



NH Judicial Branch Standing Domestic Violence Committee

Committee Report

Attending: Susan Warner (guest), Jean Kilham, Anne Zinkin, Karen Gorham, Katie Tripp, Dianne Martin, Chair.

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

- I. Public Service Announcement – Special Guest Susan Warner will attend to discuss and assist the Committee
- II. Video Training Discussion to finalize content for final review by Judge King – Special Guest Susan Warner will attend to discuss and assist the Committee
- III. Update on Reestablishing Coordinating Council’s – Judge Chabot
- IV. Working Group related to Recommendation 2.1 (Representatives of the Judicial Branch should establish a working group to include criminal defense attorneys, county attorneys, and attorneys representing parties in civil protection order cases to discuss how best to streamline a criminal case and a civil domestic violence case involving the same parties) - Update from Karen Gorham
- V. New Hampshire Legal Assistance Information Packet – Jean Kilham (Recommendation 5.17) – Committee Discussion
- VI. Judge Training about strangulation – LAP screening – Update from Karen Gorham
- VII. Current Issues in the Courts – Dianne Martin/Jean Kilham
- VIII. Review and Approve meeting report/minutes from September 28, 2022
- IX. Wrap Up and Next Steps

At the meeting, the Committee approved the report/minutes from the September 28, 2022 meeting, as revised.

The Committee first heard from Susan Warner about creating a public service announcement related to domestic violence. WZID is very excited for the opportunity to help the Committee create a PSA. WZID suggests that it be a 60-second spot, which is long for a PSA, but the optimum length to grab a listener’s attention. WZID will produce the PSA for the Committee without charge, including providing the talent and music. Susan suggested that the PSA start with a question like, “Do you or someone you know have concerns about domestic violence and stalking?” Karen Gorham suggested, and the



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Committee agreed, that the opening question should also refer to sexual assault. The PSA would then tell listeners where they or someone they know with concerns about DV, sexual assault, or stalking can go for help. Karen Gorham also suggested that the PSA briefly define, on a granular level, what domestic violence is. The suggestion was that there could be examples of all three kinds of abuse – domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Susan suggested that the PSA could include the audio from one of the Judge Carbon’s videos as the voice of authority offering assistance. Once the Committee has reviewed and approved a script, Dianne Martin suggested that the script be given to the Coalition for its review. Anne Zinkin and Jean Kilham will work with Susan on creating the script for a PSA for the Committee to review at its next meeting.

A copy of the draft poster on which Susan and Anne Zinkin had worked was distributed to the Committee the day before its meeting. Jean will reach out to NHLA and 603 Legal Aid for their input concerning the reference to legal help. Committee members will review and provide feedback on the draft at the Committee’s next meeting, if not before.

The Committee next heard from Jean about the video training on which she and Judge Carbon have been working. Jean will be asking Susan for assistance with a formatting issue. Once that is resolved, Jean will forward the script to the Committee for its review and then, once the Committee has reviewed and approved, the script will be forwarded to Judge King for his review. If Judge King approves the script, it will then be sent to the Coalition for input. Jean would like the videos to be available for her to use at the December training with NHLA and 603 Legal Aid.

The Committee next heard from Karen Gorham about efforts to implement Recommendation 2.1, which calls for the establishment of “a working group . . . to discuss how best to streamline a criminal case and a civil domestic violence case involving the same parties.” Karen reported that the working group will have its first meeting next week. The group will draft protocols for review by the Committee. The members of the working group include Judge Zaino, Mary Krueger (NHLA), and a domestic violence prosecutor from the Strafford County Attorney’s office.

The Committee next heard from Jean about her work to revise the protocols. That work is ongoing. Jean expects that a draft of the revised protocols will be presented to the Advisory Committee very soon.



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Jean also advised the Committee that, in addition to the NHLA-created pamphlet, which she shared with the Committee at its last meeting, she relayed that she talked with Erin Jasina about whether NHLA would be willing to create a separate, one-page document that outlines all of the protective orders available to a filer with an eye towards satisfying DV Task Force Recommendation 4.1. The Committee was supportive of this idea, in general. Anne observed that the one-page document seems aimed at implementing the Task Force's Recommendation 4.1, which tasked external stakeholders with creating "a flowchart that helps plaintiffs decide whether to file a petition for a domestic violence protective order or a civil stalking protective order." The Task Force had recommended that the flowchart be given to survivors directly "or, if appropriate," be left at court locations. It was agreed that if the NHLA document accurately summarizes the kinds of protective orders available to filers and would be helpful for court staff to use, it could be given by court staff to filers. Jean will share NHLA's draft one-page document with Katie Tripp before sharing it with the Committee in general.

The Committee agreed to give Jean feedback about the NHLA-created pamphlet no later than October 21, 2022.

Karen Gorham next informed the Committee that she is having discussions with Alliance from Hope International regarding judicial training on felony strangulation cases and the LAP assessment. The price for the training depends upon whether it would be in person or would be a webinar. It was generally agreed that in person training is more effective, although certainly more costly than a webinar. Karen will obtain an estimate for in person training of all superior and circuit court judges that could be taped and then be available on the JIBB.

Jean shared that, this past month, stakeholders expressed concern that court staff gave them misinformation or the wrong petition form. Katie observed that staff, generally speaking, do not select what forms to give a filer. Rather, staff provides options to the filer and the filer chooses from those options what form to file.

Susan Warner forwarded to Jean a survivor complaint. The survivor was generally concerned about how the abuser used the police to further abuse the survivor and about the parties' divorce decree. Jean has forwarded the complaint to court administrators. Jean called the survivor but did not receive a return call.



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Jean shared that NHLA is starting its DV clinic at the Manchester court today.

Recommendations and tasks completed following the October 11, 2022 meeting	Recommendations 1.4 and 5.1.7 (NHLA brochure) (continued) Recommendation 1.5 (judicial training) (continued) Recommendation 2.1 (working group creation) (continued) Recommendation 4.1 (stakeholder flowchart) (continued) Recommendation 5.1.1 (Publicize the availability of NH Law About . . . guides) (continued) Recommendation 5.1.7 (stakeholders and NHJB should create “What You Need to Know” Fact Sheet) (continued)
Expectations for next meeting	Jean Kilham will submit proposed video script for Committee review. Karen will obtain an estimate from Alliance for Hope International for judicial training. The Committee will give feedback to Jean on NHLA brochure by October 21, 2022. The Committee will give feedback to Anne about the draft poster at or before the Committee’s November meeting. Jean, Anne, and Susan will draft a proposed script for the WZID PSA for the Committee’s review by the Committee’s November meeting.