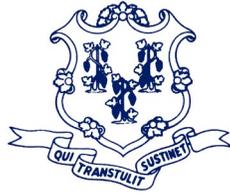


# The Connecticut General Assembly



## Domestic Violence Criminal Justice Response and Enhancement Advisory Council

### MEETING MINTUES

December 17, 2025

12:30PM in **Room 2D** of the LOB and Zoom and YouTube Live

ATTENDANCE: Meghan Scanlon, Senator Mae Flexer, Karen Foley O'Connor, Chief Alaric Fox, Marc Pelka, Joe DiTunno, Merit Lajoie, Nancy Turner, Representative Jennifer Leeper, Attorney Gail Hardy, Attorney Johanna Canning, Captain Ryan Maynard, Senator John Kissel, Attorney Phyllis DiCara, Ginger Wilk, Andrea O'Connor, Judge Kevin Doyle, Danielle Sanquedolce, Attorney Nancy Tyler, Eulalia Garcia

Subcommittee members present: Shauna Harrington, Attorney Sarah Steere

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Chairwoman Scanlon called the meeting to order at 12:34pm.

#### II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

- a. Chairwoman Scanlon offered welcoming remarks and Council members introduced themselves.

#### III. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

- a. A motion was made to approve the October 1, 2025 meeting minutes by Judge Doyle and seconded by Ms. Turner. The motion passed unanimously.

#### IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

##### a. LAW ENFORCEMENT MODEL POLICY

- i. Chief Fox provided an update that the subcommittee is currently focusing on the GPS policy imbedded in the statewide law enforcement model policy to ensure policy language is up-to-date with the current law.
- ii. Sen. Kissel inquired about any potential language for the 2026 legislative session. Chief Fox clarified that he does not believe there will be any necessary statutory changes at this time as the subcommittee needs to complete additional research, including if there would be a fiscal cost associated with any potential changes.

b. ARREST WARRANTS & ORDERS OF PROTECTION: COMPLIANCE, ENFORCEMENT & OUTCOMES

i. UPDATE ON FIREARM SEIZURE & COMPLIANCE MAPPING WORKSHOP

1. Atty. Hardy provided an update on the November group meeting with Darren Mitchell of NCJFCJ to review the state's current firearm seizure and compliance processes. The group identified a number of challenges faced by law enforcement and the court, especially as it pertains to the court having notice as to whether a defendant has complied with orders to surrender firearms. Some other issues identified include: CT lacks mandatory registration of firearms; a gap in time between issuance of the order and law enforcement seizing a weapon and information on that seizure not getting into the registry; confidentiality issues faced by victims when inquiring about the defendant's compliance as the firearm registry is confidential; lack of pro or low-bono attorneys to represent survivors in these cases. Mr. Mitchell suggested that the group identify 3-4 challenges that it can address in the coming year prior to establishing a pilot program.
2. Atty. Canning inquired about the group seeking Mr. Mitchell's suggestions for which challenges should be prioritized. Atty. Hardy clarified that a summary was provided by Mr. Mitchell that will be shared with the subcommittee.

ii. VOTE ON SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION REGARDING VICTIM CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS REQUEST FORM

1. Atty. Hardy stated that the language was previously voted on; Atty Canning stated that she abstained from that vote because she had not had sufficient time to review the language.
2. Atty. Canning stated that proposed statutory language should include language similar to Practice Book section 40-10 ensuring that defense counsel has access to the information to perform their duties but preventing them from disclosing those documents to others. Atty. Canning also expressed that she believes the proposed language presents a constitutional issue due to a lack of notice to a defendant, potentially leaving them in a position where they do not know the address from which they are restrained from going.

c. OFFENDER INTERVENTION STANDARDS

- i. The subcommittee has been look at outcomes for the Family Violence Education Program (FVEP) and any potential trends to bring to the Council. They are currently reviewing the program's 2024 data set compared to the 2023 data set.

- ii. The subcommittee co-chairs met with DOC regarding their domestic violence program curriculum, which they are currently reviewing. They have also just recently received some of the program outcome data for review.

## V. REVIEW & VOTE ON DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Atty. Canning requested that Council members vote on each recommendation separately as opposed to voting to approve the report in its entirety. Chairwoman Scanlon declined to vote separately and stated a vote would be taken to approve the entire report.
- b. Council members discussed recommendation 3(a) by the Offender Intervention Standards Subcommittee beginning on page 8 of the draft report. Atty. Canning requested that the language include the Office of the Chief Public Defender in collaboration for the training. Mr. DiTunno explained that the wording in the recommendation was not intended to exclude any person or entity and that the intent was simply for the two named entities to own putting the training together and handling notification; other entities from the Council would be given the opportunity to provide input into the structure of the training and to participate in the training itself.
  - i. Chairwoman Flexer made a motion to leave the existing language in 3(a) as is. Atty. Hardy seconded the motion.
  - ii. Discussion – Sen. Kissel expressed that he does not think it hurts to add the public defenders. Atty. Canning stated that the Office of the Chief Public Defender is the only defense-oriented member of the Council and that is why it is important to name them. Atty. Tyler suggested that domestic violence victim advocates also be named if other entities are going to be named.
  - iii. Chairwoman Scanlon called for a vote, the result of which is as follows; motion passes:
    - 1. Those in favor – Mr. DiTunno, Ms. Lajoie, Ms. Turner, Atty. Hardy, Chairwoman Scanlon, Chairwoman Flexer, Mr. Pelka, Atty. DiCara, Ms. Wilk, Ms. Sanquedolce, Ms. O'Connor, Judge Doyle
    - 2. Those opposed – Chief Fox, Ms. Foley O'Connor, Atty. Canning, Sen. Kissel, Atty. Tyler, Capt. Maynard
- c. Chairwoman Flexer requested clarification of recommendation 3(b) by the Offender Intervention Standards Subcommittee beginning on page 9 of the draft report. Ms. Lajoie explained that in their discussions they have found that judges in some courts are ordering separate domestic violence intervention in addition to the Supervised Diversionary Program and the group believes more research and discussion needs to occur. The proposal would not preclude legislators from participating in those discussions.
  - i. Chairwoman Scanlon made a motion to remove the term “non-legislative” from Offender Intervention Standards Subcommittee recommendation

3(b) and the term “small, non-legislative” from Arrest Warrants and Orders of Protection – Compliance, Enforcement, & Outcomes Subcommittee recommendation 1 (both on page 9 of the draft report). Ms. Lajoie seconded the motion.

- ii. Discussion – none.
  - iii. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. The Council discussed the recommendations of the Police Response to Crimes of Family Violence Model Policy Subcommittee. Chief Fox reviewed the recommendations previously approved relative to the statewide law enforcement model policy. Chairwoman Scanlon thanked the subcommittee for its work to include the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) in the statewide model policy as Connecticut’s program remains a national leader.
- e. The Council discussed the recommendations of the Arrest Warrants and Orders of Protection – Compliance, Enforcement, & Outcomes Subcommittee. There was no discussion on recommendation 1. Members discussed recommendation 2 related to use of a confidential address request form (page 10 of the draft report).
- i. Ms. Lajoie reiterated that standing protective orders be included.
  - ii. Atty. Canning reiterated earlier concerns about defense counsel access to the information and notice to defendants, expressing overall opposition to the proposed statutory language as presented in the report. Atty. Steere pointed out that such issues arise now with standing criminal protective orders as they can be in place for many years and the court has no way of knowing where someone will live in the future. She also pointed out that the requirement is that the respondent/defendant leave the location if they inadvertently come into contact with the protected individual and that such lack of intent would be considered by prosecutors should the contact result in an arrest for violation of an order of protection.
- f. Chairwoman Scanlon made a motion to accept the 2025 report as amended. Chairwoman Flexer seconded the motion.
- i. Discussion – Sen. Kissel agrees that the public defender’s concerns need to be reviewed and addressed, but will be voting to support the report. Chairwoman Scanlon thanked the council members for their work throughout the year.
  - ii. Chairwoman Scanlon called for a vote, the result of which is as follows; motion passes unanimously with one abstention:
    - 1. In favor – Mr. DiTunno, Ms. Lajoie, Ms. Turner, Atty. Hardy, Chairwoman Scanlon, Chairwoman Flexer, Mr. Pelka, Atty. DiCara, Ms. Wilk, Ms. Sanquedolce, Ms. O’Connor, Judge Doyle, Chief Fox, Ms. Foley O’Connor, Sen. Kissel, Atty. Tyler, Capt. Maynard, Ms. Garcia, Rep. Leeper
    - 2. Oppose – None
    - 3. Abstain – Atty. Canning

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Atty. Hardy announced that Asst. State's Attorney Sarah Steere would be stepping in to co-chair the newly created Court-based Issues Subcommittee. Atty. Hardy will continue to represent the Chief State's Attorney's Office on the full Council. Ms. Lajoie agreed to serve as the Court-based Issues Subcommittee's other co-chair.
- b. Chairwoman Scanlon introduced CCADV's new Policy & Advocacy Manager, Mario Volpe.
- c. SET 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE – FULL COUNCIL
  - i. Council members agreed that their first meeting of 2026 will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

- a. January 28, 2026 at 12:30pm at the Legislative Office Building.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. A motion to adjourn was made by Sen. Kissel and seconded by Atty. Hardy. Chairwoman Scanlon adjourned the meeting at 1:49pm.