

## *Domestic Violence Monthly Training Review*

*August 2019*



## *LAP Process*

### **New Graph by Department & Agency**

You now have access to graphs that span several years of your program or department LAP data. This tool produces an easy to read and understand chart that allows you to identify trends with your system.



Watch the short video to see how to run your own department or program report.

## *Investigative Support*



# Police Notification Family Violence Defendant Failure to Appear

On August 1, 2019 Family Services in criminal court will be sending the attached FTA notification if a family violence defendant failed to appear in court.

For most family violence arrests, non-financial conditions of release are put in place by the arresting police department.

Those conditions of release are meant to protect the victim until the offender is arraigned in court and a protective order can be put in place. By law, conditions of release remain in effect until an arrested person is presented for arraignment.

Current practice entails law enforcement entering conditions of release (known as a File 20) into COLLECT. The File 20 in COLLECT is visible to all police departments and law enforcement officials, as well as certain Judicial Branch staff. When entering conditions of release into COLLECT, the system requires an expiration date. Because all family violence offenders are arraigned the next business day, that date is used as the automatic expiration date for the conditions of release. Therefore, when an offender fails to appear for their arraignment, the File 20 automatically purges from COLLECT at midnight once a week and is no longer visible to law enforcement. However, by law the conditions of release remain in effect, but since they are no longer visible to law enforcement, the victim and law enforcement experiences a gap in safety because law enforcement won't know to make an arrest if the conditions of release are violated.

POLICE NOTIFICATION -  
FAMILY VIOLENCE DEFENDANT FAILURE  
TO APPEAR AT INITIAL HEARING DATE  
JUNE 27, 2019  
C.S. § 54-2a

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH  
COURT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION  
FAMILY SERVICES

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
L: \_\_\_\_\_

Police Case Number \_\_\_\_\_ District Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Defendant \_\_\_\_\_ Date of non-appearance \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-appearance at initial hearing date of certain family violence cases**

The defendant named above failed to appear at the initial hearing date for this arrest. The non-financial conditions of release that your agency imposed on the Conditions of Release - Family Violence (Form JD-CR-145) remain in effect until the defendant appears in court for this arrest. When initially imposing these conditions, your agency most likely also entered a corresponding Order of Protection - FL20 within COLLECT/INCLC, which was set to expire on the initial hearing date. Because the defendant did not appear at the initial hearing date, and the conditions of release remain in effect until the defendant does appear, your agency should consider modifying the expiration date on any corresponding FL20 until the defendant appears in court.

Please note that, on this non-appearance date, the defendant may also have been issued a:

- 1) Failure to Appear (FTA) re-arrest warrant. Your agency may obtain information on any FTA re-arrest warrant on the Judicial Branch website through the Criminal Case Look-up: <https://www.jud.ct.gov/crim.htm>. Information on any FTA re-arrest warrant is also accessible through PRAWN, and your agency may track FTA re-arrest warrants served by other agencies through the Monitor section within PRAWN. There are two re-arrest reports: Warrants Served and Warrants Vacated. For additional questions on PRAWN, contact [justice.support@jud.ct.gov](mailto:justice.support@jud.ct.gov).
- 2) Bail Commissioner's Letter (BCL) ordering the defendant to appear in court on a different date. Information on BCLs is also available through the Criminal Case Look-up: <https://www.jud.ct.gov/crim.htm>. Cases with a BCL will show a future appearance date, but the BCL indicates that the defendant did not appear for the initial hearing date. Future appearance date \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions or would like further information on this case, please contact the local Clerk's Office.

*Supervisor's  
Corner*



## **A Blue Crisis**

According to Blue H.E.L.P., an advocacy group seeking to remove mental health stigmas and prevent suicides among law enforcement, 167 cops killed themselves in 2018, which surpassed the 153 killed in the line of duty. The group has also verified 106 law enforcement suicides in 2019 as of mid-July. The Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance has confirmed nearly 50 suicides by fire and emergency medical services professionals.

Below is a list of resources to assist individuals struggling with traumatic stress and the mental health issues that develop from responding to violent and heart-wrenching situations.

***American Police Beat Suicide Prevention Resources for First Responders***