

# Community of Practice

## Law Enforcement Collaboration



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# Technology Overview

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- Encourage participant interaction
  - Be prepared for polls!
- How participants can enter discussion
  - Please turn cameras on, if possible, to build community.
  - Please select “unmute” when you would like to speak.
  - Use the Chat box to submit a comment to “Everyone” or “Host”
- For any tech issues, use the Chat to contact “Host”

# Poll Question:

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Which occupation best matches your profession?

- First Responder
- Victim Advocate
- Law Enforcement
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- SANE Nurse
- Forensic Examiner
- Other (Specify)



# Introductions



# What is a Community of Practice?

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➤ Opportunity to *network* with other individuals in the field.



➤ *Interaction* helps build rapport and foster communication.



➤ Opportunity to be *present and active* in the discussion



➤ Opportunity to enhance learning, idea sharing, problem solving, and *support*.

# Upcoming Series – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays

## January, February, March, April

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- ~~• Emergency Support/Forensic Exam – January 24, 2024~~
- ~~• Sexual Assault Advocacy is Not for the Faint of Heart – February 28, 2024~~
- Law Enforcement Collaboration – March 27, 2024
- Tribal Code Development and Victim Advocacy – April 24, 2024

# Victims of Sexual Assault May Enter Different Doorways

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- Hospital
- ***Law Enforcement***
- ***Advocacy***



First encounter is so critical, and the type of response a victim receives can make it or break it.



# A Glimpse at Differences

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## *Law Enforcement*

- Bureaucracy
- Fact finding
- Male dominated discipline
- Case centered
- Government agencies
- Due process for defendants
- Other

## *Advocacy Organizations*

- Less Bureaucratic
- Biased support
- Mostly women
- Victim-Centered
- Mostly non-profit, community based/some government based
- Justice for victims
- Other

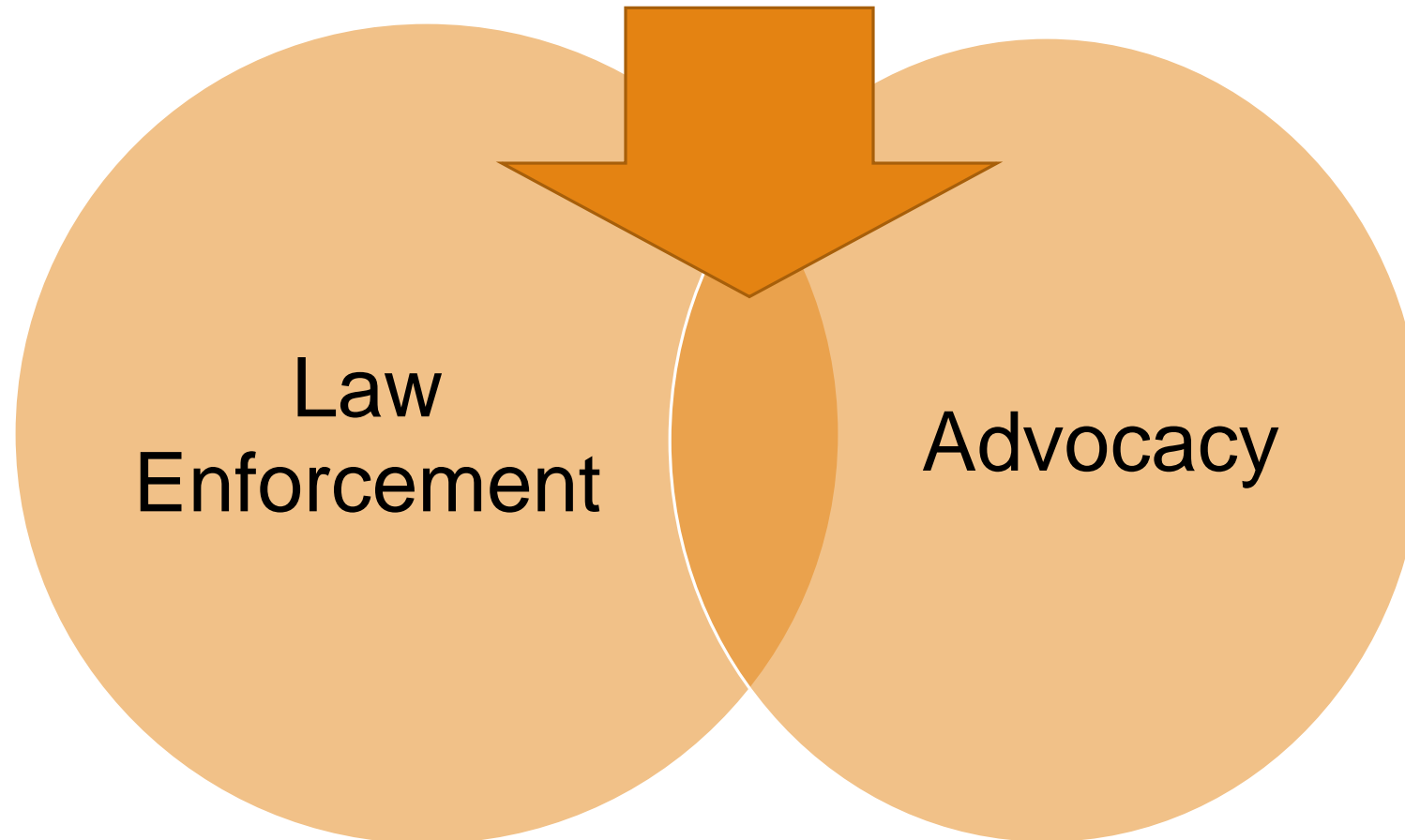
*Our missions are different.*

Why do you believe our relatives who've been battered, raped, reach out to law enforcement? To advocacy?



# Commonalities & Collaboration

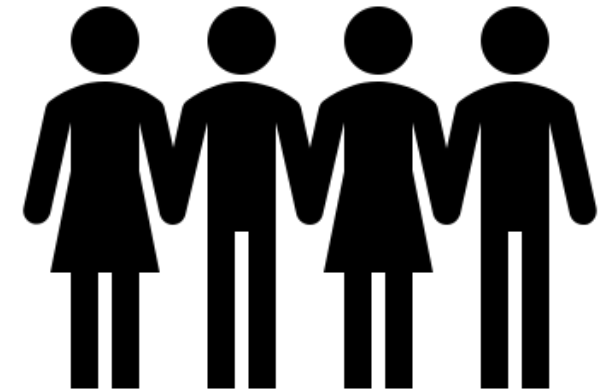
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# Commonalities - Basic

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- Community Safety; Safety for Citizens
- End or reduce crime and violence
- Offender accountability
- Work in civil and criminal cases
- Successful prosecutions – criminal cases
- Victims who seek justice, safety
- We want to do a professional job
- We have professional ethics
- Other disciplines may not understand full range of our jobs, lack of resources
- We are compassionate people



*Can you think of other commonalities?*



# Other commonalities?

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*Work for justice*

SHARING INFORMATION

FATIGUE?

COMPASSIONATE

DEDICATED

RESPECT FOR  
OTHER  
RESPONDERS

PROFESSIONALISM

MAY BENEFIT FROM TEAMWORK

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As advocates, what are some of your expectations of law enforcement in their response to, interaction with victims of sexual assault?

## RAMSEY COUNTY SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE PROTOCOL Version 4, 2017

This protocol was created to help effect a more victim-centered approach toward sexual assault crimes, and contains general guidelines only. The intention of these protocols is to describe what one can expect – generally – from each of the disciplines involved in sexual assault events in Ramsey County, specific protocols may vary by agency.

**MISSION** The mission of the Ramsey County Sexual Assault Protocol Team (SAPT) is to coordinate and implement an interagency response to sexual assault victims which promotes consistency, respect and cultural competency.

There is a [Law Enforcement Sexual Assault Response Protocols section](#) within this protocol handbook which is split into Tele-Communicator, Patrol, and Investigative Protocol.

### **Patrol Officer Protocol**

*Attempt to calm and reassure the victim that the victim is now safe and that what happened was not the victim's fault. It is helpful and appropriate to tell a victim you are sorry this happened to her/him. Make every effort to ensure the victim is as comfortable as possible. Take a few minutes to explain to the victim the processes she/he will be undergoing and explain the need to ask questions that may be sensitive in nature or uncomfortable.*



What are some expectations that law enforcement may have of advocates?

Do you believe law enforcement understands the role of advocates and the work of advocacy?

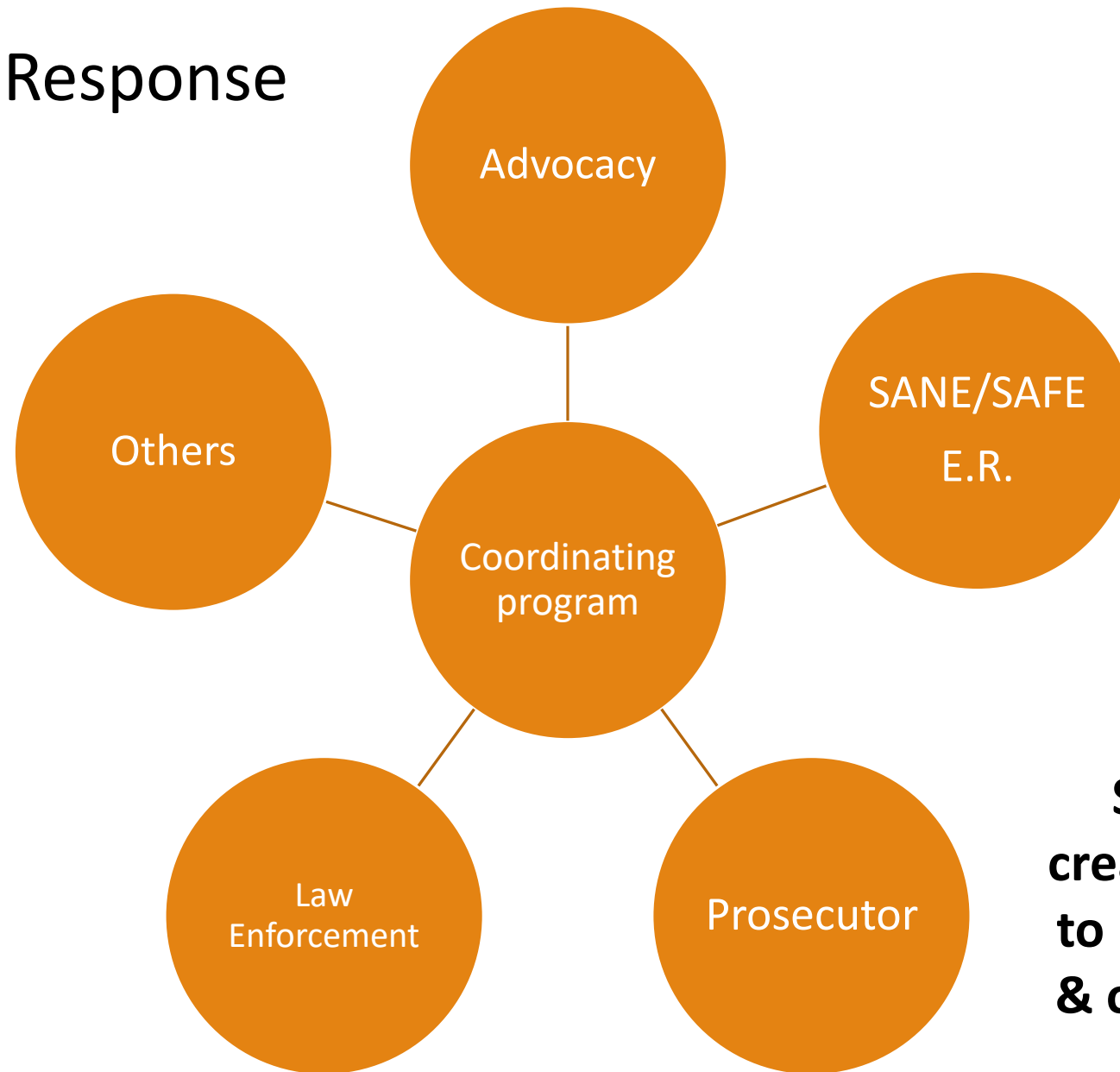
# Basic Roles of Community Based Advocates in Criminal Justice Process

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- Provide confidential services
- Crisis intervention, safety planning, support
- Legal Advocacy
- Accompanying, walking with relatives through the system such as to court appointments, hearings
- Ensuring victim rights are maintained
- Being a voice for the person we are working with as needed and requested
- Information and referral
- Ensure victim's basic needs are met such as transportation, safe space, financial assistance

*Primary goal of advocacy is to **maintain safety** needs of women who've been battered/raped and their children and **to hold offenders accountable** who choose violence.*

# Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)



**Sharing information,  
creating protocol together  
to maximize victim safety  
& offender accountability**

Who has a SART or other response team in your community?

What disciplines are on your team?



# Transcending Differences

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- Infusing our cultural traditions to provide justice to victims and hold offenders accountable
- Ongoing dialogue during MDT meetings or during other collaborative opportunities
- Co-train
- Developing protocol on collaboration
- Understanding & appreciating each other's roles & responsibilities
- Cross discipline training
- Realizing that good collaborative relationship will only make work easier for everyone
- Identifying what each discipline can bring to the work/table to bring about justice
- Cross discipline acknowledgement when things are working right
- Other

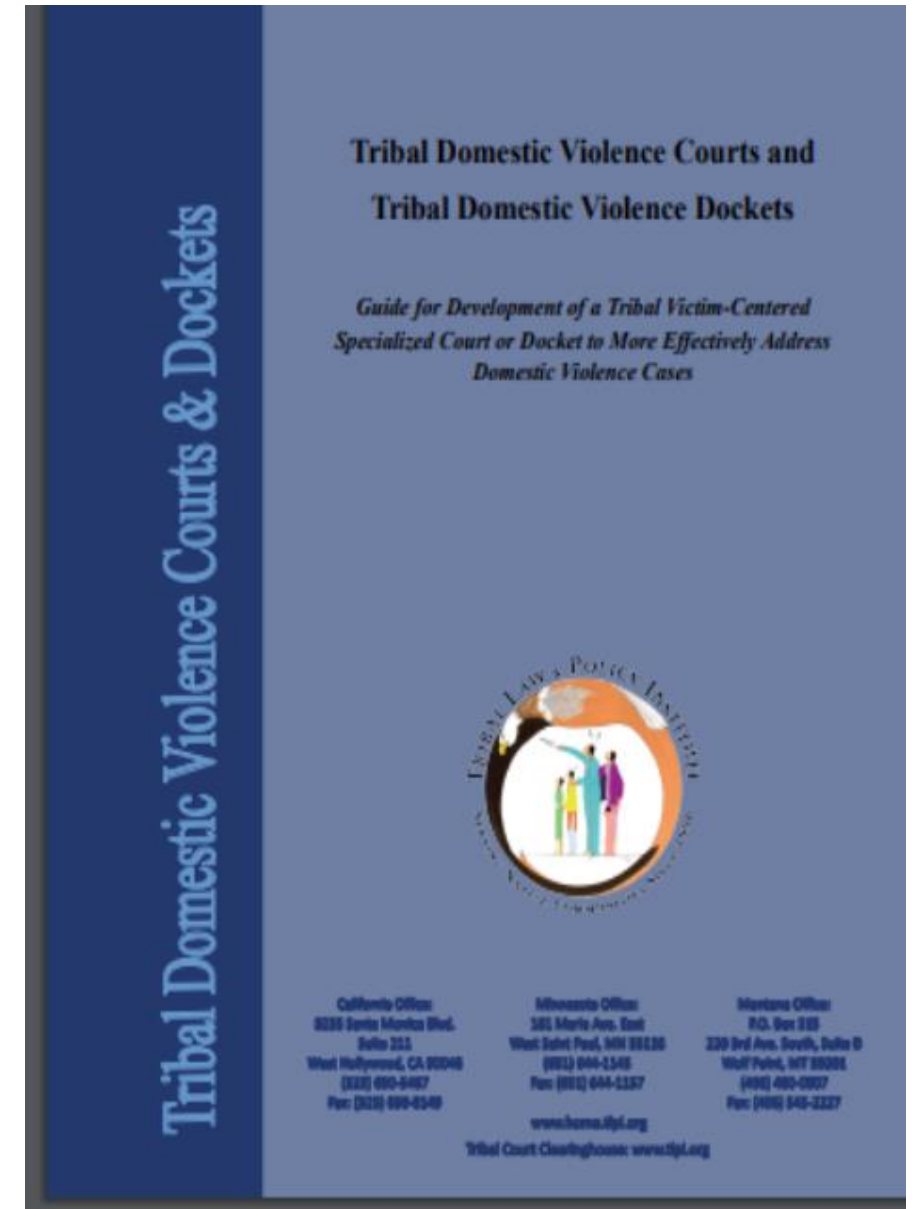


## [Tribal Domestic Violence Courts/Dockets: Guide for Development of a Tribal Victim-Centered Specialized Court or Docket to More Effectively Address Domestic Violence Cases](#)

Tribal Domestic Violence Courts are specialized courts comprised of judges, court staff and a multi-disciplinary core case team highly trained in the power and control dynamics of domestic violence and focused on victim safety and batterer accountability. Domestic Violence Dockets are specialized docket days with judges and court personnel trained in dynamics of domestic violence and enhanced security measures. This unique resource was drafted to guide Native nations through a series of exercises resulting in a tribal domestic violence court or docket specifically designed by the tribe to address the domestic violence issues in a particular tribal community.



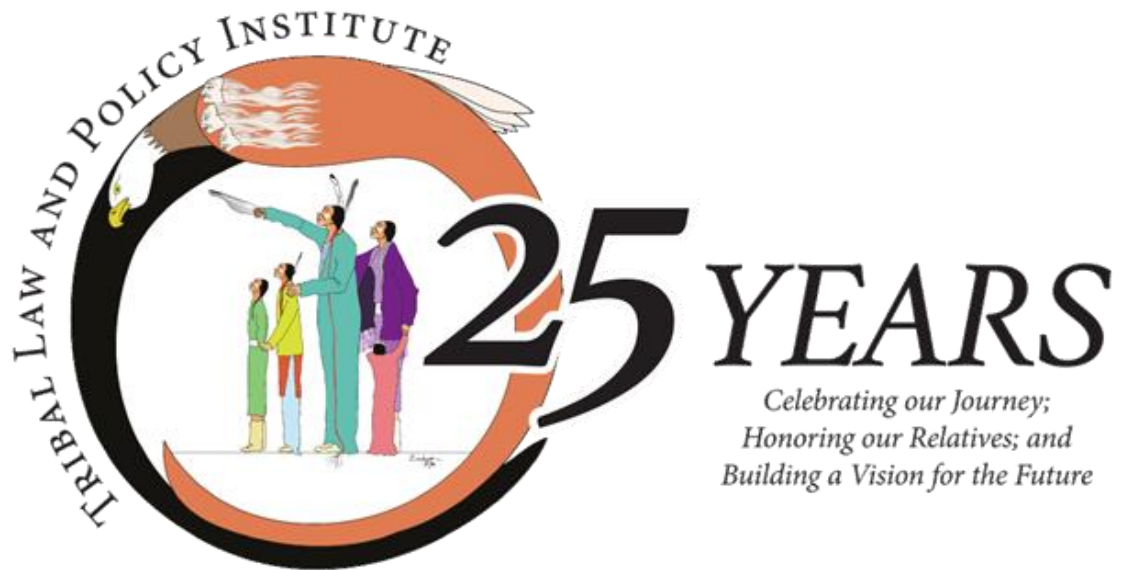
\*Not yet updated to address VAWA 2022



# Questions







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