

NH Judicial Branch Domestic Violence Committee

Committee Report/Minutes

Attending: Hon. Kimberly Chabot, Jean Kilham, Anne Zinkin, Karen Gorham, Katie Tripp, Dianne Martin, Chair.

The NHJB Domestic Violence Committee met on May 12, 2022 to:

- I. Review and Approve Meeting report/minutes from May, 5, 2022.
- II. Receive an Update on the DV Clinic Initiative and Meeting with 603 Legal Anne Zinkin.
- III. Receive an update on Administrative Authority Quarterly Meeting with the Coalition
- IV. Receive an Update from Karen Gorham Regarding Recommendation 4.4 (Notify defendant of consequences of DV criminal conviction on owning and possessing firearms) and Committee Discussion/Action
- V. Receive and Update on DV issues in the Courts from Jean Kilham and Anne Zinkin
- VI. Discuss Grant opportunities Collaboration with DOJ.
- VII. Wrap up and next steps

At the meeting, the Committee approved the report/minutes from the May 5, 2022. Anne Zinkin reported that she met with Emma Sisti from 603 Legal to discuss starting a DV Clinic in collaboration with the law school. Anne Zinkin reported that the recommendation coming out of that meeting was that a DV Clinic with the law school is not feasible at this time. However, it was recommended that a pilot program be started at either Concord Circuit Court or Manchester Circuit Court to provide onsite legal services one day a week. The program would be run by 603 Legal and require volunteer attorneys. Space at the court would be necessary. The Committee discussed the idea. Judge Chabot suggested that Manchester may be the best option given available space and volume. The Committee supports the idea. Dianne Martin will reach out to Emma Sisti at 603 Legal to discuss next steps and report back.

The Committee next discussed the Administrative Authority meeting with the Coalition. It was noted that the Coalition complimented Jean Kilham on the assistance she provides to the advocates and crisis centers. The Committee had an extensive discussion about the email training materials and Judge King's suggestion at the meeting that it may be possible to do a video training similar to what he is doing for the centralized IEA's. The Committee agreed that was a good approach. Judge Chabot offered to ask Judge Carbon if she would

be willing to assist with the narration. Jean will do the introduction. Anne Zinkin agreed to work with the NHJB Communications Department, using Jean's training materials, to prepare a draft outline of the video training. Jean Kilham stressed that it is important to have the video training acknowledge it is a pilot and may change so that viewers are sure to check for updates. Anne Zinkin also said that 603 Legal offered to work with Jean to coordinate a training in July. The Committee supported this idea. The Committee discussed the concerns raised by the Coalition and noted some of them were concerns that were raised and addressed in the past. Jean will review and advise as to which are still issues and which have been addressed. Jean and Dianne (and Judge Chabot as available/necessary) will meet with the Coalition as discussed at the Administrative Authority meeting.

The Committee discussed other ways for positive communication with the advocate community. The Committee agreed that reinstituting lunches with court staff and local advocates would be beneficial. Katie Tripp agreed to pilot that in Salem.

The Committee discussed Recommendation 4.4 and the draft form prepared by the Superior Court. Karen Gorham explained the changes, including the addition of specifics about the federal gun control statute. Judge Chabot agreed with the change. There was a discussion about whether it should it say "owning" instead of "possessing."

The Committee discussed the request from Jack Crisp to collaborate on a CLE regarding Domestic Violence issues. Dianne Martin reported that she spoke with Attorney Crisp to get more information. He will take the lead on the CLE but is seeking input from the courts as to presenters, topics, etc. Jean Kilham will work on ideas and Dianne will schedule a meet with Jean and Justice Hantz Marconi to discuss. The CLE will avoid being redundant to the DOVE program CLE and will be geared toward attorneys who are not already involved with DV cases in the hopes that it will bring more interest to the issues. The agenda for the DOVE program CLE was obtained. The CLE will be in October or November and Jack will promote it through the Bar. The Committee will consider recommendations and revisit.

The Committee also discussed grant opportunities to support the courts' domestic violence work. Justice Hantz Marconi reached out to DOJ regarding potential grants. Dianne Martin followed up and learned about grant opportunities. There are grants to support gathering data related to DV. DOJ is the New Hampshire statewide analysis center (SAC) and is willing to collaborate with us. The SAC grant would move forward the data collection piece. A later follow-on grant could keep the work going. Dianne is working on a grant application with DOJ to be submitted in May. A Consultant would be engaged with the Committee and DOJ.

The Committee discussed next steps and scheduled the next meeting.

Recommendations and
tasks completed
following the May 12,
2022 meeting

 Recommendation 4.2: (Make court forms more easily accessible on website)(continued)

Expectations for next meeting

The Committee will continue to work on finalizing Recommendation 4.4 regarding notifying the defendant of the consequences of a domestic violence criminal conviction in relation to the possession and ownership of firearms, and continue work on Recommendations 4.2 and 4.3 related to the website improvements. The Committee will work on "Law About..." guides.

The Committee will work on developing the outline for a video training, with Anne Zinkin leading that work, and Judge Chabot will reach out to Judge Carbon. The Chair will reach out to 603 Legal to gather more information about what they need from the Courts to move forward with the onsite legal resource pilot. Monthly meetings with the Coalition will be scheduled. Katie Tripp will initiate lunch with local advocates pilot.

The Committee will continue with the remaining items on the agenda that were not reached at this meeting.