

# POLICY

## SUPERVISING INVESTIGATIONS IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED CASES

### Framework

Supervisory oversight of domestic violence investigations ensures that this link in the interagency response works to its fullest potential.<sup>[8]</sup> Oversight should reinforce thorough evidence collection, attention to risk and danger, and strategies that minimize the need for a victim to confront the offender. Oversight should emphasize proper investigation and documentation to accurately charge a case. In addition to the responsibility of the supervising investigators who follow up on patrol reports, the commander of the investigative unit in charge of domestic violence cases also assists patrol supervisors in maintaining the quality of patrol reports and helps maintain connections between the department and other intervening agencies.

### Policy: Supervising Investigations

In addition to following general agency procedures covering supervisory oversight of investigations, the investigative unit supervisor will take the following actions in providing supervisory oversight of investigations in domestic violence–related cases, using the protocols and training memos referenced and included as part of this policy.

1. Implement the provisions of this policy in accordance with *Protocol 4: Supervising Investigations*.
2. Monitor investigative files to determine if all necessary actions were taken in the investigation, and direct any necessary follow-up.

3. Prepare a report outlining whether patrol reports sent to the investigative unit comply with the patrol report protocol.
4. Meet every other month with division commanders to discuss quality and compliance of patrol reports with the protocol and refer reports to commander for review and redrafting if necessary.
5. Meet quarterly with the city and county attorney's offices to discuss and review problematic cases.
6. Meet quarterly with probation and prosecution to ensure the *History of Domestic Violence Summary* (HDVS) is being created and updated in accordance with protocols.
7. Prepare a quarterly case tracking report to be sent to the assistant chief of the investigative division.
8. Consult with investigators on individual cases.
9. Review Blueprint policies, protocols, and training memos with new investigators assigned to the unit within 30 days of their assignment.
10. Update policies and protocols each year pursuant to legislative, statutory changes.

### Protocols, appendices, and training memos

The following protocol is attached to and included as part of the investigation supervision policy:

- › *4: Supervising Investigations*

The following appendices are attached to and included as part of the investigation supervision policy:

- *Practitioners' Guide to Risk and Danger in Domestic Violence Cases*
- *Supervising Domestic Violence Case Investigations – Case Review Checklist*
- *Interventions with Victims of Battering as Suspects or Defendants*