



The Missouri Office of Prosecution Services,
The Linn County Prosecuting Attorney's Office,
&

The Marceline Police Department

present

### The Investigation and Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases

#### Determining the Dominant Aggressor In Domestic Violence Cases

September 7, 2012

8:00 AM to 12 PM

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Free of charge to Prosecutors, Law Enforcement, Victim Advocates, Children's Division, Probation and Parole, Health Professionals and Children's Advocacy Center Staff. Other Similar Allied Professionals must obtain prior approval for attendance from Conference Organizers.



Marceline Police Department 123 East Sante Fe Ave Marceline, MO 64658



## The Investigation & Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases

#### 8 AM to 12 PM

This basic course includes the elemental dynamics of domestic violence and suggestions for conducting domestic violence investigations, as they relate to evidence based prosecution. The course further covers Missouri law as it applies to domestic violence cases, touching on current case law as it relates to evidence based prosecution and investigation, and offering ideas for aggressive& fair charging in domestic violence cases. The course aims at assisting prosecutors and law enforcement officers in responding to domestic violence calls and successfully prosecuting domestic violence cases.

The course is certified for 3 hours of POST Continuing Education Legal credits & 1 hour Interpersonal Credit by the Missouri Department of Public Safety POST program or 4 hours of CLE by the Missouri Bar.

# Looking Beyond the Obvious Determining the Dominant Aggressor in Domestic Violence Cases 1 PM to 5 PM

This course includes more on the dynamic of family violence, exploring why women use force and creative ways to make a determination of the dominant aggressor in a domestic violence case, as well as offering tools and strategies for optimal success in the resolution of these difficult cases. The course further outlines Missouri law in determining valid claims of self defense & primary aggressor.

The course is certified for 2 hours of POST Continuing Education Legal credits & 2 hours Interpersonal Credit by the Missouri Department of Public Safety POST program or 4 hours of CLE by the Missouri Bar.

Space & materials are limited, please copy and paste the registration link into your browser in order to reserve your spot:

http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=g5eaeneab&oeidk=a07e63dov758d6c5888

If you do not register in advance, we may not be able to provide course handouts or a completion certificate to you. Please call the Family Violence Resource Prosecutor, Catherine Vannier at (573) 644-2409, or email Legal Staff Assistant Tara Athmer at tara.athmer@mops.mo.gov with questions or concerns.

Please copy & distribute

#### The Investigation and Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases

September 7, 2012 8 AM to 12 PM

#### Agenda

#### HOUR 1: What are we concerned about?

Safety & Lethality Concerns, The Dynamics of Domestic Violence, and Why Do They Stay?

#### HOUR 2: Why should we care?

The Requirements of Section 455.085 and The Evidentiary Impact

#### **HOUR 3:** Evidence Based Prosecution

The components of evidence based prosecution & what a prosecutor needs in order to proceed without the victim's cooperation.

#### HOUR 4: Creative Documentation & Charging

Picture taking, medical release forms, witness statement forms and other ideas for building a domestic violence case. Discussion of the elements of the most frequently used charges & suggestions for effective charging decisions.

#### **Determining the Dominant Aggressor**

September 7, 2012 1 PM to 5 PM

#### Agenda

#### HOUR 1: Power & Control Tactics

Understanding the history of mandatory arrest & scene manipulation

#### HOUR 2: When Both Parties Report Violence

The definition of mutual combat, dual v. single arrests & following the Decision Tree

#### HOUR 3: The Law of Self Defense & 455.085

The definition of probable cause, the requirements of Section 455.085 & what is self defense?

#### **HOUR 4:** Tactics in Truth

Questions to ask, forensic injuries to document & ways to look beyond the obvious to protect & serve

This project was supported by Grant #2010-WE-AX-0065 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Departmentof Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women.

#### About the Presenter

#### Catherine Vannier

In late 2006, MOPS hired Catherine Vannier as their first ever Family Violence Resource Prosecutor. The position was created to provide resource materials, support and training to prosecutors, law enforcement and related professionals on the investigation and prosecution of family and sexual violence cases. Over more than 5 years, Catherine has developed and expanded the program to assist and train thousands of justice professionals. Catherine has 11 years of experience prosecuting criminal cases full time. Catherine handled family violence cases exclusively for 6 years. She was instrumental in creating a specialized domestic violence unit in her jurisdiction. During her tenure as an active prosecutor, she learned the importance of coordinating the community's response to violence, sitting as a board member on the local family violence council, as well other police and community task forces and committees.

Catherine has given scores of trainings on the prosecution of family and sexual violence cases and continually adapts and improves the current presentation. As part of her presentation, she uses examples from her closed cases as well as other examples she has learned about from her trainings, travel and experience in the field.

Catherine received the 2012 James P. Damos Award by the Missouri Victims' Assistance Network (MOVA) in recognition of her willingness to go above and beyond her designated duties in order to effect positive change for victims.

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