

These courses are best for 90-minute conference sessions but can be expanded or combined for half, full, or multi-day trainings.

Beyond Arrest - Leveraging Jail Calls in Domestic Violence Cases

Abuse doesn't end when a perpetrator is arrested, and the pressure abusers place on their victims often intensifies. Jail calls provide powerful evidence, frequently exposing admissions, threats, manipulation, and coercive control. Monitoring these calls enables practitioners to detect patterns of intimidation, identify safety risks, and strengthen case outcomes overall. These sessions offer strategies for leveraging jail calls from both the investigative and prosecutorial perspectives.

Part 1 will discuss best practices for archiving calls, protective order compliance and filing charges for violations, evidentiary admissibility, overcoming recantations, and other trial strategies to include increasing bonds, forfeiture by wrongdoing evidence and impeachment evidence.

Part 2 will dive deeper into specific real-world examples to highlight the concepts discussed in the first part through case study presentations and interactive discussions. Participants will gain insight into the coercive dynamics used by abusers and how to leverage this valuable jail call evidence to enhance victim safety, corroborate testimony, and hold offenders accountable.

[Co-presented with a prosecutor]

*** Best as a 2-part session***

Beyond Predominant Aggressor – Understanding Upside Down Domestic Violence Cases

Despite greater awareness of the concepts in determining a predominant aggressor, investigators and prosecutors continue to arrest and charge true victims of domestic violence every day. Presenters will showcase what an “upside-down” case is, what it means to be a true victim, how these cases present differently, and ways to avoid these types of cases entirely.

Law Enforcement will be offered sustainable tools to improve the on-scene and follow-up investigations. Prosecutors will be offered tools to recognize when an upside-down case has been filed, strategies for how to handle these types of cases, and guidance for policy implications and considerations.

[Co-presented with a prosecutor]

Capturing Evidence – Strategies for Thorough Domestic Violence Investigations

Domestic Violence investigations come with their own unique challenges often resulting in officers and prosecutors unfairly triaging cases as he said/she said. The presenter will challenge attendees to develop and apply a lens of “evidence-based” to combat this mentality. This course will use an interactive scenario for a guided domestic violence investigation based on real-life situations and will break down the various stages of a criminal case to include the on-scene patrol response and the follow-up investigation. The presenter’s goals are to expand investigative efforts beyond verbal reports for making better and more informed on-scene decisions as well as producing thorough overall investigations that can evolve into strongly presented beyond reasonable doubt prosecutions.

*** Best as a 2-part session ***

Collaborative Approach to Evidence-Based Prosecutions at a Granular Level

Without consequences and offender accountability, it is well-established that domestic abuse repeats and escalates. Successful intervention through prosecution relies on a high-quality investigation. However, when law enforcement officers are unaware of how or what evidence can be used in a courtroom, they may be challenged to provide the effective, quality investigation necessary for charge through prosecution. To enhance these investigations, multi-disciplinary teams, to include collaboration between prosecutors and investigators at the granular level, are crucial and are now recognized as an invaluable tool in the fight to end domestic violence. This workshop will define what investigator and prosecutor collaboration is at a granular level, showcase its benefits through brief case studies, provide examples for how this collaborative system works, provide strategies to create collaborative relationships between law enforcement and prosecutors, and why this collaboration is vital when fighting to end domestic violence.

[Co-presented with a prosecutor]

Combating Domestic Violence Through Community Policing and Inter-Agency Collaboration

Community Policing is principled upon building bonds between law enforcement and the community through effective law enforcement presences, increased community involvement, and proactive and collaborative approaches to help prevent crime. These presenters, former Community Outreach Officers, will showcase ways they carried these philosophies forward as one returned to the streets as a patrolman and the other promoted to detective. The presenters will give real-life examples of how they used creativity with community involvement and interagency collaboration to increase awareness of the impact of domestic violence, to improve information sharing within the patrol district, to improve the response to domestic violence calls through training, and to spark an overall motivation for raising the bar of what is expected when investigating domestic violence.

[Co-presented with a fellow law enforcement officer]

The Domestic Violence Crime Scene: The Silent Witness Screaming to be Heard

Despite significant advancements in law enforcement in recent years, many aspects of domestic violence investigations remain antiquated and overlooked. While crime scene attention is prioritized in homicides and other “major” crimes, domestic violence calls often receive less scrutiny. When these scenes are taken for granted, critical evidence is lost, leaving investigations reliant on verbal accounts alone. This lack of thorough documentation can weaken arrest and prosecution opportunities and leave victims at risk of continued and escalated harm. This session emphasizes how applying the same methodical practices used in major crimes can elevate non-fatal domestic violence cases. Investigators never know which detail may prove pivotal—sometimes it is the smallest piece of evidence that shifts a case from probable cause to proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Participants will learn practical strategies for identifying and documenting evidence that speaks when victims cannot or will not. Focus areas include recognizing patterns of coercive control in the environment, capturing photographic and digital evidence, preserving trace and physical details often overlooked, and documenting injuries and property damage with an eye toward corroboration. Through real case examples and investigative strategies, attendees will gain tools to “listen to the crime scene,” strengthen reports, inform decision-making, enhance victim safety, and support stronger prosecutorial outcomes.

Enhancing the On-Scene Domestic Violence Investigation

Incidents involving intimate partners are among the most complex, high-risk calls officers respond to yet critical evidence is often missed in the earliest moments on scene. When investigations remain incident-driven rather than evidence-based, officers are left with limited options, survivors face increased risk, and offenders are more likely to avoid accountability.

This session challenges participants to move beyond “he said/she said” thinking and adopt a broader investigative lens grounded in offender behavior, coercive control, and domestic violence dynamics. Drawing from real-world experience, participants will learn practical, sustainable strategies to apply immediately on scene.

Emphasis is placed on identifying patterns of abuse, recognizing escalation and lethality risk, and documenting evidence beyond verbal statements, including physical, digital, and behavioral indicators. Participants will leave with tools to strengthen decision-making, improve report quality, and build cases that support effective prosecution, even when victim participation is limited.

From Incident to Investigation: The Basics of Criminal Investigations in Jail Settings

Correctional staff are trained to maintain safety and security, but when criminal activity occurs inside the facility, the response must go beyond incident reporting. Too often, limited training and resources leave staff unprepared to recognize, document, and investigate criminal behavior in a way that supports accountability. Using correctional-specific, real-world examples, this training breaks down the core components of criminal investigations in jail settings. Participants will learn how to identify potential criminal conduct, shift from incident-based thinking to evidence-based response, and apply practical strategies to document, preserve, and develop cases that stand up to scrutiny. This session equips professionals with the tools to move from simply managing incidents to building thorough, defensible investigations within the unique challenges of the jail environment.

Human Centric Interviewing

Building on the foundation of trauma-informed practices, the Human Centric Interviewing approach reflects the continued evolution of our understanding of human behavior, memory, and the wide-ranging impacts of trauma equipping participants with the knowledge and practical skills needed to conduct effective interviews to explore an interviewee's experience across victims, witnesses, and suspects. This model integrates concepts of trauma-responsive care, the body's response to trauma, and the role of authentic human connection. Participants will learn strategies to foster trust, support accurate recall, and create space for individuals to share their experiences in a way that feels safe and respected. Designed for multidisciplinary professionals across the criminal justice system, this session challenges practitioners to move beyond procedure and connect with the person in front of them as a fellow human navigating a complex—and often overwhelming—system. At its core, Human-Centric Interviewing calls on professionals to remain grounded in empathy, curiosity, and authenticity—because above all, the work requires us to be human first.

The Impact of 911 – Leveraging 911 Calls & Assessing Admissibility

Most violent crime investigations begin with a 911 call, yet these calls are often overlooked, causing lost evidence and weakening prosecutions. This session will demonstrate how 911 calls can be used as powerful tools to strengthen evidence-based investigations and hold offenders accountable through evidence-based prosecutions, even without survivor participation. Part 1 will cover best practices for collecting and reviewing calls, developing investigative leads, and addressing prosecution intake and case filings. It will also explore courtroom considerations, including objections, admissibility, the Confrontation Clause, and *Crawford v. Washington*. Part 2 will feature case studies and interactive discussions, allowing participants to apply these strategies in real-world contexts. Attendees will learn how calls from victims, abusers, family, and witnesses can influence investigations, inform arrest decisions, and guide trial preparation—ultimately leading to stronger prosecutions and safer outcomes for survivors.

[Co-presented with a prosecutor]

Best as a 2-part session

It's in the Details – What's Written Matters

Crimes involving intimate partners are some of the most complex to investigate and the most difficult to translate into words. The presenter will offer strategies to bring calm to chaos while producing reports and affidavits that accurately depict the events in a clear, detailed, and easily consumable manner. Using real-life examples this session will focus on the importance of capturing evidence beyond the elements of a crime by also documenting dynamics of control and fear, corroboration of truthful and untruthful statements, high risk factors, and the detection of patterns through the review of historical patterns. The presenter will offer insights on how to be thorough but concise, using effective language, and avoiding damaging and inflammatory language. Attendees will leave with the understanding what is or is not documented can aid or harm current and future investigations, can impact judges' decisions on probable cause, bond conditions, and/or whether to release a defendant from custody, and can influence case reviews as prosecutors make charging decisions, prepare for hearings, and develop trial strategies.

Leadership, Liability, and Lives: Confronting Officer-Perpetrated Domestic Violence

Officer-perpetrated domestic violence (OPDV) presents a critical challenge for public safety leaders, one that carries profound implications for victim safety, agency integrity, and organizational liability. When the offender is a member of the profession sworn to protect, the dynamics of power, access, and institutional trust complicate both the response and the accountability process. This session is designed specifically for public safety administrators and command staff responsible for setting policy, shaping culture, and ensuring appropriate oversight. Drawing from real-world cases and investigative experience, the presentation examines the unique risk factors associated with OPDV, including misuse of authority, access to weapons, and the impact of organizational silence or minimization. Participants will learn to move beyond incident-based thinking and focus on offender behavior to include coercive control, domination, intimidation, isolation, and manipulation. This session makes clear, these patterns, escalation indicators, and lethality risk factors are not optional knowledge, they must drive every administrative decision. Effective leadership in OPDV requires more than policy. It requires recognizing risk and acting decisively to protect victims and uphold accountability.

Sitting with Survivors: Create Space. Hear More. Build Better Cases

We ask survivors to tell us what happened—but what happens when we actually listen? If we rush the story, we risk missing the truth. Domestic violence investigations are often centered on fact-gathering interviews, driven by timelines, elements of the offense, and the pressure to simply “get the report.” In doing so, we may unintentionally limit the very information we seek to uncover. Participants will explore how trauma, coercive control, and non-linear memory shape disclosure, and how a lack of awareness and sensitivity can negatively impact both the survivor and the investigation. Drawing from real-world investigative experience, this session offers practical strategies to slow down, build trust and psychological safety, and create space for survivors to be fully heard. Participants will also examine the importance of corroboration and evidence-based investigations, the role of multidisciplinary collaboration, and how to navigate difficult conversations when moving cases forward with survivors who are reluctant or unable to participate—without losing sight of safety, dignity, or investigative integrity.

Understanding Protective Orders and Preventing Violations in Jail Environments

Domestic Violence doesn't stop when a defendant is arrested. The period after an abuser's arrest is a critical time for survivors and is an opportunity to break the cycle of violence. Furthermore, correctional staff have a vital obligation to reinforce court mandates to prevent protective order violations from within their facilities. This presentation will use real-life case examples to give a better understanding of court and protective orders, to give insight on the dynamics of post-arrest abuse, and to showcase the power of prevention.

The presenter will offer attendees guidance on implementing processes and policies for ensuring compliance and prevention to include proactive monitoring, blocking communications, reporting violations, and administrative disciplinary actions.

When A Peace Officer Has No Peace – A Survivor’s Story

Officer-Perpetrated Domestic Violence is often easiest to recognize when it involves overt acts such as weapons use or visible physical injuries. However, domestic violence more commonly thrives in silence, hidden within the private dynamics of the intimate relationship itself. While the core patterns of abuse are consistent across populations, they are often intensified when one or both parties are members of law enforcement. This session will chronicle the real-life story of a peace officer’s abusive relationship with a fellow officer and will highlight coercive control, behavioral red flags, barriers to reporting, safety considerations, investigative challenges, offender accountability, and agency responsibilities.

[Co-presented with a survivor/fellow law enforcement officer]

Witnesses: The Missing Pieces in Domestic Violence Investigations

Intimate partner violence is often hidden, leaving law enforcement to rely too heavily on victim and suspect statements. This reliance overlooks a vital source of corroborating and independent evidence: witnesses. While officers may focus on eyewitnesses to the event, effective investigations require broadening that lens. Witnesses can include family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, or even strangers who observe patterns of abuse, behavioral changes, or moments of escalation. Others—such as 911 callers, first responders, and those who encounter the parties before or after an incident—offer critical insight into context and aftermath.

This session will equip participants with strategies to identify, interview, and extract relevant information from diverse witnesses to strengthen and support evidence-based prosecutions. Emphasis will be placed on overcoming reluctance, using trauma-centered approaches, and weaving diverse accounts into a cohesive case. By expanding how witnesses are defined and utilized, law enforcement can strengthen evidence-based prosecutions, improve victim safety, and enhance offender accountability.



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