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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Domestic Violence and Stalking Unit Helping Implement New Protocol

Franklin County first in Ohio to begin using new program to help predict and prevent intimate partner homicide

COLUMBUS, OH—Training will begin tomorrow morning to start implementing a multi-pronged intervention program intended to help predict and prevent intimate partner homicide by translating clinical research on lethality predictors into practical tools that help first responders address dangerous and potentially lethal incidents of domestic violence.

The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) consists of an 11 question tool called the “Lethality Screen” that helps field practitioners more clearly assess a victim’s risk of intimate partner homicide, and an accompanying referral process that proactively connects victims to community-based domestic violence services and shelter. The screen is adapted from Dr. Jacqueline Campbell’s Danger Assessment, a screening instrument used by clinicians and counselors to assess a victim’s risk of being killed by an intimate partner (Campbell, 1986).

Participating in the training tomorrow will be law enforcement officials from the Columbus Police Division, Franklin County Sheriff’s Office, Bexley, Blendon Township, Clinton Township, Dublin, Franklin Township, Gahanna, Grandview, Grove City, Groveport, Hilliard, Mifflin Township, Minerva Park, Perry Township, Sharon Township, Upper Arlington, Valleyview, Westerville, and the Franklin County Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs.

Other local agencies that will be represented include the Center for Family Safety and Healing, CHOICES, BRAVO (Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization), DWAVE (Deaf World Against Violence Everywhere), SARNCO (the Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio), the Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS), the Ohio Hispanic Coalition, the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, and the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office.

WHO:

Prosecutors, domestic violence advocates, law enforcement and other government officials

WHAT:

Lethality Assessment Program Training Session

WHEN:

Thursday, January 22, 2015 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

WHERE:

Columbus Police Academy