Domestic Violence Response Checklist for Officers

Boulder (CO) County Sheriff’s Department

- Note all spontaneous statements of victim and suspect and their location when officers arrive.
- Describe emotional and physical condition and any substance use by victim and/or suspect.
- Describe and photograph injuries to victim and suspect.
- Obtain signed medical release.
- Note relationship between victim and suspect and history of violence.
- Obtain written statements from victim, suspect and any witnesses.
- Interview suspect (with Miranda, if in custody)
- Index and interview children.
- Collect evidence including weapons used.
- Describe information provided to dispatch by the complainant.
- Inform victim that the Department presses charges, not the victim.
- Determine primary aggressor; if probable cause exists, make custodial arrest.
- Assess the need for shelter for victim and transport if necessary.
- Document current/temporary/daytime addresses and telephone numbers.
- Provide victim rights pamphlet and notify local domestic violence program.
- Document information thoroughly.
- Notify victim of arrest.