

Instilling Accountability

Through actions, words, and decisions, agency leaders can send a clear and consistent message regarding the priority of addressing VAW crimes. This checklist can assist in assessing your department's current and future efforts regarding VAW crimes. Leaders create action!

Place a "CA" for a "Current Action" your department is already engaged in, or an "FA" "Future Action" that you want to initiate.

Auditing Processes

- Audit reports of VAW crimes / compare case closure rates to other crimes
- Regularly assess and update policies related to VAW crimes
- Audit CAD reports Dispatch to final disposition, Time on call
- Examine accessibility and encouragement for victim reporting
- Monitor sexual assault case clearance rates
- Monitor domestic violence arrest rates, including dual arrest rates
- Audit in-car / body worn camera footage
- Audit internal cultural messages regarding VAW / gender bias
- Screen for VAW and gender bias in hiring process
- Include VAW information and scenarios as part of promotional testing
- Assess DV and sexual assault cases for stalking and strangulation
- Commendation and awards systems for work regarding VAW
- Include VAW response and investigations on officer evaluations

Crime Intervention

- Consistently arrest perpetrators of VAW crimes
- Consistently enforce orders of protection
- Conduct knock-knock operations for protection order violations
- Employ risk or lethality checklist / LAP
- Address victims needs / safety concerns with advocates / safety planning
- Create Police Perpetrated Domestic Violence (PPDV) Policy
- Create Police Perpetrated Sexual Misconduct (PPSM) Policy
- Conduct PPDV/SM internal affairs investigations and refer for criminal prosecution
- Incorporate early warning systems to prevent and identify offending officers/staff
- Utilize administrative orders of protection when officers are reported for DV / SM
- Incorporate DOJ gender bias prevention in policy, training and supervision

Community Inclusion

- Develop multi-disciplinary response teams / community coordinated response
- Seek input from advocates and victims regarding training needs and policy development
- Seek input from prosecutors regarding training needs and policy development
- Include victim advocates on hiring and promotional panels
- Provide department information on VAW crimes on website and in other communication
- Provide timely safety alerts to your community that avoids victim blaming language/tone
- Make appropriate victim referrals regardless of case outcome
- Conduct a community-wide safety and accountability audit regarding VAW crimes