13/22 meeting	Elisa Kuhl moved to adopt the minutes. Melissa Gibbs seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.	<b>Approved</b>
Carry Over Items	<p>a) DV Trainings for Judges: Discussed training options available and lack of funding available through the Judicial Council. While the committee could draft a letter encouraging the bench to participate in training opportunities already available through the Judicial Council, the committee is interested in more specific trainings specifically for the San Mateo County legal community. Adam Dodge will be presenting at the Judicial Council training conference and there will be a strangulation/lethality component as well. This training is scheduled for May and there will be a recording available.</p> <p>b) Civil Standby Protocol: Lauren De La Rosa-Koury was not sure if BayLegal had implemented the civil standby language. FLFO have implemented the language into the orders they prepare on behalf of the court.</p>	<p><b>Co-Chairs to bring to DVC for funding support.</b></p> <p><b>Lauren to pass on the civil standby order language for use at the RO Clinic.</b></p>
New Business	<p>a) SB 320: The court is in process of implementing SB 320. There will be a Firearms Review Hearing 10 days after restraining order hearing. Developing a process for the court to notify SMCSO within 24 hours and the DA within 48 hours of any non-compliance. Will also provide a notification to Rally. Lt. Jake Trickett discussed the recent Firearms Convening and efforts DOJ is making by partnering with SMC local law enforcement. The Board of Supervisors has reinstated FCU funding of \$1M to SMCSO. They anticipate it will cover 2 detectives. More information will be available in July. Clients with concerns regarding relinquishment of firearms should contact local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction to follow up.</p> <p>b) DV Bench Card: Jenny Horne presented the updates to the judicial bench card and appellate case list. The committee discussed and made recommendations for modifications as appropriate. Jenny Horne motioned to approve the bench card as drafted. Jessica Dayton seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. Melissa Gibbs moved to approve the appellate case list as amended. Jessica Dayton seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.</p>	<p><b>Jeniffer will distribute the bench cards to the judicial officers.</b></p>
Work Plan Reports	<p>a) Civil-Criminal Crossover: CORA and DAO staff met earlier this month to discuss coordination of services in cases where there is a civil and criminal crossover. CORA has funding for a pilot project providing legal representation to DV victims in criminal cases. Those with ideas/suggestions are welcome to contact Melissa. CORA/DAO will continue to meet regularly.</p> <p>b) DV Firearms Compliance Unit: No update.</p> <p>c) Judicial Bench Card: Update approved during meeting.</p>	

	<p>d) Law Enforcement DV Protocol Update: No update.</p> <p>e) Protective Orders: No issues.</p> <p>f) Allocation of Court Resources: No issues.</p> <p>g) Courtroom Safety: Discussed desire to have a deputy outside the courtroom when hearings are heard on the 4<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> floor due to batterers and victims being in close quarters. Sheriff's Office will do their best but staffing issues make it difficult. Clarified that protected parties can attend hearings remotely and go forward. If petitioners are being told differently that should be flagged.</p>	
Public Comment	<p>Martin Fox informed the committee that Governor Newsom announced a CARE Court program, which is anticipated to be up and running by January 1, 2023. This program would effectively repeal the LPS Act and could compel treatment for individuals with mental illness and drug addiction. SB 1338 is the bill in question and it is currently progressing through the Legislature.</p>	

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday, July 14, 2022  
 11:45am-1:15pm  
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