



**City of Danbury  
155 Deer Hill Avenue  
Danbury, CT 06810-7769**

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

**(203)797-4652  
FAX (203)796-1526**

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**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** MARK D BOUGHTON VIA THE COMMON COUNCIL ✓  
**FROM:** DAN GARRICK, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE D  
**SUBJECT:** RESOLUTION-VICTIMS ADVOCATE LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT  
**DATE:** 6/26/2007

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Attached for your review is a resolution that will allow the City of Danbury Police Department to apply for and accept grant funding from the State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management. This grant will provide continuing focus on improvements of response to domestic violence and enhancing victim services. The total grant is \$14,000, covers 7/1/07-9/30/07, and requires no local match.

Attached is a copy of the application received by this office for your review. Please contact this office if you have any questions.

attach

cc: Alan Baker



# RESOLUTION

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CITY OF DANBURY, STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Danbury:

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management Victim Advocate Law Enforcement Project ("V.A.L.E.") has offered a grant to the City of Danbury in the amount of \$14,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, said grant would provide funding for law enforcement to develop a victim advocate law enforcement program in the City of Danbury to focus on improving response to domestic violence crimes, enhancing access to victim services and creating collaborative relationships between victim advocates and police; and

**WHEREAS**, of the total award of \$14,000.00, the federal match is \$10,500.00 and the State match is \$3,500.00 with no local share required; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed period of award will be July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Mark D. Boughton, Mayor of the City of Danbury or his designee, Alan D. Baker, the Chief of Police be and hereby are authorized to execute a V.A.L.E. Grant Application Form in order to secure the funding for the V.A.L.E. program and to ratify and take all necessary action in furtherance thereof.

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**OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING DIVISION  
STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM-  
GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

<b>1. Project Title</b>  STOP-Domestic Violence Project Victim Advocate Law Enforcement Project	<b>2. Proposed Period of Award</b>  July 1, 2007 to September 30, 2007
<b>3. Name of Agency, Address</b>  Danbury Police Department 120 Main Street Danbury, CT 06810	<b>4. Name, Title, Address and Phone of Official Authorized to sign for Agency</b>  Alan D. Baker, Chief of Police 120 Main Street Danbury, CT 06810
<b>5. I, THE UNDERSIGNED, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE NAMED AGENCY, DO HEREWITH APPLY FOR THIS SUBGRANT, ATTEST THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE STATEMENTS MADE HEREIN ARE TRUE, AND AGREE TO THE GENERAL AND SPECIAL GRANT CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THIS GRANT APPLICATION FORM.</b>  SIGNATURE _____ DATE <u>06/21/07</u>	
<b>6. Name, Title, Address, Telephone Number of Project Director</b> Det. Lt. Tom Michael 120 Main St. Danbury, CT 06810 Phone #: 203-797-4665 E-mail: T.Michael@ci.danbury.ct.us FAX #: 203-796-4661	<b>7. Name, Title, Address, Telephone Number of Financial Officer</b> Dan Garrick, Assistant Director of Finance 155 Deer Hill Ave Danbury, CT. 06810  Phone # 203-797-4652 E-mail: D.Garrick@ci.danbury.ct.us FAX #: 203-796-1526
<b>8. Summary Project Description</b>  This application will provide funding to the Danbury Police Department to continue its Victim Advocate Law Enforcement Program. The focus of this project is on improving law enforcement response to domestic violence crimes while improving services rendered to victims. The program is also dedicated to creating collaborative relationships between victim advocates and police departments. In rendering services to domestic violence victims there will be coordinated efforts between non-profit, nongovernmental domestic violence service organizations and the Danbury Police Department.  As first responders, law enforcement officers are positioned to serve as powerful leaders in initiatives to end domestic violence against women. Policing, in conjunction with coordinated efforts by prosecution, judiciary, and domestic violence advocacy organizations can deter domestic violence and help diminish injuries and homicides.	
<b>9. Application is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Program <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of Grant # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of Grant # _____	<b>10. Summary Budget:</b> Requested Federal Funds: _____ Requested Match Funds: <u>X</u> Requested Total Project Cost: _____
<b>11. Federal Employer Identification Number:</b> <u>0 6 6 0 0 1 8 6 8</u>	
<b>12. Applicant Fiscal Year End:</b> June 30	<b>13. Date of Last Audit:</b> 10/06
<b>14. Dates Covered by Last Audit:</b> 07/01/05-06/30/06	<b>15. Date of Next Audit:</b> 10/07
<b>16. Dates to be Covered by Next Audit:</b> 07/01/06-06/30/07	

**OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING DIVISION  
STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM-PROJECT BUDGET ITEMIZATION**

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<b>APPLICANT: Danbury Police Department</b>					
<b>PROJECT TITLE: STOP – Domestic Violence Project- Victim Advocate Law Enforcement</b>					
			<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>		
			<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>State Funds</b>	<b>TOTAL Fed+State</b>
<b>A. PERSONNEL SALARIES</b>	<b>ANNUAL SALARY</b>	<b>% OF TIME</b>			
Detective Lieutenant	\$78,627	10	\$2,202.00	\$735.00	\$2,937.00
Police Officer #1	\$61,946	20	\$3,480.00	\$1,160.00	\$4,641.00
Police Officer #2	\$61,946	20	\$3,480.00	\$1,160.00	\$4,641.00
<b>SALARIES TOTAL</b>			<b>\$9,162.00</b>	<b>\$3,055.00</b>	<b>\$12,217.00</b>
<b>FRINGE BENEFITS</b>					
Calculated at _____ %					
<b>FRINGE BENEFITS TOTAL</b>					
<b>PERSONNEL TOTAL</b>					
<b>B. TRAVEL and TRAINING EXPENSES –(Grantees must request approval from OPM to attend all training events) (Limited to 5% of total budget)</b>					
Registration and tuition			\$750.00	\$250.00	\$1,000
<b>TRAVEL TOTAL</b>			<b>\$750.00</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES (Description, Quantity and Unit Price) (Limited to 2% of total budget)</b>					
Desktop color laser printer			\$188.00	\$62.00	\$250.00
1 GB Memory Card for digital camera			\$19.00	\$6.00	\$25.00
<b>EQUIPMENT PURCHASES TOTAL</b>			<b>\$207.00</b>	<b>\$68.00</b>	<b>\$275.00</b>

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING DIVISION  
 STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM-  
 PROJECT BUDGET ITEMIZATION – CONTINUED

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<b>APPLICANT: Danbury Police Department</b>			
<b>PROJECT TITLE: STOP – Domestic Violence Project- Victim Advocate Law Enforcement</b>			
	<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>		
	<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>State Funds</b>	<b>TOTAL Fed+State</b>
<b>D. SUPPLIES-</b> Limited to 2% of total grant budget			
Office supplies for operation	\$156.00	\$52.00	\$208.00
<b>SUPPLIES TOTAL</b>	\$156.00	\$52.00	\$208.00
<b>E. CONSULTING AND CONTRACTUAL</b>			
Cellular phone service for VALE advocate	\$225.00	\$75.00	\$300.00
<b>CONSULTING AND CONTRACTUAL TOTAL</b>	\$225.00	\$75.00	\$300.00
<b>F. FACILITIES</b>			
<b>FACILITIES TOTAL</b>			
<b>G. OTHER</b>			
<b>OTHER TOTAL</b>			
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>			
	\$10,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$14,000
Prepared By: Det. Lt. Tom Michael		Title: Detective Lieutenant	
Signature of Preparer: <i>Det Lt Tom Michael</i>		Phone: 203-797-4665	
		Date: 06/18/07	

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING DIVISION  
STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM-  
PROJECT BUDGET NARRATIVE

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APPLICANT: Danbury Police Department

PROJECT TITLE: STOP – Domestic Violence Project- Victim Advocate Law Enforcement

See Page 3 for Instructions

This Project Budget Narrative covers the **three month** time period July 1, 2007 to September 30, 2007. The amount of grant funds that this Budget Narrative supports totals \$14,000.

**A. Personnel (Total \$12,217.00)**

The \$12,217.00 line item provides for costs for designated VALE police officers to participate in grant related activities that support the objectives of the program. This includes over-time costs to attend in-state and out-of-state training. Also included is "Back-fill" expenses to allow the designated officers to participate in VALE grant activities. This will allow for designated VALE patrol officers to ride with the victim advocate and respond to active reports of domestic violence calls, as well as protective order compliance checks and designated follow-ups. This line item allows for two police officers to work two separate eight hour shifts per week for the thirteen week period of this grant. These officers will be involved in VALE related activities to include responding to active domestic violence incidents, serving domestic violence related arrest warrants, and domestic violence related interviews and follow-ups as needed. This line item also allows for the program coordinator to devote four hours per week for VALE related activities such as scheduling, supervision, reporting, all to ensure the support of the program objectives.

**B. Travel and Training (Total \$1,000.00)**

This \$1,000.00 line item provides for expenses for any in-state travel, subsistence, registration or tuition costs for seminars or workshops necessary for program staff training.

**C. Equipment (Total \$275.00)**

This \$275.00 line item provides for the purchase of equipment directly related to conducting grant related activities. These costs include the purchase of a desktop laser color printer as well as a 1 GB memory card for a digital camera. The copy and digital camera are used for program related activities.

**D. Supplies (Total \$280.00)**

This line item will provide funds for miscellaneous office supplies required for operation.

**E. Consulting and Contractual (Total \$300.00)**

This line item will provide funds for three of cellular telephone service for the victim advocate. This service is important in order for quick communications with the advocate.

**F. Other (Total 0)**

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING DIVISION  
STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM-  
PROJECT NARRATIVE

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APPLICANT: Danbury Police Department

PROJECT TITLE: **STOP – Domestic Violence Project- Victim Advocate Law Enforcement**

SEE PAGE 4 FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

LABEL NARRATIVE AS FOLLOWS:

- I. Project Justification: Needs Statement, Target Population, Goals
- II. Project Activities: Activities, Schedule, Interagency Cooperation, Data Collection/Evaluation
- III. Impact
- IV. Long term funding
- V. Summary of Previous Year's Achievements Supported by STOP Grant Funds

## **I. Project Justification:**

### **A. Needs Statement**

Law enforcement is the entry point to the criminal justice system for many victims and perpetrators of violence against women. Timely police intervention can deter escalating violence and promote victim recovery. This is particularly true when a perpetrator is arrested, victim protection is made a police priority, and the justice system holds the abuser accountable through appropriate charging and a host of sanctions a restrictions. Regardless of whether an arrest is made, however, officers must pay careful attention to the safety requirements of victims, inform them of their legal rights, and refer them to community resources to address their particular needs.

In the past, law enforcement agencies have been criticized for failing to treat domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking as seriously as other violent crimes. Now, officers are being trained to make victim protection the priority, follow-through in both misdemeanor and felony cases, and arrest the offender whenever warranted.

Arrest alone will not stop all domestic violence offenders. For some, however, arrest may be an effective deterrent to future violence. For others, it is arrest combined with prosecution, sentencing, incarceration, treatment, and monitoring by probation that brings about changes in their behavior.

Many law enforcement personnel believe that helping provide protection and support to victims of violence against women is an integral component of police intervention. Such actions can help minimize the risk of more violence, expand the victim's support system in the community, and increase her capacity to make well-informed decisions about her safety and well-being. If the victim chooses to participate in criminal justice proceedings, she is more likely to follow-through with prosecution when she feels the police are doing everything within their power to support and protect her.

In Danbury, a town of 42.1 square miles and a population of approximately 75,000 people in 2002, 348 family violence arrests were made. Of those arrests identified as intimates only, nearly 30 % were dual arrests.

### **Excerpts from VAWA funded Dual Arrest Study in Connecticut**

Before 1986 when a victim of domestic violence in Connecticut called the police for help she could not be sure that the violence would be seen as serious enough to make an arrest. Then the General Assembly passed the Family Violence Prevention and Response Act, which mandated that police arrest a person when there is probable cause to believe that person committed a family violence crime. The law brought significant new protections for victims, and anticipated increased accountability for offenders. An unforeseen consequence of this bill was that frequently victims (19% of intimate partner arrests in 1987) were being arrested along with offenders. This is known as "dual arrest" and had increased by the end of 2002 to a statewide average of approximately 24%. As Connecticut has long served as a national leader in responding to the crisis of family violence and this is an issue has arisen as one that statewide law enforcement officials have identified as in need of addressing.

## The Impact of Arrest and Prosecution on Domestic Violence Victims

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Arrest and subsequent court proceedings are difficult for everyone. For domestic violence victims the experience can be devastating, increasing her abusive partner's power over her, limiting her options for safety, and diminishing resources she needs to be independent.

A domestic violence victim who calls the police to protect herself and her children and is arrested may feel she is being "treated like a criminal," placed on the same level as the partner who beat her. She may now believe the police and the court, like her abusive partner, blame her for the violence – that it is "her fault." Her experience, her pain is negated and it may seem more than ever that her partner can do whatever he wants and "get away with it".

Arrest alone can mean some victims will never call the police again, removing an important safety strategy. The experience of having called the police for help only to be arrested herself could discourage some victims from reaching out to any services and resources. Some may lose hope, believing there's no way out.

Arrest also compromises a victim's financial stability. If arrested and prosecuted she may miss work to attend hearings or even lose her job. She may also have to find money to pay for bail or bond, legal fees, fines, and costs to participate in court ordered programs. Arrest can also jeopardize the immigration status for certain domestic violence victims and limit employment options or career advancement for others. For some women, arrest will mean the loss of housing or housing subsidies. With little or no income and diminished savings it may be impossible for her to escape a violent relationship or even meet her family's current needs.

Some might argue that arrest and court response may lead to helpful interventions for some domestic violence victims. However, given the harm of arrest and the availability of domestic violence services in the community, arresting victims cannot be justified as a gateway to resources.

The Act makes arrest mandatory in certain situations and leaves others to the discretion of the police. In some situations the law requires police to make an arrest, even when the accused is a domestic violence victim. The FVPRA provides guidance on arrest decisions and dual complaint situations in particular. The Act explicitly states the following about dual complaint situations:

### Section 46b-38b (b)

"No peace officer investigating an incident of family violence shall threaten, suggest or otherwise indicate the arrest of all parties for the purpose of discouraging requests for law enforcement intervention by any party."

### Section 46b-38b (b)

"Where complaints are received from two or more opposing parties, the officer shall evaluate each complaint separately to determine whether he should seek a warrant for an arrest."

This provision makes clear that before making a dual arrest, the police officer must investigate each complaint separately. A dual arrest would be appropriate under this Act only if the officer determines that there is evidence to support each complaint.

In summary, to protect herself and her children, a victim needs to count on the police to arrest her partner if he has hit or threatened to hit her, to arrest her only if she has committed a family violence crime for which arrest is mandatory, and only after a separate investigation supports a finding of probable cause. If she's acted in self-defense she needs the police to document her actions accurately and thoroughly so the court can properly assess her behavior.

**The summary of the dual arrest study and additional statistical information listed above underscore the need for ongoing collaboration between local domestic violence programs and local police departments. Although the Connecticut law enforcement training project provided for the placement of victim advocates in police departments in 1999, these positions were not sustained and most were gone within two years of the origination of the project. This grant project will re-establish the presence of a victim advocate in a municipal police department to provide needed victim services and lessen the burden that police officers bear at the scene of a family violence crime; as they have to interrupt the incident of violence, ensure victim safety, hold the offender accountable for his violence, and provide the family with information about services.**

"The severe underreporting of violence against women leads people to believe that the problem is less pervasive than it is, and that illusion is dangerous. We need to put more energy and resources into improving our response to violence. Victims of domestic and sexual violence will be more likely to come forward when they know that law enforcement and the courts will hold perpetrators accountable, and that more adequate support and services will be available to them."

*Reporting Crime* is based on the results of the National Crime Victimization Survey. The report was written by BJS statisticians Timothy C. Hart and Callie Rennison, PhD.

## **B. Target Population**

The Victim Advocate Law Enforcement Project will provide a victim advocate to the Danbury municipal police department. The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) Victim Advocate Law Enforcement Coordinator will work with the police department and the Women's Center of Greater Danbury to establish a set of guidelines under which the project will operate. These guidelines will detail the level and content of victim services to be offered to domestic violence victims and their children soon after arrest and beyond in Danbury. The population of Danbury is approximately 75,000, covering 42.1 square miles with 348 documented family violence arrests occurring in 2002 and a dual arrest rate of 30%. Emphasis will be placed on increasing offender accountability and improving the safety of the victim while lessening the burden for police officers who must respond to domestic violence victim needs.

## **C. Goals**

The goal for the project is to improve the coordination of law enforcement and victim services, improve victim safety and access to confidential services, and increase offender accountability. The addition of a victim advocate to the Danbury police department will heighten awareness and understanding by law enforcement officers of the role of advocates in their work with domestic violence victims and their children. This heightened awareness has the potential of creating an improved response by law enforcement as they offer victims access to an advocate who will intervene on their behalf if they so choose.

## **D. Purpose**

Developing, and strengthening victim services programs including sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence programs; developing or improving the delivery of victim services to understand populations; providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a large number of protective orders are granted; and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence.

To support statewide efforts including multidisciplinary actions including law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, victim service agencies, and other agencies working against violent crimes against women, including crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

## **II. Project Activities:**

### **A. Activities**

The Police Department Program Director, Det. Lt. Michael will:

- Be responsible for oversight and supervision of project activities.
- Attend grant related training events and meetings.
- Attend meetings to develop and organize the grant-supported policies, procedures and protocols.
- Provide support and guidance to the domestic violence victim advocate.
- Supervise police officers participating in grant related activities.
- Attend meetings convened by the CCADV VALE Coordinator.
- Oversee preparation of mandatory grant progress reports and financial reports.
- Participate in monitoring and assessing the progress and performance of the grant supported activities.
- Meet periodically with the Women's Center of Greater Danbury VALE supervisor

Participating Police Officers will:

- Attend in-state and out-of-state training events and meetings.
- Conduct Protective Order Registry follow-up visits.
- Conduct post incident and post arrest visits in coordination with the domestic violence victim advocate.
- Attend planning meetings with the domestic violence victim advocate.
- Respond to reports of active domestic violence will on duty
- Attempt to serve outstanding active domestic violence arrest warrants
- Assists in providing training for police personnel with domestic violence victim advocate.
- Conduct domestic violence training in conjunction with the domestic violence victim advocate.
- Implement project activities.

### C. Schedule

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- Danbury Police Department will provide training for officers in coordination with the domestic violence victim advocate and CCADV over and above officer re-certification requirements.
- General orders and policy and programs on domestic violence will be revised and updated.
- Project documentation will be completed as required on a quarterly basis.
- Designated officers will attend local and out of area training.
- Designated officers will work in conjunction with VALE advocates on community outreach projects.
- Danbury Police Department Project Director, domestic violence victim advocate, CCADV coordinator will meet on a quarterly basis to critique progress and work to resolve any identified issues.
- Internal Police Department systems to allow advocate access to pertinent information within the police department will be developed and implemented.

### D. Interagency Cooperation and Collaboration

Cross training, data collection and analysis with other police departments within the state as well as with the state police will be a component of this program. Consultation and cooperation with areas within the Judicial branch, including but not limited to Family Services will be an important aspect in providing a continuum of services to victims. The Danbury Police Department currently and will continue to work collaboratively with governmental and non-governmental agencies through membership on various committees, coalitions and task forces. The Danbury Police Department continues to have a strong relationship with the Greater Danbury Women's Center and works with them while during the course of criminal investigations to provide needed services to victims.

### E. Data Collection/Evaluation

The Danbury Police Department will respond to and provide reports as required by this grant. Data will be submitted to OPM within 30 days of the end of each quarter. At this time there is no method available to quantify services sought after by persons who did not receive the services sought.

## **III. Impact:**

The VALE program in the Danbury Police Department will:

- Implement comprehensive strategies that are sensitive to the needs and safety of victims and hold offenders accountable for their crimes.
- Build and strengthen collaborations with existing partners, as well as forge new partnerships.
- Look beyond traditional resources and reach out to new partners to respond more vigorously to all aspects of violence against women.
- Strengthen enforcement of protection orders.
- Address sexual assault through expansion of services, development of protocols and education and training

## **IV. Long Term Funding:**

The long term funding of the VALE program will be reviewed at length during the course of the thirteen week grant period.

## **V. Summary:**

During this past year the Danbury Police department responded to over 1,200 active domestic violence calls for service. Of these call that were confirmed actual domestic violence calls the victims were provided with various victim related services due in part to the STOP program. Many of these victims were provided with immediate services from the department's victim advocate who responded to many of the scenes of these calls thus providing an invaluable contact with the victim. While there were no direct no services provided to the program there were several more VALE officers added to the

It is anticipated that these officers will receive enhanced training in the area of domestic violence and related area. The department victim advocate did provide training to police officers especially police supervisors on the VALE program in an attempt to enhances communications among officers and provide needed services to victims.

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