

## January 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015 Office on Violence Against Women

## Court Training and Improvements Program (Courts Program)<sup>1,2</sup>

The purpose of the Courts Program is to provide or enhance training and services by creating dedicated court dockets, specialized courts, and enhanced civil and criminal court procedures, and by providing key opportunities for training to ensure victim safety and offender accountability.

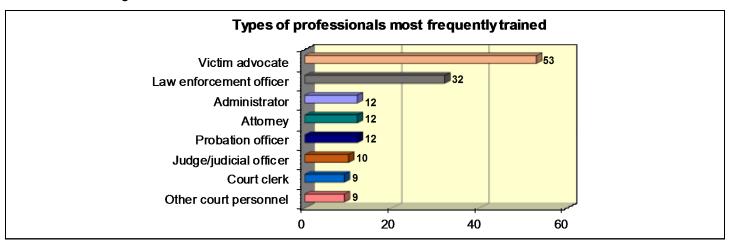
Number of grantees reporting<sup>3</sup>

**Training:** Courts Program grantees provide training on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking to court personnel (e.g., judges, clerks, court security), victim advocates, attorneys, prosecutors, probation officers, and others to improve professional responses to victims/survivors and increase offender accountability.

Number of grantees using funds for training: 9 (64% of all grantees reporting)

Total number of people trained: 4 168

Number of training events:5 19



### Topics on which grantees most frequently provided training

Training topic	Number of grantees trainings on this topic	Training topic	Number of grantees training on this topic
Coordinated community response	7	Response to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence/ dating violence and/or stalking	6
Domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services	6	Domestic violence laws	5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>This report contains selected data submitted by Courts Program grantees on a semi-annual progress report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Throughout this document, the sum of percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This number includes 13 development projects and 1 supplemental training project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This number includes 3 professionals trained by supplemental training projects and 165 trained by development projects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This number includes 1 training event provided by a supplemental training project and 18 provided by development projects.

**Staff:** Courts Program staff are engaged in civil and criminal case and other specialized court and docket activities related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. They also provide training, victim services, offender supervision, and batterer intervention and sex offender management programs to increase victim safety and offender accountability.

Number of grantees using funds for staff: 11 (79% of all grantees reporting)

Total number of full time equivalent staff funded <sup>6</sup>	19
Case/docket manager (26% of all staff funded)	5
Program coordinator (26%)	5
Victim advocate (26%)	5
Compliance monitor (11%)	2
Probation officer (5%)	1
Victim assistant (5%)	1

**Specialized Courts or Dedicated Dockets Infrastructure and Activities:** Courts Program grantees implement practices to ensure consistent case handling, enhance case information flow to improve judicial decision making, emphasize defendant monitoring and accountability, and enhance protection for, and services to, victims/survivors.

Number of grantees using funds for specialized courts or dedicated dockets infrastructure and activities: 10 (71% of all grantees reporting)

#### Number of grantees addressing types of cases and victimizations

Type of case	Type of victimization			
Type of case	Sexual assault	Domestic violence	Dating violence	Stalking
Civil protection orders	1	5	3	3
Criminal matters (felony)	2	3	1	2
Criminal matters (misdemeanor)	2	7	3	3
Family matters	1	3	2	1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Categories are rounded to the nearest whole number and only categories with at least one FTE after rounding are included.

**Civil Protection Orders:** These orders prohibit or limit an offender's contact with the victim/survivor and prohibit further abusive behavior. Court-issued injunctions may also include custody and visitation directives, economic relief, and temporary restrictions on possession of firearms. Victims/survivors of domestic violence are able to petition for a civil order of protection in every state.

Number of grantees using funds for civil protection order cases: 4 (29% of all grantees reporting)

Number of civil protection orders	Type of relief granted in final protection orders <sup>7</sup>
Total number of temporary protection orders granted: <sup>8</sup> 836  Total number of final protection orders granted: <sup>9</sup> 638	<ul> <li>633 Stay away/no contact</li> <li>593 Firearms restrictions</li> <li>97 Sole parental rights to petitioner</li> <li>57 Other offender treatment</li> <li>57 Visitation</li> <li>56 Batterers intervention program</li> <li>25 Supervised visitation/exchange</li> <li>8 Child support</li> </ul>

**Criminal Cases:** Courts Program grantees use funds for dedicated dockets, specialized courts, and other practices to enhance case flow, information sharing, and successful prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crimes.

Number of grantees using funds for criminal cases: 7 (50% of all grantees reporting)

Total number of cases disposed of: 940

Total number of convictions: **581**<sup>10</sup> (62% of all dispositions)

Number of dispositions by type of case and percentage of all case dispositions <sup>11</sup>	Number and percentage of dispositions by type of case <sup>12</sup>
Domestic violence/dating violence ordinance: 417 (44% of all dispositions for all case types)	166 were dismissed (40% of all dispositions for type of case) 242 were convicted (58%) 9 were acquitted (2%)
Misdemeanor domestic violence/dating violence: <b>252</b> (27%)	101 were dismissed (40%) 150 were convicted (60%) 1 were acquitted (<1%)
Violation of probation or parole: 114 (12%)	8 were dismissed (7%) 106 were convicted (93%)
Violation of protection order: 69 (7%)	29 were dismissed (42%) 39 were convicted (57%) 1 were acquitted (1%)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Only the top 8 types of relief are presented.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This number includes 730 temporary orders for domestic violence victims/survivors, 56 for dating violence victims/survivors, 29 for sexual assault victims/survivors, and 21 temporary orders for which the victimization was not specified.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This number includes 574 final orders for domestic violence victims/survivors, 32 for dating violence victims/survivors, 15 for sexual assault victims/survivors, and 17 final orders for which the victimization was not specified.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The number of deferred adjudications is 18, or 3% of all convictions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Only the top 4 case types are presented.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Deferred adjudication accounted for 3% of all domestic violence/dating violence ordinance convictions, 5% of all domestic violence/dating violence misdemeanor convictions, and 3% of all violation of protection order convictions.

**Judicial Monitoring:** Judges monitor offenders to review progress and compliance with court orders (including pre-trial, bail, protection orders, probation, and other conditions of release). The court schedules regular court appearances at certain intervals to determine whether offenders are complying with the terms of their probation or other court orders.

## Judicial monitoring<sup>13</sup>

→ 797 offenders were reviewed and 1,651 individual review hearings were conducted

**Domestic violence** 

**797** offenders were reviewed and **1,651** review hearings were conducted.

#### Dispositions of violations of probation and other court orders

Courts monitor offenders' compliance with court orders. The data reported below reflect the sanctions most frequently imposed for violations that were disposed of during the current reporting period.

inequently imposed for violations that were disposed of during the current reporting period.		
Violations of court orders	Dispositions <sup>14</sup>	
Protection order: 27	37% (10) received verbal/written warning 33% (9) received additional conditions	
New criminal behavior: 36	64% (23) received additional conditions 14% (5) had partial or full revocation of probation	
Failure to attend batterer intervention program (BIP): 65	72% (47) received verbal/written warning 14% (9) had partial or full revocation of probation	
Failure to attend mandated offender treatment (does not include BIP): 4	50% (2) had partial or full revocation of probation 50% (2) received additional conditions	
Other condition of probation, parole, or other conditional release: <b>131</b>	63% (82) had partial or full revocation of probation 22% (29) received verbal/written warning	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> No sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking offenders were monitored in this reporting period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Only the top two dispositions for each type of violation are presented. Partial or full revocation of probation results in incarceration.

**Offender/Respondent Compliance Monitoring:** Offender monitoring determines whether offenders/ respondents are in compliance with the terms of their court orders including bail/bond, pre-trial, and probation conditions as well as terms of protection orders and family court orders.

Number of grantees using funds for offender/respondent compliance monitoring: 4 (29% of all grantees reporting)

Total number of offenders/respondents supervised or monitored: 1,129

### Number of offenders/respondents by type of activity

- ◆ 555: review of information from/contact with other counselors/agencies
- ♦ 490: review of information from/contact with batterer intervention programs
- ◆ 280: meeting/contact with offender/respondent
- ◆ 254: review of information from/contact with substance abuse counselors/agencies
- ◆ 104: review of information from/contact with other mandated treatment programs

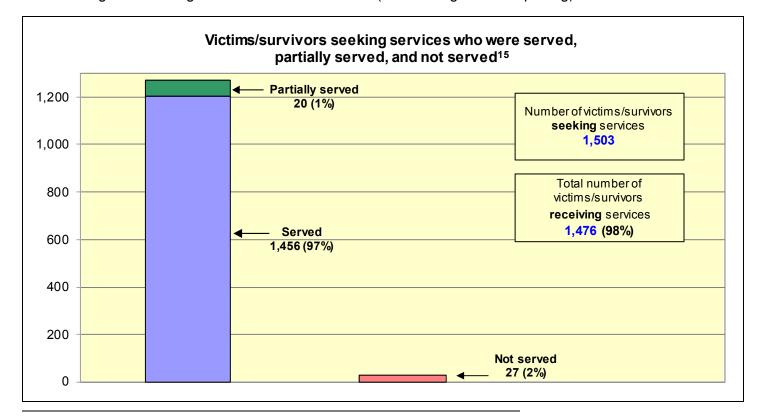
#### **Outreach to victims/survivors**

In addition to offender monitoring, probation/compliance officers also contact victims/survivors as an additional strategy to increase victim/survivor safety.

★ 183 victims/survivors receiving outreach

**Victim Services:** Courts Program grantees provided services to **1,476** victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking to help them become and remain safe from violence.

Number of grantees using funds for victim services: 7 (50% of all grantees reporting)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Percentages are based on victims/survivors seeking services.

**Victim services and demographics:** Courts Program grantees provided an array of services to victims/ survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking as a critical part of a coordinated community response. These services include victim advocacy (actions designed to help the victim/survivor obtain needed resources or services), crisis intervention, and legal advocacy (assistance navigating the criminal and/or civil legal system). Victims/survivors receive safety planning, referrals and information as needed.

## Victims/survivors served or partially served by type of victimization:

• Domestic violence: 1,363 (92% of those receiving services)

Stalking: 103 (7%)
Sexual assault: 6 (<1%)</li>
Dating violence: 4 (<1%)</li>

# Number of victims/survivors receiving the following services:

Civil legal advocacy/court accompaniment: **853** (58% of those receiving services)

Criminal justice advocacy/court accompaniment: 538 (36%)

Victim/survivor advocacy: 498 (34%)

# Protection orders for which victim services staff provided assistance:

· Domestic violence:

329 temporary orders granted

284 final orders granted

#### Demographic data:

#### Gender<sup>16</sup>

Female: 1,349 (91%)

Male: **127** (9%)

## Race/ethnicity<sup>16,17</sup>

White: 626 (45%)

Black or African American: 553 (40%)

Hispanic or Latino: 185 (13%)

Asian: 12 (1%)

American Indian or Alaska Native: 7 (1%)

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 3

(<1%)

## Other demographics 18

Rural: 44 (3% of those receiving services)

Disabilities: 43 (3%)

Immigrants/refugees/asylum seekers: 40 (3%)

Limited English proficiency: 27 (2%)

#### Relationship to offender<sup>19</sup>

Domestic violence:

Current or former spouse or intimate partner: 1,154

(85%)

Other family member: 206 (15%)

Stalking:

Current or former spouse or intimate partner: 77

(75%)

Other family member: 26 (25%)

Sexual assault:

Current or former spouse or intimate partner: 4 (67%)

Other family member: 1 (17%)

Stranger: 1 (17%)

Dating violence:

Dating relationship: 4 (100%)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Percentages are based on victims/survivors receiving services for whom this information is known.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Some victims/survivors may identify with one or more race/ethnicity, so the total number of victims/survivors reported in all categories of race/ethnicity (including unknown) may be higher than the total number of victims/survivors served.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Because victims/survivors may be represented in more than one of these categories, or not at all, the total for victims/survivors reported in all categories of other demographics may be higher or lower than the total number of victims/survivors served.

<sup>19</sup> Victims/survivors may have been abused by more than one offender and/or may have experienced more than one type of victimization, so the total number of relationships for each victimization category may be higher than the total number of victims/ survivors served.