



## COVIDStat Morning Call Domestic Violence RFI's

### Dissemination Report

*Regional Operations and Intelligence Center Section (ROIC) Partner Engagement Unit ~ ROIC202003-04800F10*

*NJ ROIC SIN: NJ CRM-0100 (Geographic) / DHS SIN: HSEC 10 (Illicit Operations)*

*NJ ROIC SIN: NJ-CRM-0200 (Targets/Vulnerabilities) / DHS SIN: HSEC 3,10 (Incidents)*

**26 March 2020**

### NJ Division of Criminal Justice



### 25 March 2020 Guidance and Information Domestic Violence

1. **Q: Can we delay any Domestic Violence offense charges such as domestic harassment or TRO violation, which could wait?**

A: No, domestic violence charges should not be delayed.

2. **Q: Are MVR dash cameras an approved substitute to BWC (Body Worn Cameras)?**

A: Depends on the circumstance, if this is in regards to capturing a victim declining to pursue charges and/or a Temporary Restraining Order, you can utilize your BWC. However, the Victim Notification Form (VNF) must still be provided to the victim. If there are charges, the VINE portion must still be completed.

3. **Q: What if my department does not use BWC? Therefore, the only option is dashcam/MVR. Is this sufficient?**

A: See above, a dashcam or MVR can be utilized, but the victim still needs to be provided the VNF.

4. **Q: Are there any public safety announcements that we can post to prevent domestic disputes?**

A: The Attorney General posted resources on social media, see: <https://www.facebook.com/NewJerseyOAG/photos/pb.1583199585317029.-2207520000./2295320460771601/?type=3&theater>. This information can be shared and agencies are encouraged to work with County Prosecutors' Offices to assist with posting local resources.

5. **Q: We have had a few child custody disputes. Should we be taking reports from the complaints about a violation of a court agreement? Or is it in the best interest of the children to quarantine in one location?**

A: Child safety is key, but that includes whether the child is in an unsafe environment based on the dispute presented. These cases should be handled as they would normally,

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complaints when needed, direction to consult with Family Court or their attorney if non-criminal, and necessary referrals (DCPP, etc.), as required.

6. **Q: We have been using BWC to capture signatures specifically victim notification forms for TROs. Normally we save the paper copies for 3 years. Any idea how long I have to keep these videos on my cloud or server?**

A: If you are capturing a signature on a camera, the same timeline is required.

**Additional Reminders:**

Police Departments can limit the number of members of the public inside their agency/lobby to comply with social distancing in accordance with Executive Order 107. However, for essential functions, such as applications for Temporary Restraining Orders (TROs) and Temporary Extreme Risk Protective Orders (TERPOs), the public needs access. Therefore, police departments cannot be closed to these individuals. Currently, the only way to apply for a TRO or TERPO is through local police departments. Safety precautions should be utilized at all times. For additional legal guidance on case-specific issues, please contact your County Prosecutor's Office.