

Council to End Domestic Violence

Victim Access Workgroup Agenda

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

8:00-9:00am

Virtual via MS Teams

Members present: Nora Mahoney (co-chair), Susan Madsen, Tina Spurlock, Kellie Cook, Kacey Kirkland, Sandra Guerrero Perez, Pam Sejas, Bolivia Bustamante, Ayaan Ali, Brittany Vera

Members absent: The Honorable Susan Stoney, The Honorable Divani Nadaraja, Fazia Deen

Technical Assistance provider: Cannon Han

Members of the public: Ekaterina Antipova

I. Welcome

Nora Mahoney welcomed members to the virtual meeting and reminded members that their cameras must be on in order for them to count towards quorum since the meeting took place virtually.

II. GDC PO Process: Content review

The workgroup reviewed the following sections and made edits to clarify and simplify the content of the documents:

- Section 6- Steps between PPO and Final PO hearing
- Section 6B: The day of court

The workgroup did not finish section 7: The Final PO Hearing and will resume editing this section at the next workgroup meeting in August.

III. Next steps

Brittany shared she would send the remainder of the sections to the members of the group for them to review in advance of the next meeting. Brittany shared that depending on timing, the group may only have one meeting left to review the materials. Another option would be to move the September meeting to earlier in the month so there is enough time for the DFS Communications team to put the content online in time for the Annual Meeting.

IV. Public Comment

Ekaterina Antipova, represents a mother's rights group in Northern Virginia. She commented on the bad experiences members of her group have had as they sought protective orders in various courts in the area. She thanked members of the group

for their work and expressed her concern over some of the ways she has seen victims be treated during court hearings for protective orders and other court hearings.

V. Adjourn

Nora and Brittany shared the next meeting would likely take place in the Jury Assembly Room on the 4th floor of the courthouse due to a scheduling conflict with the regular room. Brittany shared she would send an email confirming the new location once it was confirmed. Brittany shared she would email the remaining sections of the process for review before the next meeting. Without further discussion, Nora adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

8:00 A.M.

Fairfax County Courthouse

Room TBD