
Judicial Training on Domestic Violence: A 50-State Survey

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Background

Domestic violence cases are complex and involve factors that can be difficult for judges and magistrates to understand. They often are “cases that don’t make sense.”² In Ohio, a training has been designed based on the input of survivors, attorneys, judges, magistrates, victim advocates, social workers, and others to provide judges and magistrates with best practices in domestic violence cases.³ To date, more than 400 judges and magistrates have received this training.

What was the impetus for this training? In 2014, a Domestic Violence City Summit was held at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. A top priority action item identified at this Summit was the need for more and better training for judges and magistrates in the area of domestic violence. I have had the privilege of working for the past five years with a community action group that formed to address this issue, and the work continues. A detailed account of the process and methods used to move from identification of the need for judicial education to researching, designing, and delivering the trainings is set forth in my recent article, “Judicial Education, *Private Violence*, and Community Action: A Case Study in Legal Participatory Action Research, 22 *Journal of Gender, Race, & Justice* 41 (2019), available at https://scholarship.law.uc.edu/fac_pubs/.

What information is included in the 50-State Survey and how can it be an advocacy tool? As an initial matter, our community action group was interested in knowing what states, if any, mandated judicial training on domestic violence.⁴ This data seemed crucial for making the argument for mandatory training in Ohio to the Judicial College of the Ohio Supreme Court (the “Judicial College”). The Judicial College offers and oversees much of the judicial training in Ohio. It soon became apparent in the research process that our initial

research question about whether training was “mandatory or not” was too narrow. We wanted to capture subtleties in requirements such as “mandatory for whom.” I have highlighted three aspects of this research in the chart below. The first column includes information relating to each state’s mandatory requirements (if any) for judges and/or magistrates for training on domestic violence. The second column provides information relating to trainings that have been developed and implemented in each state. The third column lists any specific training topics that are mandated in each state. Other related information that might be helpful is set out in a fourth column. I have not included information about benchbooks on domestic violence, developed in many states as judicial resources, because that information has been compiled by the Center for Court Innovation and is available in its [Domestic Violence Benchbooks: A Guide to Court Intervention](#).⁵

Our community action group found the information set out in the chart below very helpful in our advocacy with the Judicial College in Ohio. We wanted to make the results of this research available to those who are interested in advocating for and/or developing similar trainings in their own states. While we were not successful in implementing mandatory domestic violence training in Ohio, we have been successful in training a large number of judges in practices that our own research in Ohio, as well as knowledge of the types of programming offered nationally and in other states, suggest will make justice more accessible to all parties in domestic violence cases.

Key Findings

Much variation exists in the fifty states with respect to judicial training on domestic violence, with some states not having addressed this issue at all and others requiring days-long trainings. The following is a far from

exhaustive list of highlights. The chart itself includes links to a wide array of helpful resources, including statutory language, training manuals, and reasons why judicial training in the area of domestic violence is important. These links provide much more in-depth information than this selective list of findings.

- Thirty one states and the District of Columbia have legislation, executive orders, or court rules that include provisions relating to judicial training on domestic violence.
- Fifteen states and the District of Columbia mandate domestic violence training for at least some judges.
- Domestic violence training must be offered or developed in thirteen states and the District of Columbia.
- In five states, new judge orientation trainings must include domestic violence training.
- Eleven states mandate what topics should be covered in domestic violence trainings.
- Mandatory topics that some states require include: procedures to promote victim safety; lethality and risk factors; uniqueness of DV crimes; dynamics of DV; effects of DV on adults, children, and families; education on culturally responsive approaches to serve DV victims; and community resources and programs.
- Minnesota has developed useful resources such as the National Judicial Education Program’s web-course (customized to Minnesota) and a domestic abuse/harassment resource sheet with information for judges about DV community resources and programs.
- North Carolina has developed an extensive Domestic Violence Best Practices Guide for District Court Judges.
- West Virginia requires a minimum of 3 hours of DV training annually for family court judges and has developed some of the most specific training requirements in the country.

Methodology

For each state, initial research was conducted to de-

termine general training requirements for judges and magistrates. The next step was to look for specific requirements relating to domestic violence. Information collected in the research process was recorded in a master Excel spreadsheet with columns labeled: “any mandatory training”; “hours of mandated training”; “mandated training on DV”; “has training been developed for DV?”; “material included”; “training structure”; “who is providing the training?”; “are there any counties/cities doing or requiring DV training?”; and “other information.” A column was included to track any possible information that might be relevant or useful as the research progressed. The chart below is a consolidation of key collected findings.

The research for each individual state began with public Google searches to determine the terminology used by that specific state. Terminology varied widely, both with respect to “judicial training” and “domestic violence.” Among the search terms used were: “judicial education,” “judicial training,” “continuing judicial education,” “judicial instruction,” “intimate partner abuse,” “domestic abuse,” and “family violence.”

The majority of the legal research was conducted on Westlaw to find legislation, regulations, and court rules. The initial Westlaw searches used any specific terminology identified in the public Google searches for that state, but searches also were conducted using the general terms listed above. In addition to the results of the public Google and Westlaw searches, state court websites that included information about education and training requirements were also reviewed.

Conclusion

Our community action group hopes this information will be helpful to anyone looking to initiate, enhance, or expand domestic violence training for judges and magistrates in their states. There are some exemplary and innovative training programs and resources around the country and the more, the better.

The information included in the 50-State Survey below represents what our research has uncovered using the methodology described above as of May 2019. It is likely that additional information may be available from other sources. Please send updates, revisions, or supplements, along with supporting documentation to lawrgsj@ucmail.uc.edu. We would like for this survey to be as comprehensive and current as possible and plan to update it with any additional information provided at least on an annual basis.⁶

Domestic violence is one of society's most serious problems. Its impacts and effects are ever present whether in stories of mass shootings, murders, homelessness, or hate crimes. When I become overwhelmed with the breadth of this issue, I am encouraged when I remember the call of feminist community-based researcher, Patricia McGuire, to "dig where you stand."⁷ Training judges and magistrates to understand the dynamics, effects, implications, and seriousness of cases when interpersonal violence is involved is an important localized step to addressing this national epidemic.

1. *Charles Hartsock Professor of Law, University of Cincinnati College of Law; Co-Director, Nathaniel R. Jones Center for Race, Gender, and Social Justice. I would like to thank my research assistant Avery Ozimek for two years of research on this project. I also would like to thank my other student researchers: Rebecca Dussich, Alicia Visse, Elizabeth Hudson, and Robert Trujillo. Members of our community action group were helpful in developing the initial research questions. As always, our law librarian Shannon Kemen was an indispensable resource, and my colleague Professor Emily M.S. Houh provided much appreciated feedback and support.*
2. *Our community action group named the first session of our training "Understanding Cases That Don't Make Sense" based on feedback we had from judges about these cases. This was an acknowledgment that we understood the frustrations of judges and magistrates, for example, when a victim fails to appear or wants to drop the case. At the same time, it indicated that our day of training was designed to offer information to help make sense of these difficult cases.*
3. *The term "domestic violence" is used throughout this paper because it is the term most commonly used in the context of judicial training in this area.*
4. *This survey also includes information relating to the District of Columbia. A chart entitled "Mandatory Domestic Violence Training For Judges," published by the Resource Center on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody, a project of the Family Violence and Domestic Relations Program of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and last updated through December 31, 2014, was helpful in our initial research. The survey presented in this paper includes updated and supplemental information to the NCJFCJ chart, including what training may or may not have been developed in connection with any mandatory requirements, as well as hyperlinks to requirements and related information.*
5. *Links to several state domestic violence benchbooks are available at http://now.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2017DomesticViolenceBenchbooksRenee_LeahsEdits.docx.*

6. *The chart will indicate the date it was last updated.*
7. *PATRICIA MCGUIRE, DOING PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH: A FEMINIST APPROACH xv (2d ed. 2000).*

Judicial Training in Domestic Violence: A 50-State Survey

	Mandatory DV Training	Developed DV Trainings	Mandatory Training Materials	Additional Information
Alabama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 6 hours of mandated judicial training for municipal court judges (with a choice of topics). • DV training is not mandatory. • But, DV is explicitly listed in the Rule as a topic for which judges will be given credit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Administrative Director of Courts is responsible through the AL Judicial College for administering CJE. • National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges has given trainings. • Trainings have been hosted at the YWCA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a DV resource prosecutor who trains prosecutors, law enforcement, and shelters on DV laws and acts as a victim advocate.
Alaska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The administrative director of the AK Court System must provide continuing DV training to judicial officers (which includes judges and magistrates) and court clerks who have contact with parties involved in DV (Alaska Code 18.66.310). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2017, the State of Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault developed a four-year plan (STOP). • The plan includes studying the judicial system and the integration of judicial training. • Goal 2 of STOP is “Judicial Education” which maps out the Council’s plan for these trainings. 	Training must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature, extent, and causes of DV; • Procedures to promote victim safety; • Resources for the parties; and • Lethality of DV. 	
Arizona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the state’s mandated judicial training, there is specialized training for judges dealing with protection orders--they shall attend training on such orders on a regular basis (Section 1-302(h)(3)). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee on Judicial Education and Training (COJET) assists the Arizona Supreme Court in developing and overseeing judicial education. DV is listed in COJET’s sponsored/ accredited training programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>Arkansas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mandatory requirements for DV judicial training were found. • However, the child abuse/rape/DV commission and child abuse/rape/DV section within the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences has the authority and responsibility to educate judges on the issues, interventions, and other matters of DV (Arkansas Code Annotated Section 20-82-206(3)). (See A.C.A. § 20-82-206) • Judicial training is executed by the Administrative Office of the Courts through the Judicial Branch Education Division. • The Administrative Office of the Courts includes a link to “The Domestic Violence Program” but the link is broken. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only evidence of DV training that our website research located was a 2016 session provided to District Court Judges on the Dynamics of DV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AK does require 20 hours of mandatory DV training for new law enforcement officers.
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<p>California</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For judges, referees, commissioners, mediators, and others as deemed appropriate by the Judicial Council who perform duties in DV matters, all orientation sessions will have one session on DV. • The Judicial Council also must establish training programs for those who perform duties in DV matters that include an annual training session on DV. • The Cal. Rules of Court also require judges and subordinate judicial officers hearing: criminal, family, juvenile delinquency, juvenile dependency, or probate matters to participate in a periodic update on DV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A final report of the DV Practices and Procedures Task Force entitled Recommended Guidelines and Practices for Improving the Administration of Justice in Domestic Violence Cases emphasizes the importance of court leadership and judicial education (2008). • The Violence Against Women Education Project offers a wide array of programming to satisfy judges' DV training requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "All aspects of DV" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Superior Court of the County of Joaquin has established a DV court.
<p>Colorado</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
<p>Connecticut</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandated to establish ongoing training program for judges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Judicial Department shall establish the training. "The Judicial Branch may consult with organizations that advocate on behalf of victims of domestic violence in order to ensure that the training includes information on the unique characteristics of family violence crimes." 	<p>Training should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State policies and procedures relating to DV, including • Family violence intervention; • Use of restraining and protective orders; and • Uniqueness of family violence crimes. 	

Delaware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mandatory requirements for DV judicial training were found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The judiciary was encouraged in 2009 to adopt an executive order relating to DV, specifically creating an open and supportive workplace for victims of DV. Some training was recommended in this initiative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
District of Columbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires ongoing training program on family law and related matters, including DV. • But, the training is only specified for judges in Family Court and others in Superior Court who are assigned Family Court cases. • There are special rules for magistrate judges relating to DV, including mandatory training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chief judge in consultation with the presiding judge of Family Court is tasked with carrying out the family law training programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family dynamics, including DV. 	
Florida	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working to establish standards of instruction on DV matters which are on a periodic and timely basis. • Instruction would be for circuit and county judges dealing with DV cases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>Georgia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulton County has local rules that provide that “The Family Court will have trained and experienced judges, staff, professionals and volunteers who have a genuine interest in resolving family law conflicts. Judges and staff will have the highest level of expertise possible, including familiarity with related disciplines such as psychology and child development.” • Judicial officers in family court shall receive training, including four hours in DV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
<p>Hawaii</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>Idaho</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each county district court may create a DV court. • Idaho currently has DV courts in six judicial districts. • These courts have DV court coordinators. • The Ada County DV Court was selected as one of three mentor courts in the U.S. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A committee created to implement a coordinated family court services plan (Children and Families in the Courts (CFCC)) shall provide training to ensure effective operation of the DV courts. • The Idaho DV Court Policies and Guidelines provide that the CFCC DV Court Subcommittee shall “identify, recommend, and coordinate national and state training opportunities” to ensure such effective operation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
<p>Illinois</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a judge is hearing child custody or allocation of parental responsibilities cases, that judge should have training or experience relating to DV issues. • Winnebago County has a Judicial Circuit DV Coordinated Court (DVCC) that is a mentor court. • This specialized court focuses on victim safety and hears both criminal and civil cases. • Grant funding to the Winnebago County DVCC has been used to address safety and accountability concerns and provide: “intensive and on-going training to judicial and court staff” in DV; sexual assault; dating violence; and stalking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
<p>Indiana</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

Iowa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
Kansas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
Kentucky	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least once every two years, a portion of the continuing education offered to judges must include programs focused on DV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Administrative Office of the Courts must provide programming on DV every two years. 	<p>Training must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamics of DV; • Effects of DV (on adults and children); • Legal remedies for protection; • Lethality and risks; • Protocols for addressing DV; • Community resources and victims services; and • Reporting requirements. 	
Louisiana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
Maine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
Maryland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>Massachusetts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chief justice of the trial court department shall provide training on the issue of domestic violence and sexual violence in the commonwealth, at least once biannually, to all appropriate court personnel of the municipal, district, probate and family, juvenile and superior courts throughout the commonwealth, including but not limited to judges, clerks of court, probation officers, court officers, security officers and guardians ad litem.” (Mass. Gen Laws Ch. 211B § 9B). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainings must include ten topics at minimum and they should be taught by experts with experience delivering services to victims. The topics include 1) misdemeanors and felonies which include domestic and/or sexual violence; 2) the civil rights and remedies available to victims; 3) methods to assess the risk of homicide; 4) techniques to share information among regions to help safety planning for victims; 5) physical and psychological effects; 6) increased vulnerabilities for marginalized communities, including LGBT, low income, and immigrant people; 7) dynamics of coercive behavior; 8) underlying causes and availability of batterer’s intervention programs; 9) availability of relevant shelter and support services; and 10) methods to share information between law enforcement and courts. (Mass. Gen Laws Ch. 211B § 9B). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state requires the same training for district attorneys and assistant district attorneys (See Mass. Gen Laws Ch. 12 § 33).
<p>Michigan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>Minnesota</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supreme Court’s judicial education program must include, for district court judges, ongoing training on DV. • The courts page references a Domestic Abuse/Harassment Resource Sheet. The resources listed are specific to the Second Judicial District. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Judicial Education Program has a Web Course/resource (Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: Adjudicating this hidden dimension of domestic violence cases) that Minnesota customized. 	<p>Training must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs of victims; • Education on the causes of sexual abuse and family violence; • Education on culturally responsive approaches to serve victims; • Impacts of DV on children; • Impacts when making parenting time and custody choices; • Info (including survey data) on alleged and substantiated reports of DV; • The need for coordination of courts and legal victim advocacy services; and • Education on sexual/domestic abuse programs and policies within law enforcement agencies, prosecuting authorities, and the court systems. 	
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Mississippi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mandatory requirements for DV judicial training requirements were found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2016, funding was established to train judges in DV matters (DV Training Fund). (See Miss. Code Ann. § 93-21-31) • “More than 6,300 judges, clerks and prosecutors” have been trained on “various aspects of state law related to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, strangulation and human trafficking” through the Mississippi AG’s DV Unit trainings. • The DV Unit also provides funding for expert instruction on DV issues at judges’ conferences. • The MS Encourage Sexual Assault ARREST project was launched in 2014 after receipt of a three year \$900,000 Violence Against Women Act grant from the Department of Justice for training for judges, law enforcement, etc. on sex crimes. 		
Missouri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
Montana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
Nebraska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
Nevada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>New Hampshire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mandatory requirements for DV judicial training were found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Judicial Branch Family Division and District Court has issued a comprehensive best practices manual of domestic violence case protocols. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “[A]ll staff shall be fully trained to handle DV cases” NH DV Protocol 5-1. • This Protocol applies to court staff, not judges.
<p>New Jersey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandated DV training within 90 days of judicial appointment or transfer and at annual inservice training. • The Administrative Director of the Courts is charged with ensuring that judges attend these required courses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Supreme Court and Attorney General of NJ have issued a comprehensive Domestic Violence Procedures Manual. 	<p>Training must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Societal impact of DV; • Dynamics of DV; • Statutory and case law concerning DV; • Necessary elements of a protection order; • Policy and procedure; • Community resources; and • Sanction and treatment options. 	
<p>New Mexico</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandated annual DV training for metropolitan, district, and appellate judges (“appropriate training in understanding DV, as determined by the Judicial Continuing Education Committee”). • Mandated annual DV training also includes training for DV special commissioners and DR hearing officers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NM Administrative Office of the Courts developed DV training for Frontline Court Staff which is available online through the Judicial Education Center “for easy access to court staff and judicial officers.” • This training includes 3 modules: DV Dynamics; DV Fundamentals; and DV Safety. •The National Judicial Institute of Domestic Violence hosted “Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases Workshop” in Santa Fe, NM Dec. 2-5, 2018 for “all state and tribal court judges and judicial officers.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>New York</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandated for judges and justices exercising criminal jurisdiction, each judge of family court, and each justice of the Supreme Court who regularly handles matrimonial matters to attend a training program relating to DV every two years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IDV Court Model defines judicial training as one of its key components and states that “intensive domestic violence training will be provided to the judge and court staff in order to keep all personnel abreast of the latest research and best practices in the field.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mandated topics found. 	
<p>North Carolina</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Via executive order, since 1999, the Domestic Violence Commission has had a duty to develop DV training for law enforcement and judicial personnel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Domestic Violence Commission has the authority and duty to develop training programs. • The NC Administrative Office of the Courts has issued a comprehensive Domestic Violence Best Practices Guide for District Court Judges. • The NC Coalition Against DV has offered trainings to the courts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the best practices set forth in the Guide are not mandatory, Best Practice # 3 is “Identify and Assign Specially Trained and Dedicated Judges.” This section also includes a list of what it is important for judges in DV cases to know and understand. 	
<p>North Dakota</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAWS North Dakota gives DV training to a wide array of groups, including law enforcement, prosecutors, and social service providers. • There is no mention that CAWS provides training for judges or court staff.

<p>Ohio</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no mandatory requirements for DV judicial training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supreme Court of Ohio has a Domestic Violence Program which makes the American Judges’ Association’s training course on the Effective Adjudication of Domestic Abuse Cases available on its website. • The Judicial College of the Supreme Court of Ohio includes a unit on DV in its new judges and magistrates training materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mandated DV training materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state has a Domestic Violence Program which provides technical assistance and specialized resources about DV, stalking and sexual assault to the courts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Program disseminates information, monitors trends, offers education, and recommends forms, rules, and standards that promote effective response to these cases.”
<p>Oklahoma</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DV is included in the list of training topics that judges, associate judges, special judges, and referees who have juvenile docket responsibility must “attend at least twelve (12) hours of training in such courses each calendar year relating to [the listed] topics” (§10A-1-8-101). • A statute passed in 2017 allows counties in Oklahoma to create specialized DV courts (22 O.S. § 61). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile docket judges, associate judges, special judges, and referees must complete 12 hours of training per year in any of the following: juvenile law, child abuse and neglect, foster care and out-of-home care placement, DV, behavioral health treatment, and other similar topics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Native Alliance Against Violence offered a program in September, 2019 on “Enhancing Judicial Skills in Cases Involving Domestic Violence.”
<p>Oregon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence puts on community based DV training with the Oregon Department of Justice (judges are not included in the target audience).

<p>Pennsylvania</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family court personnel must do training in DV within one year of assignment to cases governed by family court rules and six hours of continuing education each year which includes DV training. • This rule applies to masters and hearing officers and “other court personnel.” It is not clear whether judges are included in this requirement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programs for family court personnel are to be developed or approved by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts. • The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) conducts trainings and webinars for judges and court staff (among other groups). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mandated information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Final Report of the PA Supreme Court Committee on Racial and Gender Bias in the Justice System includes a recommendation to the PA Supreme Court to require periodic training about domestic violence issues for judges and other court personnel. • The PA Interbranch Commission for Gender, Racial and Ethnic Fairness has issued a report “And Safety For All: A Guide For Making the Courts Safer For Victims of Domestic Violence” that includes training of judges and others as a model safety protocol. • This report also includes many suggestions for judges relating to making their courts more safe.
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Rhode Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mandatory requirements for DV judicial training were found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Domestic Violence Prevention Act provides that “the administrative office of the supreme court shall establish an ongoing training program for judges, court personnel, bail commissioners, and clerks to inform them of the policies and procedures of [the DV Prevention Act].” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a RI Supreme Court DV Training and Monitoring unit but it is related to investigation and police work (not judicial training). • The RI Judiciary’s Education Office “administers all judicial education programs for state court judges and magistrates.”
South Carolina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By statute, “magistrates, municipal court judges, family court judges, and circuit court judges shall receive continuing legal education on issues concerning domestic violence.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainings are offered throughout the year, in various counties, and are sponsored by several groups. • Example: From July 2017- June 2018 DV courses for judges and magistrates were offered five times in various counties throughout the state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The frequency of the required judicial DV training is to be determined by the “South Carolina Court Administration at the direction of the Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a specialized DV court in Lexington County.
South Dakota	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>Texas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The court of criminal appeals is mandated to provide training related to problems of family violence. • Within a judge’s first term of office, the judge must complete 12 hours of training, at least six of which must be training on: the available community and state resources for counseling and other aid to victims and offenders; gender bias in the judicial process; and the dynamics and effects of being the victim of family violence, sexual assault, or child abuse and neglect. • After a judge’s first term, five hours of training related to problems of family violence, sexual assault and child abuse and neglect is required each term. • If a judge does not comply with such required training the overseeing body (court of criminal appeals) must report the judge to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court of Criminal Appeals administers judicial education. • The state’s Judicial Branch’s webpage links to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (an organization working towards DV training and awareness). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judicial instruction related to family violence must include, among other topics, information on: case law, statutory law, and procedural rules relating to family violence; methods for protecting victims of family violence; available resources; gender bias in the courts; dynamics and effects of being a victim of family violence; and medical findings regarding physical and sexual abuse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The “sponsoring organization for any training on issues related to child abuse and neglect must have at least three years’ experience in training professionals on child abuse and neglect issues or have personnel or planning committee members who have at least five years’ experience in working directly in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment”
<p>Utah</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	

<p>Vermont</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judicial DV training is not mandated. • Judges can attend national programming with organizations, such as National Judicial College to become “informed on important topics such as domestic violence, computer forensics, substance abuse, and human trafficking.” • The Judicial Branch Education website posts links to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges which hosts DV workshops and continuing education programs in DV and is committed to DV training work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funding to attend these national programs often comes from grants and scholarships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
<p>Virginia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	
<p>Washington</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family and juvenile court judges are mandated to complete training which includes DV either within the 12 months prior to being assigned to Family and Juvenile Court or within six months after. • Subsequent to this initial training, these judges “shall annually attend a minimum of eight hours of continuing education on subjects relevant to families and children in the court.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King County District Court has a DV Court: “The DV judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation officers and victim advocates are all dedicated to the DV Court to ensure continuity and they are all trained in DV literature and practice.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington State Domestic Violence Fatality Review Summary of Recommendations, 2000 – 2010 Family Law gives several training recommendations to the courts related to DV issues.

<p>West Virginia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family court judges and magistrates are mandated to complete a minimum of three hours of DV training annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainings are done in collaboration under Systemic Change for a Safer State of Family, a collaborative initiative with the WV Supreme Court and other organizations. • Trainings are varied and cross-disciplinary. • Example: the 2017 Annual CIP Cross-Training: Moving Forward Together conference. 	<p>Training must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The psychology of DV; • Battered wife/child syndromes; • Courtroom treatment of victims, offenders, and witnesses; • Available sanctions and treatment standards for offenders; and • Available shelter and support services for victims. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supreme Court of Appeals is to develop and present continuing education courses on DV for magistrates assistants, and juvenile and adult probation officers. • The statute provides that this instruction should be prepared in consultation with various agencies, including those that have programs for victims and perpetrators, advocates for victims, and organizations representing the interests of shelters.
<p>Wisconsin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judicial DV training is not mandated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI received federal STOP (Service, training, officers and prosecutors) funds to support DV judicial training and resource development to improve court policy and procedures relating to DV, and to research ways to increase court efficiencies in DV cases. • Federal STOP funding/grants are used to develop strategies to “address violent crimes against women.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information found. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mediators in family court are required to have “training on the dynamics of domestic violence” and its effects on the victim and the children involved.