



Batterers' Intervention Program Provider Agreement

As a certified Batterers' Intervention Program provider in Santa Barbara County, I agree to comply with the program mandates required by Penal Code Sections 1203.097 and 1203.098 and the agreed upon guidelines set by the local courts, as summarized below. I have also been provided a copy of the complete text of Penal Code Sections 1203.097 and 1203.098 for further reference and/or clarification. No program, regardless of its source of funding, shall be approved unless it meets all of the following standards:

1. Strategies to hold the defendant accountable for the violence in a relationship, including, but not limited to, providing the defendant with a written statement that the defendant shall be held accountable for acts or threats of domestic violence.
2. A requirement that the defendant participate in ongoing same-gender group sessions.
3. An initial intake that provides written definitions to the defendant of physical, emotional, sexual, economic, and verbal abuse, and the techniques for stopping these types of abuse.
4. Procedures to inform the victim regarding the requirements for the defendant's participation in the intervention program as well as regarding available victim resources. The victim also shall be informed that attendance in any program does not guarantee that an abuser will not be violent.
5. A requirement that the defendant attend group sessions free of chemical influence.
6. Educational programming that examines, at a minimum, gender roles, socialization, the nature of violence, the dynamics of power and control, and the effects of abuse on children and others.
7. A requirement that excludes any couple counseling, family counseling, or both.
8. Procedures that enable the program to assess whether or not the defendant would benefit from the program and refuse to enroll the defendant if it is determined the defendant would not benefit from the program, so long as the refusal is not because of the defendant's inability to pay. If possible, the program shall suggest an appropriate alternative program.
9. Program staff who, to the extent possible, have specific knowledge regarding, but not limited to, spousal, child, sexual, and substance abuse; the dynamics of violence and abuse; and the law and procedures of the legal system. A counselor profile shall be on file with the Probation Department for each counselor providing services, and shall meet the criteria specified in the County of Santa Barbara Guidelines for Batterers' Intervention Program Providers.
10. Program staff are encouraged to utilize the expertise, training, and assistance of local domestic violence centers.
11. A requirement that the defendant enter into a written agreement with the program that shall include an outline of the contents of the program, the attendance requirements, the requirement to attend group sessions free of chemical influence, and a statement that the defendant may be removed from the program if it is determined that the defendant is not benefiting from the program or is disruptive to the program.
12. A requirement that the defendant sign a confidentiality statement prohibiting disclosure of any information obtained through participation in the program or during group sessions regarding other participants in the program.

13. Program content provides cultural and ethnic diversity.
14. A requirement of a written referral from the Probation Department or the Court prior to permitting the defendant to enroll in the program. Provider is to submit proof of enrollment immediately to the referring agency.
15. Provider is to comply with the maximum and minimum fee schedule as determined by the local court jurisdiction. A sliding fee schedule has been provided, based both on the defendant's ability to pay and the necessity of the program to meet overhead expenses.
16. Provider is to report a defendant's program status to the Probation Department as well as the Court when advised that the defendant is under a grant of formal probation. Otherwise, all correspondence should be directly submitted to the Court. This includes procedures for periodic progress reports that include attendance, fee payment history, and program compliance. Provider is to report to Probation all program absences as they occur. An exit session and evaluation shall be conducted that includes the program's final evaluation of the defendant's progress and recommendation for either a successful termination or continuation in the program.
17. The program shall be for a period of not less than one year with periodic progress reports by the program to the Probation Department and the Court every three months or less. The defendant shall attend consecutive weekly sessions of a minimum of two hours of class time unless granted an excused absence for good cause by the program for no more than three individual sessions during the entire program, and shall complete the program within a period of 18 months unless the Court finds good cause to modify these requirements. Disqualification notices for clients under direct Probation Department supervision should be sent to the Probation Department, which will review the case and determine whether to notify the Court. All other disqualification notices should be sent directly to the Court.
18. Treatment providers must participate in 16 hours of formal domestic violence continuing education annually. Proof of attendance is to be submitted to the Probation Department upon completion of continuing education.
19. If the Probation Department determines that a program is not in compliance with the standards set forth by the Department, the Department shall provide written notice of the noncompliance areas to the program. The program shall submit a written plan of correction within 14 days from the date of the written notice of noncompliance. A plan of correction shall include, but not be limited to, a description of each corrective action and a time frame for implementation. The Probation Department shall review the plan and notify the program of approval or disapproval in writing.
20. Adherence to the County of Santa Barbara Guidelines for Batterers' Intervention Program Providers and participation in the Domestic Violence Court Core Committee (DVCC) collaborative meetings.
21. Each program shall be reviewed on an annual basis for recertification. All applicable fees shall be paid at that time. The maximum fee for any single treatment provider shall be \$250.00

I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the above.

Signature

Print Name

Name of Agency

Title in Agency

Date: _____