

Presenter Information

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Course Information

Course Title

Domestic Violence: Risk, Response, and Supervision in New Jersey

Course Description

This 4-hour training provides an applied overview of domestic violence within court, probation, and criminal justice settings in New Jersey. The training focuses on identifying patterns of coercive control, assessing risk and lethality indicators, and understanding how domestic violence presents in supervised populations. Participants will review New Jersey domestic violence law, including Temporary and Final Restraining Orders (TRO/FRO), and gain practical guidance on documentation, safety considerations, and collaboration with victim service systems. The training emphasizes real-world decision-making and risk management for professionals working with individuals who have used or experienced violence.

Course Outline (4 hours total, excluding break)

8:30 – 8:45 AM

Introduction and framing for criminal justice audience

- Role relevance (probation, courts, prosecutors)
- Addressing common misconceptions about domestic violence

8:45 – 9:30 AM

Understanding domestic violence in practice

- Coercive control and patterns of behavior
- Differentiating situational conflict vs. abuse
- What to look for in supervised cases

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Risk and lethality assessment

- Key indicators: strangulation, threats to kill, stalking, separation, firearms
- Increased risk during separation
- Application of danger assessment concepts to offenders and survivors

10:15 – 10:30 AM

Break

10:30 – 11:15 AM

New Jersey domestic violence law and court process

- TRO vs. FRO
- Family Division and criminal court intersection
- Juvenile considerations
- Mandated responses and system roles

11:15 – 12:00 PM

Supervision and offender dynamics

- Minimization, denial, and manipulation
- Identifying escalation and risk behaviors
- Working with individuals who cause harm

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Application and system coordination

- Documentation and duty to warn
- Collaboration with victim services and Family Justice Centers
- Practical case examples and Q&A

Course Length

4 classroom hours (excluding 15-minute breaks)

Course Content Type

Clinical

Clinical Justification

This training qualifies as clinical in nature as it focuses on the assessment, identification, and response to domestic violence within practice settings. Content emphasizes clinical judgment, risk assessment, behavioral analysis, and trauma-informed approaches to working with both survivors and individuals who use violence. Participants will develop applied skills in identifying coercive control, assessing lethality risk, interpreting behavioral patterns such as minimization and escalation, and making informed decisions that impact safety and intervention. The material directly supports clinical competencies in assessment, intervention, and case conceptualization within complex interpersonal violence dynamics.

- Clinical:4 hours

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

1. Identify key indicators of domestic violence, including patterns of coercive control and risk factors for lethality
2. Differentiate between situational conflict and ongoing patterns of abuse
3. Describe the New Jersey domestic violence legal framework, including TRO and FRO processes
4. Recognize behavioral patterns of individuals who use violence, including minimization and escalation
5. Apply risk assessment concepts to improve decision-making in supervision and court-involved cases
6. Identify appropriate responses and referral pathways to enhance safety and accountability

Skill Level

Intermediate

Cultural Competency / Ethics Content

This training incorporates cultural competency through examination of how domestic violence impacts diverse populations and how systemic responses may vary across communities. Ethical considerations include duty to warn, safety planning, and professional responsibility in risk assessment and documentation.

Integration with Social Work Learning Area

This course aligns with:

- Social work practice knowledge and skills
- Theories and concepts of human behavior and the social environment

The training integrates applied knowledge of interpersonal violence, behavioral patterns, and system-level responses to support effective practice in multidisciplinary settings.

References (APA)

Campbell, J. C. (2005). Assessing dangerousness in domestic violence cases: History, challenges, and opportunities. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 4(4), 653–672.

Campbell, J. C., Webster, D., & Glass, N. (2009). The danger assessment: Validation of a lethality risk assessment instrument for intimate partner femicide. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 24(4), 653–674.

Logan, T. K., Walker, R., Cole, J., & Leukefeld, C. (2006). Victimization and substance abuse among women: Contributing factors, interventions, and implications. *Review of General Psychology*, 10(3), 225–240.

Messing, J. T., & Thaller, J. (2013). The average predictive validity of intimate partner violence risk assessment instruments. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 28(7), 1537–1558.

Stark, E. (2007). *Coercive control: How men entrap women in personal life*. Oxford University Press.

Spitzberg, B. H., & Cupach, W. R. (2014). *The dark side of relationship pursuit: From attraction to obsession and stalking* (2nd ed.). Routledge.

Tjaden, P., & Thoennes, N. (2000). *Full report of the prevalence, incidence, and consequences of violence against women*. National Institute of Justice.

Websdale, N. (2020). *Familicidal hearts: The emotional styles of 211 killers*. Oxford University Press.

Additional Required Materials (attached separately)

- Presenter CV (PDF)
- Presenter Bio (Word)