# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protections Orders Program

This Memorandum of Understanding formally establishes collaboration between Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordination Office (DVCO), the Portland Police Bureau (PPB), the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), the District Attorney (DA), Department of Community Justice (DCJ), and the nonprofit, non-governmental victim services programs of Volunteers of America, Oregon Home Free (VOA) and Catholic Charities' El Programa Hispano for the purposes of the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program in order to continue operation of the Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT).

#### **Goals and Objectives of DVERT:**

The goals of DVERT are to identify and effectively respond to high-risk offenders and to increase the safety and well-being of victims. Objectives include the following:

- Assure sanctions for high-risk domestic violence offenders, through the provision of a centralized, intensive, coordinated law enforcement / criminal justice response.
- 2. Increase victims' safety in high-risk domestic violence cases by providing victim advocacy including risk assessment, safety planning to address the specific risks identified, assistance in obtaining needed services and restraining / stalking protective orders, and most effectively utilizing the services of the civil and criminal justice systems. These services will be provided to both those victims who wish to participate in



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a coordinated law enforcement / criminal justice response and those who choose not to participate in the DVERT centralized criminal justice response.

3. Increase capacity of professionals working in the fields of criminal justice, victim services, mental health, health care and other social services to more effectively respond to high-risk cases through: consistent recognition of and appropriate response to high-risk offenders; routine and thorough assessment of the level of danger faced by victims of domestic violence, strangulation and stalking; and system-wide participation in quality improvement efforts that increase the effectiveness of responses.

#### **Collaborative Relationships:**

The partners named above have a long history of collaboration and coordination. All of the partners are long-standing members of the Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council, with memberships going back to the early 1990s. Representatives from each of these agencies actively participate in many of the Council's activities and subcommittees, including the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee, the Civil Court Committee, the Training Committee, and the Executive Committee.

In 1999, the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) received its first Department Of Justice STOP Violence Against Women Act grant and began a close working relationship with the communitybased victim services programs of VOA Home Free (VOA) and Catholic Charities El Programa Hispano (CC). During the two years of that grant, police/advocate teams followed up on PPB reports of "low-level" domestic violence cases to prevent future crimes, and together significantly improved the likelihood of prosecution of offenders involved in domestic violence

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crimes. In 2003, another 2 year grant was awarded through a Department of Justice Project Safe Neighborhood grant, which supported again PPB working to work with VOA and CC to form officer/advocate teams that focused on offenders who used firearms in domestic violence crimes.

In 2004, through a local United Way grant, the grant partners came together to develop and implement DVERT in Multnomah County. In July 2006, with Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, Grants to Encourage Arrests Program funding DVERT expanded to its current model. The current model includes three officer/advocate teams that focus on domestic violence crimes committed by individuals who have been identified as high-risk for committing further violence and/or high levels of violence. All of the listed MOU partner agencies currently actively participate in DVERT. In addition, managers from each of the partner agencies are active members of the DVERT Steering Committee.

#### **Participation in Developing the Application:**

Since the inception of DVERT, each of the partner agencies has been actively involved in developing the underlying model of response. DVERT line staff meet bi-weekly, and managers and supervisors from the participating agencies meet at least quarterly as a Steering Committee to discuss the functioning of DVERT. In the Steering Committee meetings the DVERT partner agencies collaboratively discuss changes to procedures, areas of project success and review what system changes could be made to more effectively respond to both high-risk cases and lower risk cases. Specifically for this grant proposal, DVCO held one meeting with the partner agencies and met with partners individually as needed to review the status of the project, and come to an agreement regarding changes proposed or instituted since the inception of DVERT, the content

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of this MOU and the proposed proposal narrative and budget. The partners were also given an opportunity to review and comment on a draft of this application, including the proposed budget.

Organization	Representatives in Planning and Development	Implementation Role
Multnomah County	Annie Neal, Director, and (Vacant), Program Supervisor, Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordination Office	Hire and supervise the DVERT Coordinator, participate in Steering Committee and regular meetings on grant project; assure that all grant requirements are met.
	Becky Bangs, DVERT Coordinator	Lead staff on implementation of this project; see specific roles described in the section below.
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)	Lt. Ned Walls, Law Enforcement Division	Enforcement Chief Deputy or Designee will hire/appoint and supervise the Deputy/Detective assigned to DVERT, provide consultation on implementation of project, and participate in the DVERT Steering Committee meetings.
	Detective Kate Lazzini	MCSO Deputy/Detective will provide law enforcement intervention in DVERT cases, in particular in those cases which are committed in the smaller cities and towns of Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, Corbett and the non- incorporated areas of Multnomah County. The Deputy will attend bi-weekly DVERT meetings, follow the procedures established by DVERT, assist in training, provide a linkage to other MCSO functions (jail, restraining and stalking order service), and provide consultation to DVERT on specific cases.
Portland Police Bureau (PPB)	Cpt. Derek Rodrigues and Lt. Wendi Steinbronn, Family Services	The Captain and/or Lieutenant will supervise the dedicated PPB Sergeant, manage the necessary administrative functions, provide consultation on the implementation of project,

# **Representatives Responsible for Developing and Implementing Project Activities:**

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	Division	participate in the Steering Committee meetings and act as a liaison to other Police Departments and Bureaus within PPB, including to the Chief of Police.
	Sgt. Ron Mason, Domestic Violence Reduction Unit Supervisor	The Sergeant will supervise the two PPB dedicated officers, provide consultation on specific cases and coordination with other DV Unit officers and with other jurisdictions, assist in trainings, participate in DVERT Steering Committee meetings and all bi- weekly DVERT meetings. See specific roles described in the section below.
Volunteers of America, Oregon Home Free (VOA)	Kris Billhardt, Director of VOA Home Free and Rachel Payton, Assistant Director of VOA Home Free	Hire and supervise advocates dedicated to DVERT cases; participate in Steering Committee and quarterly DVERT supervisor meetings.
	Shannon Reskin- Barkley and (vacant), DVERT Advocates	DVERT Advocates will provide follow-up support services to victims (see specific roles described in the section below), participate in bi-weekly DVERT case meetings and monthly DVERT case reviews with partners, assist in trainings, track statistical information and provide consultation to the officers and DVERT Coordinator on specific cases.
Catholic Charities, El Programa Hispano (CC)	Kat Kelley, Emergency Services Program Manager	Hire and supervise advocates dedicated to DVERT cases; participate in Steering Committee and quarterly DVERT supervisor meetings.
	Emi Martinez Bell, DVERT Advocate	DVERT Advocates will provide follow-up support services to victims (see specific roles described in the section below), participate in bi-weekly DVERT case meetings and monthly DVERT case reviews with partners, assist in trainings, track statistical information and provide consultation to the officers and DVERT Coordinator on specific cases.
Multnomah County District Attorney (DA)	Char Woods, Chief Deputy DA and Traci Anderson, Senior Deputy DA	Participate in the centralized, intensive law enforcement / criminal justice response through prosecution of DVERT offenders, in trainings and in case consultations, and participate in DVERT Steering Committee

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		meetings.	
Multnomah County	Andrew Altman &	Assign staff to participate in the centralized,	
Department of	Sandi Rorick,	intensive law enforcement / criminal justice	
Community Justice	Community Justice	response through supervision of DVERT	
(DCJ)	Co-Managers,	offenders, in trainings, in case consultations	
17 18 N	Domestic Violence	and in quality improvement efforts, and	
	Unit	participate in DVERT Steering Committee	
		meetings.	

# Roles, Responsibilities and Resources Demonstrating Commitment to Work Together to Achieve Stated Project Goals:

# Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordination Office (DVCO):

DVCO will supervise the DVERT Coordinator and ensure that the Department of Justice grant requirements are met. The DVERT Coordinator will be responsible for the following: staffing all meetings (bi-weekly case selection / tracking, monthly case review meetings, and the steering committee); amending protocols / procedures with input from Steering Committee; engaging new partners; coordinating trainings; scheduling and on-site coordination / oversight of community-based advocates; tracking the activity of all partners on DVERT cases; providing case consultation, soliciting from partners and community organizations high-risk / high lethality cases; reviewing all referrals; confirming all data entry is completed; running data reports; coordinating follow-up client satisfaction calls / surveys; managing contracts with and ensuring payments to partner agencies; working with Portland State University consultant for data collection and analysis; completing reports to DOJ; and fulfilling other grant requirements. In addition, the DVERT Coordinator will provide professional level staff support to the Family Violence Coordinating Council and subcommittees as needed, including the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team in order to make recommendations to provide more effective intervention by law enforcement, District Attorney, and the Court. With the PPB Sergeant, the DVERT

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Coordinator will assign DVERT cases at DVERT meetings and track cases and assigned activity on those cases.

**Resources Contributed:** Funding for 1 FTE DVERT Coordinator, 1 FTE DVERT Advocate (contracted through the nonprofit victim services agency VOA Home Free) and 2 FTE Domestic Violence Response Advocates (contracted through the nonprofit victim services agency VOA Home Free) who are part of a no-longer-grant-funded DVERT expansion that provides domestic violence advocates to respond on-scene with law enforcement to incidents of domestic violence from 2 PM to Midnight, 7 days a week. Resources contributed are contingent with grant renewal and budget approval by the Board of the County Commissioners in their annual budget process. Contribution of Annie Neal's and the DVCO supervisor's time for supervision of the DVERT Coordinator, participation in Steering Committee and regular partner meetings, and consultation and technical assistance.

#### Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO):

MCSO will hire and assign a full-time Deputy who will focus on DVERT cases from areas outside the City of Portland. The Deputy will screen police reports to identify high-risk domestic violence cases, follow-up on potential DVERT cases, refer cases to DVERT, participate in discussion regarding the cases at DVERT meetings and will provide additional investigation and law enforcement response on cases assigned. The Deputy will act as a liaison to MCSO, Gresham, Troutdale and Fairview law enforcement, assist in training DVERT partners and will provide data required by DVERT and for reporting to DOJ.

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**Resources Contributed:** Contribution of Enforcement Chief Deputy's (or designee) and Enforcement Sergeant's time for supervision of the MCSO Deputy, participation in Steering Committee and consultation and technical assistance, and of one car and cell phone for use by the Deputy dedicated to DVERT. Contribution of at least .75 FTE of the MCSO Deputy's time to work on DVERT.

#### Portland Police Bureau (PPB):

PPB will participate in the DVERT process and meetings with DVERT Team members through its Family Services Division. The DVERT Sergeant will supervise the two PPB officers assigned to DVERT and the MCSO Deputy funded through this grant. The Sergeant will act as a liaison to other PPB units, including patrol and detectives, and with other law enforcement agencies as needed. The Sergeant will assure that all partners on this grant have phones (desk and cell), computers, access to databases, cars and space at the site, and, with the assistance of the DVERT Coordinator, will assign and track police activity on DVERT cases. PPB will provide supervision and training for the Sergeant and assigned officers and will provide data required by DVERT and for reporting to DOJ. The Sergeant will attend most DVERT Steering Committee meetings. PPB Sergeant and assigned officers will screen police reports to identify high-risk cases, follow-up on potential DVERT cases, refer cases to DVERT, participate in discussion regarding the cases at DVERT meetings and will provide additional investigation and law enforcement response on assigned cases. The Sergeant and Officers will provide training, as appropriate.

**Resources Contributed:** Contribution of Captain Rodrigues's and Lt. Steinbronn's time for participation in DVERT, including supervision of the DVERT Sergeant, attendance at Steering

Committee and consultation and technical assistance. Contribution of at least .75 FTE of the DVERT Sergeant's time and two full-time dedicated police officers, and for office space, phones (desk and cell), computers, and other equipment for co-located partners, and city vehicles to be shared by the advocates. Additionally, PPB contributes funding for 2 FTE Domestic Violence Response Advocates (contracted through the nonprofit victim services agency VOA Home Free) who are part of the non-grant-funded DVERT expansion that provides domestic violence advocates to respond on-scene with law enforcement to incidents of domestic violence from 2 PM to Midnight, 7 days a week.

#### Volunteers of America, Oregon Home Free (VOA):

VOA will hire and supervise two (1 FTE grant-funded and 1 FTE County-funded) DVERT Advocates stationed at the Family Services Division. The DVERT advocates will attend DVERT meetings, assist in screening police reports based on DVERT criteria, provide supportive services or follow-up on assigned cases, and assist in training DVERT partners (help develop the curriculum and provide the training). The advocates will provide data required by DVERT and for reporting to DOJ. The advocates will provide outreach, safety planning, accompaniment to court hearings, other advocacy and referrals for victims in DVERT cases; information about domestic violence; information about criminal justice system response; information about restraining orders; individualized safety planning; and information / referrals / advocacy for community services.

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**Resources Contributed:** Contribution of Kris Billhardt's and Rachel Payton's time for supervision of the DVERT advocates, participation in Steering Committee and quarterly DVERT supervisor meetings, and consultation and technical assistance.

#### Catholic Charities, El Programa Hispano (CC):

CC will hire and supervise one (1 FTE grant-funded) bilingual (English / Spanish) DVERT advocate stationed at the Family Services Division. The advocate will attend DVERT meetings, assist in screening police reports based on DVERT criteria, provide supportive services or follow-up on assigned cases, and assist in training DVERT partners (help develop the curriculum and provide the training). The advocate will provide data required by DVERT and for reporting to DOJ. Advocates will provide outreach, safety planning, accompaniment to court hearings, other advocacy and referrals for victims in DVERT cases; information about domestic violence; information about criminal justice system response; information about restraining orders;

**Resources Contributed:** Contribution of Kat Kelley's time for supervision of the DVERT advocate, participation in Steering Committee and quarterly DVERT supervisor meetings, and consultation and technical assistance.

# Multnomah County District Attorney (DA)

The DA staff will participate in the centralized, intensive law enforcement / criminal justice response through prosecution of DVERT offenders, in trainings and in case consultations, and participate in the monthly Steering Committee and monthly Case Review meetings. They will

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provide consultation to DVERT partners by the Deputy District Attorney (DDA) assigned to DVERT and will provide victim assistance / advocacy for victims participating in prosecution of DVERT offenders.

**Resources Contributed:** Contribution of Chief Family Law Deputy Char Woods's and Domestic Violence Unit Senior Deputy Traci Anderson's staff time and the staff time of a Deputy District Attorney and victim advocate assigned to participate in meetings and to prosecute DVERT cases.

### Multnomah County Department of Community Justice (DCJ)

DCJ will assign probation officers to participate in the centralized, intensive law enforcement / criminal justice response through supervision of DVERT offenders, in trainings, in case consultations and in quality improvement efforts and participate in the monthly Steering Committee and monthly Case Review meetings.

**Resources Contributed:** Contribution of DCJ DV Unit Co-Managers Andrew Altman's and Sandi Rorick's staff time and the staff time of a probation officer assigned to participate in meetings and in supervision of DVERT offenders.

Roles and responsibilities each organization will assume in meeting grant report requirements:

Community partners provide needed data to the DVERT coordinator in the following ways:

- Daily: partners provide demographic information, danger assessment, recidivism risk, and updates about cases including but not limited to arrest, prosecution, victim safety, actions taken in specific cases and program updates.
- 2. Semi-annually: partners provide specific data related to arrests, issuance of restraining orders, prosecution, probation supervision and sanctions, and services provided.
- Annually: partners complete a key informant survey and provide feedback about how DVERT is doing with regard to achieving its goals.

# No Third Party Rights.

This Memorandum of Agreement establishes a set of aspirations and goals among the partners. It is not legally enforceable and shall not be construed to create any legal obligation on the part of any party. It shall not be construed to create a private right, benefit, or cause of action for or by any person enforceable at law or equity against any partner, their officers, employees, or any other person.

#### Signatures

We, the undersigned, as authorized representatives of the agencies listed above, have read and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of this document and the grant application submitted by Multnomah County, including the budget. Our signatures below indicate our commitment on the part of our agency to work together to achieve stated project goals;

Title/Organization	Partner Signature and Date	Printed Name
Multnomah County Department of County	Juniet	Susan Myers, Director
Human Services		
Portland Police Bureau	See statement below.	Chief Mike Reese
Volunteers of America,	KALOCI	Kay Toran,
Oregon Home Free	V. Down . And	President/CEO
Catholic Charities	(1 MATING	Doug Alles,
	LANGULLI	Executive Director
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office	Daniel Stato	Sheriff Dan Staton
Multnomah County District	D GI ND	Rod Underhill,
Attorney	Kostmalerku	District Attorney
Multnomah County		Truls Neal, Division
Department of Community	1 Marson V	Director
Justice	1 min	

The City of Portland requires that an ordinance be passed agreeing to the terms of this Memorandum of Agreement, with the following addition:

The Portland Police Bureau retains the right to add or reduce officer staffing at Family Services Division and DVRU, dependent upon organizational demands and priorities and funding, as listed on pages 4, 5, 8 and 9, which details the number of officers participating in DVERT (two officers and one sergeant).

By signing this document, the Chief of Police Mike Reese agrees to abide by the terms of this agreement, as amended, if and when such an ordinance is passed.

STAT NEXT PAGE FOR SIGNATIONE

Chief Mike Reese Portland Police Bureau Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM CITY ATTORNEY 10/16/15

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#### Signatures

We, the undersigned, as authorized representatives of the agencies listed above, have read and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of this document and the grant application submitted by Multnomah County, including the budget. Our signatures below indicate our commitment on the part of our agency to work together to achieve stated project goals;

Title/Organization	Partner Signature and Date	Printed Name
Multnomah County		Susan Myers, Director
Department of County		
Human Services		
Portland Police Bureau	See statement below.	Chief Mike Reese
Volunteers of America,		Kay Toran,
Oregon Home Free		President/CEO
Catholic Charities		Doug Alles,
		Executive Director
Multnomah County		Sheriff Dan Staton
Sheriff's Office	$\square$	
Multnomah County District	$D \cap D$	Rod Underhill,
Attorney	Kot Underku	District Attorney
Multnomah County		Truls Neal, Division
Department of Community		Director
Justice		

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By signing this document, the Chief of Police Mike Reese agrees to abide by the terms of this agreement, as amended, if and when such an ordinance is passed.

A-ICHIEF

Chief Mike Reese A Portland Police Bureau

2/6/14 Date

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CITY OF PORTLAND: