



BRAZORIA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT PROGRAM

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL



300th District Court
111 E. Locust Street
Angleton, TX 77515

Introduction

The Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program was established to enhance victim safety, promote offender accountability, and provide consistent judicial decision making for cases involving domestic violence. The program represents a collaborative effort of victim advocates, law enforcement, treatment providers, the District Attorney's Office, Brazoria County Community Supervision and Corrections Department and the Court, all working together to break the cycle of violence. This partnership will provide the opportunity for the Court to hold offenders accountable for their abusive and controlling behaviors, while providing early intervention to both victims and offenders.

The Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program provides participants with an opportunity to change negative behaviors and refrain from using violence in their current or future relationships. The goal of a future free from violence can be accomplished by holding offenders accountable and leading them to appropriate treatment programs that can assist with accepting responsibility for abusive behaviors. Through this, combined with a willingness to change, participants can acquire non-abusive, pro-social behaviors.

The Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program utilizes evidence-based practices in its delivery of services and works in collaboration with community providers, Batterer's Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP) treatment providers, victim services, law enforcement and mental health professionals. Engaging participants in BIPP and other cognitive behavioral programs are essential aspects in promoting accountability.

The Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program length is between 10 and 18 months. The program cannot exceed 18 months unless approved by the Domestic Violence Court Team. The program is divided into four major phases. Advancement through the phases is based on progress, compliance, and accomplishment of goals and requirements. A request must be submitted by the participant prior to being considered for advancement. All advancements must be reviewed by the Domestic Violence Court Team and approved by the Judge. With intensive monitoring, any violations are addressed and sanctions are imposed swiftly to enhance community and victim safety.

Components for the accountability-based program include: successful completion of a 36 or 52 week Batterer's Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP), participation in interactive journaling, chemical dependency assessment and treatment if recommended, random alcohol and drug testing, curfew checks, submitting to Polygraph if ordered by the Court, submitting to Psychological evaluation if ordered by the Court, attending a Domestic Violence Victim Impact Panel, reporting to the Court for compliance hearings and the Case Manager for office visits, providing all login information for their phone, email, and social media accounts, and demonstrating a pattern of honesty and self-disclosure throughout the program. Participants are not allowed to possess a firearm as defined in Chapter 46 of The Texas Penal Code and they will allow Case Manager to search their home and/or vehicle for a firearm.

By providing a coordinated, accountability-based program, with judicial oversight and engagement in treatment, the participant is provided more opportunities to learn about and accept responsibility for their abusive behaviors while embracing the opportunity for change. This works towards our ultimate goal of reducing recidivism and providing community and victim safety.

Mission Statement

The Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program seeks to enhance victim safety, encourage offender accountability, and assist with the coordination of services across agencies and community partners to provide the necessary interventions for victims and offenders. The Court strives to promote a positive social change within our community that will put a stop to domestic violence and any belief system that perpetuates it.

Goals and Objectives

- Increase victim safety by providing and referring for appropriate services, providing case status updates, and ordering GPS devices on offenders with No Contact Orders
- Increase offender accountability through intensive supervision with swift and certain sanctions for non-compliance.
- Provide consistent judicial decision-making
- Provide early intervention to victims and offenders.
- Reduce recidivism.

Domestic Violence Court Team

The Domestic Violence Court Program is a collaborative effort amongst criminal justice stakeholders, community partners and treatment providers. The DV Court team, led by the Judge, monitors each offender's compliance, violations, and progress in treatment. The Domestic Violence Court Team meets prior to compliance review hearings to staff each individual case.

Domestic Violence Court Team Members:

The Honorable Leigh Lahmann- 300th District Court

Fatima Torres-Sammons- Case Manager

Jennifer Grupe- Program Coordinator (979-864-1943)

Samantha Klein- Prosecutor

Michelle Stover- Defense Counsel

Patrina Green – Specialty Courts Liaison

Tracy Gaia-Slater – ATS Supervisor

Roles and Responsibilities of the Team

Judge: The Honorable Leigh Lehmann, 300th District Court Associate Judge

Supervises participants progress through regular compliance review hearings, team input and participant behavior. Leads the Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Team in decision-making and holds the participant accountable for their progress in the program.

Program Coordinator: Jennifer Grupe

Manages day-to-day operations of the court and coordinates docket. Works with the Prosecutor to screen cases for placement in the program, and completes assessment to determine participant's length of BIPP treatment. Provides victim services. Assists Case Manager with supervising participants and conducting field visits. Provides annual trainings for those in the criminal justice/victim advocacy field on the topics of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Prosecutor: Samantha Klein

Reviews all Grand Jury Indictment reports for Family Violence cases. Screens each case for placement in the program. Makes initial contact with victims to discuss the offense, review or obtain statements, and discuss potential plea offers. Coordinates plea settings. Attends all staffing's and compliance review hearings, represents the State of Texas and advocates for public safety when making case recommendations.

Case Manager: Fatima Torres-Sammons

Provides individual and intensive supervision while holding participants accountable. Meets with participants for office visits and conducts field visits at their home or work. Completes additional risk assessments and a case plan for each participant to address specific needs. Monitors all progress/GPS reports to ensure compliance, and will closely interact with all service providers to ensure the participant is engaging and progressing in the treatment programs. Completes staffing sheets on each participant to provide updates to the team at each hearing. Attends all staffing and judicial compliance review hearings.

Defense Counsel: Michelle Stover

Acts as the "Attorney of the Day" at each compliance review hearing. Will participate fully as a unified team member, in a non-adversarial approach. Will encourage participants to comply with program requirements. The Defense Counsel will be knowledgeable of the dynamics of family violence. Ensure participants' legal rights are protected during court hearings.

Program Overview

The Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program is designed to provide participants with the tools needed to accept responsibility for their violent, abusive and/or controlling behaviors and replace them with pro-social behaviors. The intensive program is accountability based and requires a pattern of honesty and self-disclosure. Requirements include successfully completing a 52 week Batterer's Intervention and Prevention Program, psychological evaluation, chemical dependency evaluation, Polygraph and other cognitive/behavioral assessments/programs if ordered, GPS device if ordered, compliance with No Contact Orders if applicable, random and frequent drug and alcohol testing, and frequent reporting to both the Judge and their Case Manager. Participants are not permitted to possess a firearm as defined in Chapter 46 of The Texas Penal Code and they will allow Case Manager/Community supervision Officer to search their home and/or vehicle for a firearm. Possession of a weapon is immediate grounds for termination from the program.

The Domestic Violence Court Program is a minimum of 10 months but cannot exceed 18 months, unless approved by the Domestic Violence Court Team. The program is divided into four major phases. Advancement through the phases is based on progress, compliance, accomplishment of goals and requirements. A request must be submitted by the participant prior to being considered for advancement. All advancements must be reviewed by the Domestic Violence Court Team and approved by the Judge.

Eligibility Criteria

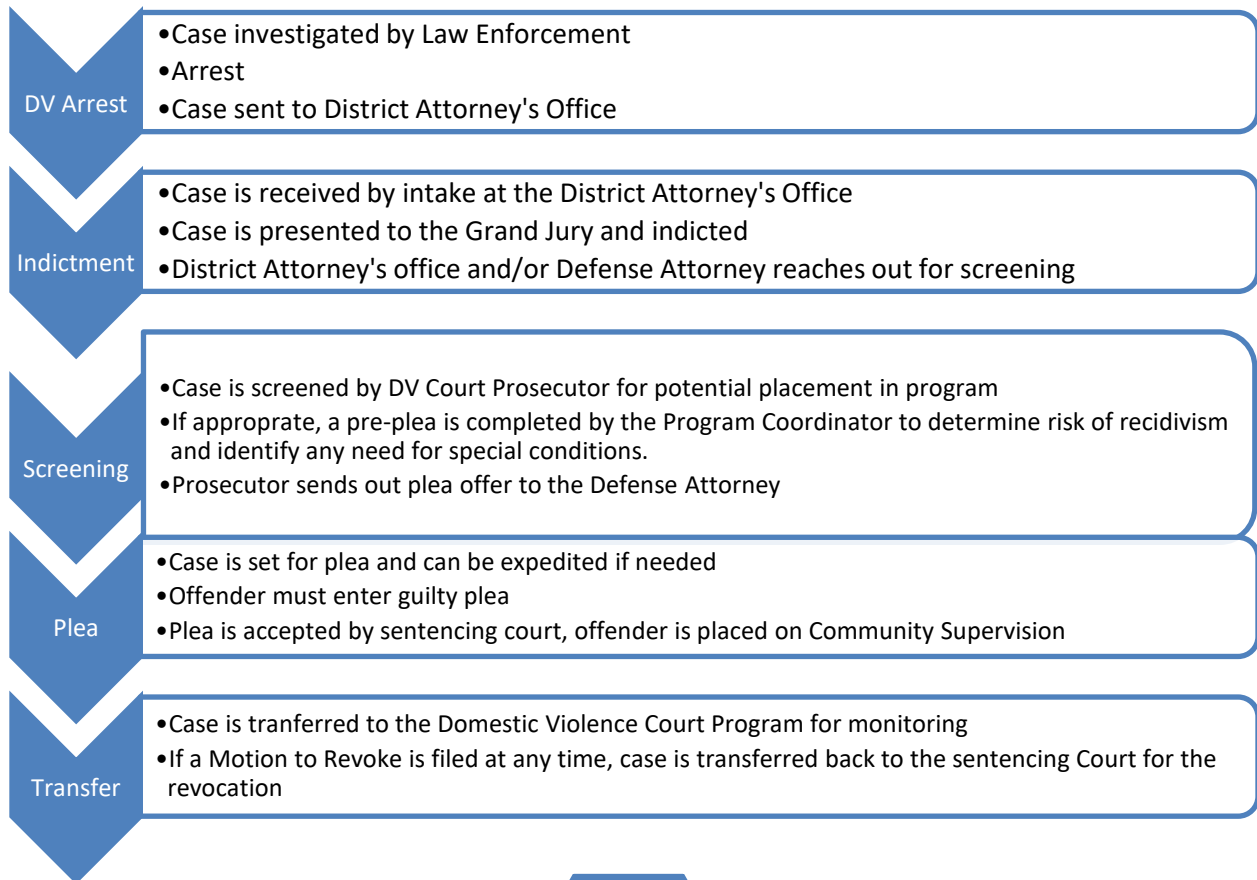
To qualify for the Domestic Violence Court Program an offender MUST:

- Be charged with a criminal offense in Brazoria County
- Have a history of abusive, controlling or violent behaviors towards an intimate partner
- Be willing to commit to honesty and self-disclosure
- Be a resident of Brazoria County or an adjacent County
- Submit to an assessment prior to entering the program

Disqualifying Criteria

- Cases with pending charges will not be accepted into the Program until the pending case is resolved.
- Each case will be subjected to individual review to determine if prior criminal history is a disqualifier.

Referral, Screening and Entry Process



Screening

The Domestic Violence Court Prosecutor will review all Grand Jury Indictment reports for cases involving Family Violence. The Prosecutor will review the offense report, the offender's prior history, statements made by the victim and/or other witnesses, and will speak with the victim about the possibility of their abuser being placed in the program. Once it is determined that an offender is appropriate for the program, the Program Coordinator will complete a pre-plea. This assessment can also assist with determining if any other special conditions should be added to the plea offer. The Prosecutor will then extend a plea offer. If the offender agrees to the offer, the case is set for a plea. The offender is required to enter a plea of "Guilty". Once the sentencing Judge accepts the plea, the offender is placed on Community Supervision and transferred to the Domestic Violence Court. All pending charges must be resolved prior to acceptance into the program. If the offender does not comply with the conditions of Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program, the Domestic Violence Court Judge will terminate the participant from the program, and the case will be transferred back to the sentencing Court.

Offenders who are already on Community Supervision, but not in the Domestic Violence Court Program, can be referred for review upon a Motion to revoke being submitted. Community Supervision Officers can send a referral to the Program Coordinator, who will review the case and forward the referral to the Prosecutor. If it is determined the offender will be accepted into the program, the Community Supervision Officer will recommend that the offender's supervision be amended to the Domestic Violence Court Program. A court date is set for the revocation, and the offender will sign the amendment at that time. The case will then be transferred to the Domestic Violence Court for continued supervision.

Case Management

Each participant is supervised by a Case Manager/Community Supervision Officer who is specifically assigned to the Domestic Violence Court. The case manager will conduct additional risk assessments and complete a case plan for each participant. The case manager assigned to the Domestic Violence Court will have a maximum of 50 cases. The case manager will closely interact with BIPP treatment providers and other service providers to ensure the participant is engaging in the treatment program(s). The case manager will be responsible for reviewing progress reports, GPS reports, journal entries, urinalysis results, and preparing staffing sheets for each DV Court compliance hearing. The participants will report to the case manager bi-weekly for office visits, with the exception of Phase 3, when participants are required to report once per month, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

The foundation of supervision is accountability, which means the requirements and guidelines of the program are clearly defined and shall be strictly monitored to ensure full compliance. The sanctions for non-compliance are established and will be enforced when/if violations occur. Each participant will have a clearly defined case plan along with conditions of community supervision that outline the requirements of the program. The case plan will be based on conditions of community supervision and the domestic violence risk assessment results.

The case manager will be required to specific training related to Domestic Violence. Training topics should include the dynamics and complexities of domestic violence, different cultural aspects of domestic violence, the effects of trauma on the victims, the common issues victims meet who try to leave their abusive partner, Batterer's Intervention and Prevention Program trainings, and the needs of children who have witnessed violence. Completing specific training will allow the case manager to make appropriate referrals for services and embody the necessary approach when supervising this population.

Phases

The Domestic Violence Court Program length for successful completion can range from 10 months to 18 months. The Domestic Violence Court has core and individual phase requirements to assist with successfully completing the program, which is separated into 4 phases.

- Core requirements for ALL phases:
 - **No abusive behaviors, threatening/harassing language, or incidents of violence**
 - **No new arrests or any illegal activity**
 - **Demonstrate a pattern of honesty and self-disclosure**
 - **Comply with all conditions of community supervision and Court directives**
 - **Openly engage in all treatment programs**
 - **Comply with random urinalysis and maintain sobriety**
 - **Comply with no contact order**
 - **Maintain stable housing and employment**
 - **Participate in BIPP Journaling**
 - **Submit current login information for any and all devices capable of transmitting electronic communication and social media account login information. You must present said devices to your Supervision Officer upon request for search.**

- Phase 1: Initial Engagement (30-60 days)
 - Attend Domestic Violence Court hearings (twice monthly) and report to Case Manager for office visits (twice monthly). You cannot report for office visits the same week as Court hearings.
 - Enroll in all court ordered treatment programs, classes and evaluations
 - Be current with fees, or at minimum make efforts towards paying your fees
 - Must maintain compliance and be sanction free for 10 days to be considered for advancement
 - Advancement to Phase 2 will occur when the participant submits a Phase up Application to the Domestic Violence Court Team.

- Phase 2: Basic Competency (3 to 6 months)
 - Report to Domestic Violence Court (twice monthly) and case manager (twice monthly). You cannot report for office visits the same week as Court hearings.
 - Attend and actively participate in all court ordered programs
 - Maintain stable housing and employment

- Engage in BIPP, show progress and accept responsibility for abusive behaviors, and complete journal entries/homework assignments required by BIPP providers. You must bring your BIPP journal to every Domestic Violence Court hearing and office visit for review
- Be current with fees, or at minimum make efforts towards paying your fees
- Must maintain compliance and be sanction free for 30 days to be considered for advancement
 - Advancement to Phase 3 will occur when the participant submits a Phase up Application to the Domestic Violence Court Team.
- **Phase 3: Advanced Competency (3 to 6 months)**
 - Report to court (once per month) and to case manager (twice per month), as long as participant maintains compliance. You cannot report for office visits the same week as Court hearings.
 - Continue to make significant progress in BIPP and complete journal entries and/or other homework assignments required by BIPP providers. You must bring your BIPP journal to every Domestic Violence Court hearing and office visit for review
 - Be current with fees. If delinquent with fees, payment plan must be agreed upon and participant must be actively paying per agreement
 - Must maintain compliance and be sanction free for 60 days to be considered for advancement
 - Advancement to Phase 4 will occur when the participant submits a Phase up Application to the Domestic Violence Court Team.
- **Phase 4: Final Completion Phase (3 months)**
 - Report to Domestic Violence Court (twice monthly), and case manager (twice monthly). You cannot report for office visits the same week as Court hearings.
 - Complete all remaining Domestic Violence Court requirements and treatment programs
 - Must accept full responsibility for abusive behaviors and the assaultive offense
 - Be current with fees or making payments per payment plan agreement
 - Complete Community Service hours and all other conditions of community supervision
 - Must maintain compliance and be sanction free for 90 days to be considered for successful completion
 - Complete the Domestic Violence Court Relapse Prevention Plan and present to Domestic Violence Court Team for review.
 - **If participant does not advance within the maximum time period, the team will review for a potential unsuccessful discharge from the program.**

Domestic Violence Court participants who have demonstrated progress, accepted responsibility for their abusive behaviors and the assaultive offense, and have successfully completed all phases of the program are eligible to be considered for graduation after completing a Relapse Prevention Plan in phase four.

Incentives and Sanctions

Incentives defined: A positive consequence that is the direct result of and a reward for the participant's positive behavior.

Sanctions defined: The imposition of a negative consequence in direct response to a participant's undesirable behavior which will be swift and certain

The sanctions and incentives will be applied as soon as possible after notice of the participant's behavior.

Sanctions may include:

- Verbal admonishment
- Letter of apology
- Essay assignments
- Daily activity log
- Increased supervision and/or reporting requirements
- GPS device
- Increased drug testing, SCRAM, and/or Drug Patch
- Educational program or extended treatment
- Inmate Community Service
- Jail Sanction
- Termination from Program

Incentives may include:

- Verbal praise from Judge
- Waiver of Community Service hours
- Early release from DV Court compliance hearing
- Reduced reporting requirements
- Travel Permits
- Advancement to next phase (participant must still apply for advancement)

Staffing and Court Hearings

The Domestic Violence Court Program staffing occurs bi-weekly prior to court. The disciplines represented at the staffing table include: Judge, Prosecutor, Program Coordinator, Case Manager, Defense Attorney, and treatment providers. The Case Manager will prepare a "staffing sheet", which will detail each participant's progress, compliance, violations, and any other details available. The team will recommend appropriate responses-sanctions, incentives, or other program related responsibilities to be imposed on the participant to the Judge, who will make the final determination.

Compliance review hearings will generally be held on the second and fourth Friday of each month. Members of the staffing team will be present during court. Each participant will have the opportunity to appear before the Judge to discuss any issues or concerns.

Treatment

To maintain participation in the Domestic Violence Court program, participants must be enrolled in a Batterer's Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP) for a minimum of 52 weeks; program length is determined by The Domestic Violence Court. Participants must actively participate in the program and complete assigned homework. The participants are required to follow all rules and regulations of BIPP.

All program participants are required to complete a chemical dependency evaluation which is to be administered by a Texas Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor and follow all recommendations of that evaluation. If the results indicate a need for substance abuse treatment, the team will follow that recommendation and the participant will be referred for the appropriate level of treatment.

Participants are required to cooperate with all court ordered evaluations, counseling and treatment to remain in the Domestic Violence Court Program. If a participant is unsuccessfully discharged from a court ordered program, they are subject to increased sanctions or termination from the program.

Each participant will have a case plan outlining the individual requirements of their supervision and will be required to follow that plan. The plan requirements will be based off of the risk assessment and other evaluations completed.

Court Rules

- 1. Obey court orders, community supervision officer orders and treatment provider orders.**
Failure to comply with any of the above could result in additional treatment requirements, and/or enhanced penalties which could include, but are not limited to: imposition of jail sanction, additional treatment, increased reporting, and/or community supervision revocation.
- 2. Attend all ordered treatment sessions.**
This includes individual and group counseling, educational sessions, and any other sessions or treatment as directed by orders of the Court. If you are unable to attend scheduled sessions, you must contact your treatment provider and your Case Manager **PRIOR TO** the scheduled appointment.
- 3. Be on time.**
You must be on time for court appearances, meetings with your Case Manager, and treatment sessions. If you are late to these appointments, you may not be allowed to participate and you may be considered non-compliant, which could result in sanctions. You must contact a Domestic Violence Court team member if you are going to be late for court. You must contact your case manager and your treatment providers if you are going to be late for an office visit or for treatment.
- 4. Do not engage in abusive or violent behaviors, make threats or use inappropriate language, or behave in a disruptive or aggressive manner in Court, during probation visits, or any court ordered treatment program.**

Violent, abusive, harassing or inappropriate language/behavior will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Court. This may result in sanctions being imposed from the Court, such as jail time, termination from Domestic Violence Court Program, and community supervision revocation.

5. Attend all Domestic Violence Court sessions.

You must attend all Domestic Violence Court sessions as scheduled by the Judge. As a participant, you will be expected to dress appropriately for Domestic Violence court and all Domestic Violence court activities.

6. Abstain from the use of alcohol and illicit drugs.

This condition is fundamental to successful completion of the program. If you consume alcohol, illicit drugs, or medications that are not prescribed to you, you could be required to complete additional treatment and/or be terminated from the Domestic Violence Court Program.

7. Maintain confidentiality of other Domestic Violence Court participants.

Treatment cannot succeed unless all participants maintain the confidentiality of other participants and of information disclosed in treatment or Court.

8. Focus on treatment program.

Participants will be required to complete all homework assignments as assigned by treatment providers and/or the Case Manager. You will be required to engage in the treatment process and accept responsibility for your actions. Domestic Violence Court participants are not allowed to live together, work for each other, provide transportation for each other, associate socially, or become intimately involved with each other.

Dress Code

Dress Code for all Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Participants while at the Brazoria County Community Supervision and Corrections Department or at the Courthouse when making appearances in front of the Domestic Violence Court Judge.

1. Absolutely no article of clothing will be allowed bearing any alcohol or drug advertisement or message.
2. No sexually explicit clothing is allowed.
3. Shirts must be worn at all times.
4. Shoes must be worn at all times.
5. No backless shirts, tank tops or spaghetti strap shirts will be allowed.
6. All shirts must be tucked inside of your pants.
7. Pants must fit properly.
8. Top of pants must meet the bottom of shirts (no bare skin).
9. Skirts must be the length that they would reach the tips of your fingers while your hands are straight down at your side.
10. No shorts are allowed to be worn in court.

When you appear in court, you should be dressed in respectful attire. If you are coming to court directly from work and you are wearing old or battered clothing, you should bring a change of clothes with you and change in the courthouse restroom. Jeans that have holes in them, cutoff jeans, shorts, or tank tops will not be allowed in court. Hats or sunglasses are not appropriate in the

court and will not be allowed. If you are dressed inappropriately, you may be asked to leave and your absence will be counted as unexcused. Cell phones should be silenced. You must not fall asleep during court hearings.

Sanctions and Incentives

Sanctions may include:

- Verbal admonishment
- Letter of apology
- Essay assignments
- Daily activity log
- Increased supervision and/or reporting requirements
- GPS device
- Increased drug testing, SCRAM, and/or Drug Patch
- Educational program or extended treatment
- Inmate Community Service
- Jail Sanction
- Termination from Program

Incentives may include:

- Verbal praise from Judge
- Waiver of Community Service hours
- Early release from DV Court compliance hearing
- Reduced reporting requirements
- Travel Permits
- Advancement to next phase (participant must still apply for advancement)

RANDOM UA POLICY

- 1. ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO CALL THE DRUG TESTING MESSAGE LINE AT 979-459-7257 OR LOGIN TO MY.AVERHEALTH.COM. YOU MUST CALL THIS MESSAGE LINE OR LOGIN EVERY DAY, 365 DAYS PER YEAR AND ENTER YOUR PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER. YOU MUST LISTEN TO THE ENTIRE MESSAGE UNTIL YOU HEAR A CONFIRMATION NUMBER. IF YOU HANG UP BEFORE THE COMPLETE MESSAGE PLAYS, YOUR CALL MAY NOT BE REGISTERED AND MAY BE REPORTED AS A "MISSED CALL."**
- 2. IF YOU ARE SELECTED FOR A DRUG TEST ON ANY GIVEN DATE, YOU MUST REPORT DURING DESIGNATED HOURS TO SUBMIT TO THE TEST.**
- 3. FAILURE TO REPORT FOR A DRUG TEST WHEN SELECTED WILL RESULT IN SANCTIONS. IF YOU MISS A DRUG TEST, YOU ARE TO CONTACT YOUR CASE MANAGER IMMEDIATELY AND REPORT FOR A DRUG TEST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**
- 4. IF YOU MISS A CALL IN, YOU ARE TO REPORT THE SAME DAY, BUT NO LATER THAN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS DAY AT 8:00 A.M., FOR DRUG TEST. IF YOU FAIL TO SUBMIT BY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS DAY, YOU WILL BE SANCTIONED.**
- 5. DRUG TEST RESULTS WHICH INDICATE THAT A SAMPLE WAS DILUTED WILL BE TREATED AS FOLLOWS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS)**
 - **1ST DILUTE – VERBAL REPRIMAND**
 - **2ND DILUTE – REPORT TO PROBATION OFFICE EVERY MONDAY AT 8:00 A.M. FOR 30 DAYS TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS**
 - **3RD DILUTE – DRUG PATCH AND/OR SCRAM**
- 6. MEDICATIONS WITHOUT VALID MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS AND A VERIFIABLE PRESCRIPTION MAY NOT BE USED WHILE IN THE PROGRAM**
 - **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS THAT MIGHT ALTER TEST RESULTS DUE TO INGREDIENTS. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR READING ALL LABELS OR CONSULTING WITH YOUR PHARMACIST OR DOCTOR BEFORE TAKING ANY MEDICATIONS.**
 - **YOU WILL SIGN A RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIALITY ALLOWING YOUR SUPERVISION OFFICER TO DISCUSS MEDICATIONS AND TREATMENT WITH YOUR PRESCRIBING/TREATING DOCTOR AND DISPENSING PHARMACY.**

Participant Agreement

Domestic Violence is a pattern of behaviors in which one partner attempts to establish or maintain power and control over the other party through intimidation, physical abuse, sexual abuse, financial abuse, or psychological abuse.

As a result of your actions you are under the supervision of the Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program. The purpose of this program is to: 1) enhance the safety of your victim and the community; (2) assist you in accepting responsibility and accountability for your violent behavior; and 3) assist you in ending your violent behavior.

Because domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that you have learned and chosen to engage in, any present or future intimate partners are considered at risk of becoming a victim of your violence. In the interest of enhancing the safety of potential victims within the community, the Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program requires that you:

1. Provide your case manager/community supervision officer with the full name, telephone number, and address of any individual you are romantically involved with (dating, girlfriend, boyfriend, wife, or other sexual/romantic relationships)
2. Disclose the extent and nature of your domestic violence to your current intimate partner. Because your intimate partner may be at risk of violence, she/he has the right to make a decision about his/her own safety based on all public information relating to your domestic violence history. The public information may include arrests, protective orders/violations, no contact orders/violations, and convictions. You are also encouraged to share with your partner your history of domestic violence that did not come to the attention of the criminal justice system.
3. Refrain from all usage of violence, control, and intimidation with your intimate partner or any person.

Probationer

Date

Community Supervision Officer

Date

Treatment Providers:

The Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court uses a variety of treatment programs to ensure the needs of the participants are met. Treatment providers must be licensed by the State of Texas. The treatment providers are required to follow local, state, and federal confidentiality laws.

The treatment providers are required to provide regular progress reports to the Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program that outline individual treatment progress of participants. The treatment provider shall provide their proof of accreditation through the State of Texas/CJAD, program policies and procedures, proof of liability insurance, and treatment curriculums. Providers must agree to the following standards to provide services to participants in the Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court:

1. Submit progress reports weekly to the Domestic Violence Court Case Manager and/or Program Coordinator
2. Notify the Case Manager and/or Program Coordinator within 24 hours of an absence from BIPP.
3. Submit treatment curriculums for review.
4. Allow a representative from the Domestic Violence Court to evaluate the program as needed.
5. Provide policies on attendance, participation, behavior, and distraction to the Domestic Violence Program Manager for review.

Treatment Provider Checklist

Brazoria County Domestic Violence Court Program



Treatment Provider: _____

Treatment Provider Address: _____

Service(s) Offered: _____

Please answer the following questions about your program and submit required supporting documentation:

1. What curriculum is utilized for your program? Please summarize curriculum or attach sample curriculum.
2. What are the policies on attendance, participation, behavior, distraction, dress code, etc.?
 - a. Please attach policy regarding attendance in program.
3. Will you be able to submit progress reports weekly? Yes or No
 - a. Please attach a sample cumulative progress report- single attendance progress reports will not be accepted.
4. What method will be utilized to submit reports?
5. What day of the week and time is the program offered? How long is each session?
6. Do you agree to tailor the progress notes to the individual obtaining treatment? Yes or No
7. Can you tailor the program (BIPP) to offer a 36 to 52 week program?
8. Can you notify the Domestic Violence Court Program Coordinator or case manager within 24 hours if a participant fails to attend class? Yes or No
9. Will you be able to attend court staffing when needed to address participant progress or concerns with the court? (2nd and 4th Friday of each month)?

10. Is the program interactive? Please provide details.

11. How do you hold participants accountable?
 - a. Are participants required to check in?
 - b. Are participants confronted about minimizing, blaming or abusive behaviors?

12. Under what circumstances are participants allowed to complete individual sessions?

13. Are participants required to complete homework assignments or a journal?

14. Does your BIPP program develop and maintain a centralized case record management system on offenders receiving BIPP services? Does the case records management system meet CJAD standards?
 1. Assessments
 2. Written agreements
 3. Confidentiality and limits of confidentiality
 4. Group rules
 5. Progress/attendance reports to referring agencies
 6. Services rendered
 7. Name, address, and phone number of victim/partner, if provided by the batterer
 8. Attendance records
 9. Referrals to other services and agencies

14. Does your program offer free victim counseling?