



Legal Assistance Study
Professional Staff Survey
July 30, 2008

Section A: Demographics

- Position/Title: [] Judge [] Attorney
[] Parenting Mediator [] Best Interest Attorney
[] Parenting Coordinator [] Judicial Assistant
[] Private Custody Evaluator [] Court Advocate
[] Conciliation Service [] Paralegal
[] Clerk [] Other

Name (optional):

Agency:/Court (optional):

Jurisdiction (optional):

Mailing Address (optional):

Email Address (optional):

Phone (optional):

Section B: Identification of Domestic Violence Cases

1. How does your agency identify cases involving domestic violence? (Please check all that apply.)

- [] Allegations/Disclosure [] Previous criminal conviction [] Police records
[] Contested hearings [] Orders of Protection
[] Other

2. In your best estimate, what percent of cases that you handle involve allegations of domestic violence? (Please fill in the estimated percentage.)

%

Section C: Legal Representation

For the purposes of this survey, legal representation is defined as having a lawyer present domestic violence survivors' cases in court.

3. In your best estimate, of those cases you handle, what percent of cases involving allegations of domestic violence are represented by an attorney? (Please fill in the estimated percentage.)

Survivors % Defendants %

4. In your best estimate, of those cases you handle, what percent of alleged domestic violence survivors would benefit from legal representation? *(Please fill in the estimated percentage.)*

_____ %

5. In your best estimate, of those cases you handle, what percent of alleged domestic violence survivors repeatedly represent themselves? *(Please fill in the estimated percentage.)*

_____ %

6. In your best estimate, of those cases you handle, what percent of alleged domestic violence survivors representing themselves face parties with legal representation in court? *(Please fill in the estimated percentage.)*

_____ %

7. In your opinion, to what extent is legal representation available for domestic violence survivors in your city/town? *(Please circle one.)*

Not Available	Somewhat Available	Moderately Available	Mostly Available	Very Available
1	2	3	4	5

Town/City _____

8. In your opinion, to what degree are alleged domestic violence victims aware of legal representation services? *(Please circle one.)*

Not Aware	Somewhat Aware	Moderately Aware	Mostly Aware	Very Aware
1	2	3	4	5

9. Where do people generally access legal representation in alleged cases of domestic violence? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Community Legal Services
- Tribal Legal Services
- Private Attorneys
- Others _____

10. In your opinion, how effective is legal representation to alleged domestic violence survivors in family court? *(Please circle one.)*

Not Effective	Somewhat Effective	Moderately Effective	Mostly Effective	Very Effective
1	2	3	4	5

11. In your opinion, what gaps exist in legal representation for alleged domestic violence survivors? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Funding for programs
- Income eligibility
- Adequate staffing levels
- Other _____
- Litigant knowledge of resources
- Court responsive to litigant needs
- Large geographic distance

12. What can be done to make legal representation more available for alleged domestic violence survivors in family court?

13. What can be done to make legal representation more effective for alleged domestic violence survivors in family court?

Section C: Legal Assistance

For the purpose of this survey, legal assistance is defined as consultations with lawyers, legal advocates, paralegals, lay legal advocates and certified document preparation specialists in preparation for self-representation in court.

14. In your best estimate, of those cases you handle, what percent of alleged domestic violence cases would benefit from legal assistance? *(Please fill in the estimated percentage.)*

_____ %

15. In your best estimate, of those cases you handle, what percent involving allegations of domestic violence receive assistance from a lay legal advocate (i.e. explaining legal rights and options, providing information on court process and court procedures, accompanying to court)? *(Please fill in the estimated percentage.)*

_____ %

16. In your best estimate, of those cases you handle, what percent involving allegations of domestic violence receive assistance from paralegals or document preparation specialists (i.e. assistance with completing paperwork, help filing petitions)? *(Please fill in the estimated percentage.)*

_____ %

17. In your opinion, to what extent is legal assistance for domestic violence survivors available in your city/town? *(Please circle one.)*

Not Available	Somewhat Available	Moderately Available	Mostly Available	Very Available
1	2	3	4	5

Town/City _____

18. In your opinion, to what degree are alleged domestic violence victims aware of legal assistance programs? *(Please circle one.)*

Not Aware	Somewhat Aware	Moderately Aware	Mostly Aware	Very Aware
1	2	3	4	5

19. Where do people generally access legal assistance in alleged cases of domestic violence? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Hotline
- Fresh Start Women's Resource Center
- Community Legal Services
- Shelter advocates
- Family Advocacy Centers
- Others _____

20. In your opinion, how effective is legal assistance to alleged domestic violence survivors in family court? *(Please circle one.)*

Not Effective	Somewhat Effective	Moderately Effective	Mostly Effective	Very Effective
1	2	3	4	5

21. What can be done to make legal assistance more effective for alleged domestic violence survivors in family court?

22. In your opinion, what gaps exist in legal assistance services for alleged domestic violence survivors? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Funding for programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Litigant knowledge of resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Income eligibility | <input type="checkbox"/> Court responsive to litigant needs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adequate staffing levels | <input type="checkbox"/> Large geographic distance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

23. What can be done to make legal assistance more available for alleged domestic violence survivors in family court?

Additional Comments: _____

Thank you!

Please return the survey by **September 4, 2008** via fax at (602) 254-6490, by email to rttenney@mag.maricopa.gov or by mail to Renae Tenney at 302 North 1st Avenue, #300, Phoenix, Arizona 85003.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the survey, please contact Renae Tenney at (602) 254-6300.