Committee on Systems Improvement Meeting, June 18, 2019

The committee determined that there is a need for monthly CSI meetings at the present time. CSI is designed to accommodate drop-in attendees as our mission includes discussion of emerging issues and problem-solving around those emerging issues. New attendees from all parts of the county are always welcome so that we can compare the local practices to see which issues may be systemic and which may be local in nature. All emerging issues can be addressed at CSI but the response may depend on how pervasive or widespread the problem may be.

In July we will begin to draft our goals for 2019-2020. Goals we will be working on are: (1) Invite the Sheriffs to attend a meeting. We wish to discuss with them (a) ongoing issues related to service of process for TROs (Minty) and (b) a need for consistent protocol throughout the county to ensure that Bailiffs to hold back the abuser after hearings so that the survivor can leave safely (Krista and Diane have troubling examples). (2) Invite the new DV Liaison for LAPD Marie Sadanaga to our committee meeting to begin discussions on an Officer's Guide to EPOs pamphlet similar to the pamphlet that the Sheriffs created. (3) Work with Eve, Judge Trent-Lewis and the Board of Supervisors to try to get the DV Planning Group and Pro Per Provider Group meeting quarterly again. (4) Work with FVAP, LACLI and other agencies doing appellate work to support DV survivors to create lists similar to FVAP's online list of DV cases http://fvaplaw.org/cases-you-can-use-all/. Advocates need more convenient ways to locate relevant cases and get tips on how to use those cases to educate the bench. (5) Identify rebuttal arguments to Gatekeeping / Parental Alienation for survivors to use in court and create a guide that can be distributed to the DV Council. (6) Irrespective of CA local rules to the contrary (and others), perpetrators convicted of domestic violence continue to possess firearms. We will consider ways in which these laws are being enforced in other jurisdictions and evaluate ways to give teeth to these laws, if any, to ensure that perpetrators do not have access to weapons. (7) Pervasive problem throughout LA County District Courts - victims are being required to provide their confidential addresses in order to file a request for a DVRO, (8) Laws like Fam. Code 3044 do not apply in Dependency Context. Work with the leg issues committee (add current name of the committee) to discuss need for expansion of laws that support survivors of domestic violence to the dependency and juvenile contexts. Work with those drafting legislation to ensure that laws going forward don't just apply in family court, but also in dependency and juvenile courts. (9) Get training on how to call an emergency meeting under the Brown Act because many of the issues that are brought to CSI are time sensitive. If an appeal is needed, it may be too late by the time the issue can be brought to a regularly scheduled CSI meeting.