



Probation and Parole

The probation and parole system is one of the best routes to support victim safety on an ongoing basis by creating mechanisms to inform survivors of potential issues and hold an offender accountable.

Therefore, communication and collaboration with probation and parole teams are critical as it helps safeguard the immediate physical safety of victims and provides follow-through so that they can remain safely in their communities. By identifying and working with probation and parole, the Domestic Violence High-Risk Team (DVHRT) can work to decrease violence and fatalities by sharing relevant information with team members and by taking violations seriously. Probation, parole, and other community justice agencies may also be able to support survivors in obtaining restitution, accessing counseling or medical services, and other criminal legal services. Probation and parole agencies should also be prepared to provide referrals to services for victims, such as domestic violence programs and legal aid organizations, and have plans for making safe notifications to survivors when a violation occurs.

For members who work specifically around parole, please note that parole operates differently from probation regarding violations. If a parolee does not adhere to the conditions of parole, the parole officer can issue a warrant and fully use the detention under warrant in the event of the violation. If the parole panel ordered no contact with the victim or avoiding the victim of stalking as a condition, this could be a violation to issue a warrant for arrest. Along with other reasons, a parole officer can issue a warrant, including a new arrest, or if the parolee exhibited behavior that indicates to a reasonable person that they pose a danger to society, these collectively are essential duties for a DVHRT to understand in support of victim safety.

Probation or Parole DVHRT members agree to:

- » Participate in all scheduled DVHRT meetings.
For parole specifically, the District Reentry Center (DRC) Officer(s) are suggested to attend and participate in all DVHRT meetings. The DRC officer provides rehabilitative programs for eligible clients in Battering Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP), domestic violence, and Victim Impact Panel (VIP) classes.
- » Use available offender history and the Risk Assessment score provided by the DVHRT team to inform probation conditions.
- » Inform the DVHRT of pre-trial bond conditions and pre-trial supervision for high-risk cases as the law allows.
- » Inform the DVHRT team of the assigned Probation Officer, probation conditions, compliance and violations, and scheduled conclusion of probation for high-risk cases as allowed by law.
- » Make sure the probationer or the parolee adheres to the probation or parole conditions.
- » If the probationer or parolee does not adhere to or has a pattern of non-adherence, flag the probationer, take timely action in response to violations, and notify proper channels [DVHRT team, victim, judge, caseworkers, etc.].
Further, the DRC Officer will make a timely referral to the BIPP Program to provide sufficient time for the parolee to complete the program before his supervision ends. Parole terms cannot be extended.
- » Assist and provide input on safety planning with the DVHRT or victim when appropriate.
- » Take timely action in response to any violations, including providing victim notification.