



The Missouri Office of Prosecution Services,  
 The Scotland County Prosecuting Attorney's Office,  
 The Schuyler County Prosecuting Attorney's Office  
 &  
 The Clark County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

present

# **The Investigation and Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases**

April 26, 2019

8:00 AM to 12 PM

&

# **Determining the Dominant Aggressor In Domestic Violence Cases**

May 10, 2019

8:00 AM to 12 PM

*Free of charge to Prosecutors, Prosecution Support Staff, Law Enforcement, Victim Advocates, Children's Division, Probation and Parole, Juvenile Office, Adult Protective Services, Medical Professionals, Department of Mental Health, Victim Advocacy Center and Children's Advocacy Center Staff. Other Similar Allied Professionals must obtain prior approval for attendance from Conference Organizers.*

Handouts will be sent to all registered participants in a web link a few days prior to class.

Memphis VFW Post 4958  
 123 W. Monroe St.  
 Memphis MO. 63555

PLEASE NOTE Persons needing special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act should notify MOPS at catherine.vannier@prosecutors.mo.gov or (573) 644-2409 on or before November 2, 2018.

**To Register Go to The Links Listed on Page 2**

# The Investigation & Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases

**8 AM to 12 PM**

This basic course includes the elemental dynamics of domestic violence and suggestions for conducting domestic violence investigations, as they relate to evidence based prosecution. The course further covers Missouri law as it applies to domestic violence cases, touching on current case law as it relates to evidence based prosecution and investigation, and offering ideas for aggressive & fair charging in domestic violence cases. The course aims at assisting prosecutors and law enforcement officers in responding to domestic violence calls and successfully prosecuting domestic violence cases.

The course is certified for 2 hours of POST Continuing Education Legal credits & 2 hours Interpersonal Credit by the Missouri Department of Public Safety POST program or 4 hours of CLE by the Missouri Bar.

**TO REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS GO TO THE LINK LISTED BELOW**

Space & materials are limited, **please copy and paste the registration link into your browser** in order to reserve your spot before **April 5, 2019**:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=q5eaeneab&oeidk=a07eg0pe9pcb665e142>

If you have difficulty with the link, please go to our training page at [prosecutors.mo.gov/training](http://prosecutors.mo.gov/training).

## **Determining the Dominant Aggressor in Domestic Violence Cases**

**1 PM to 5 PM**

This course includes more on the dynamic of family violence, exploring why victims use force and creative ways to make a determination of the relevant context and the dominant aggressor in an abusive relationship, as well as outlining basic Missouri laws in determining valid claims of self defense/ primary aggressor. This course also offers more refined nuances & tools to shed light on these difficult cases.

The course is certified for 2 hours of POST Continuing Education Legal credits & 2 hours Interpersonal Credit by the Missouri Department of Public Safety POST program or 4 hours of CLE by the Missouri Bar.

**TO REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS GO TO THE LINK LISTED BELOW**

Space & materials are limited, **please copy and paste the registration link into your browser** in order to reserve your spot before **April 19, 2019**:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=q5eaeneab&oeidk=a07eg0pfea064ee97b0>

If you have difficulty with the link, please go to our training page at [prosecutors.mo.gov/training](http://prosecutors.mo.gov/training).

**If you do not register in advance, we will not be able to provide course handouts and may not be able to prepare a completion certificate to you.**

Please email [catherine.vannier@prosecutors.mo.gov](mailto:catherine.vannier@prosecutors.mo.gov) with questions or concerns. Email is often easier but if you need to call, my direct phone number is 573 644 2409.

*Please distribute electronically*

# The Investigation and Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases

April 26, 2019  
8 AM to 12 PM

## Agenda

### **HOUR 1: What are we concerned about?**

*Safety & Lethality Concerns, The Dynamics of Domestic Violence, and Why Do They Stay?*

### **HOUR 2: Why should we care?**

*The requirements of Section 455.085, the burdens of the System and the generational impact of cyclical abuse.*

### **HOUR 3: Evidence Based Prosecution**

*The components of evidence based prosecution & what a prosecutor needs in order to proceed without the victim's cooperation.*

### **HOUR 4: Ideas for Documentation & Charging**

*Discussion of the proof and elements of the most frequently used charges, symptoms of strangulation, and suggestions for the most effective charging decisions.*

# Determining the Dominant Aggressor

May 10, 2019  
8 AM to 12 PM

## Agenda

### **HOUR 1: Power & Control Tactics**

*Understanding the history of mandatory arrest, scene manipulation and the signs of coercive control.*

### **HOUR 2: When Both Parties Report Violence**

*The definition of mutual combat, dual v. single arrests & following the Decision Tree*

### **HOUR 3: The Law of Self Defense & 455.085**

*The definition of probable cause, the requirements of Section 455.085 & what is self defense?*

### **HOUR 4: Tactics in Truth**

*Forensic injuries to document, trauma informed questions & ways to look beyond the obvious to protect true victims & hold dangerous offenders accountable.*

Handouts will be sent to all registered participants in a web link a few days prior to class.

## About the Presenter

### **Catherine Vannier**

In late 2006, MOPS hired Catherine Vannier as its first ever Family Violence Resource Prosecutor. The position was originally created by grant as a part of a larger, joint effort between the Office of State Courts' Administrator, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, the Missouri Board of Probation and Parole and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Statewide criminal justice professionals designed the position to provide resource materials, support and training to prosecutors, law enforcement and allied professionals.

Over more than 11 years, Catherine has developed and expanded the program to assist and train thousands of justice professionals. Catherine has more than 20 years of experience as a prosecutor. Catherine handled family violence cases exclusively for 6 years as a line prosecutor. She was instrumental in creating a specialized domestic violence unit in her jurisdiction. During her tenure as an active prosecutor, she learned the importance of coordinating the community's response to violence, sitting as a board member on the local family violence council, as well other police and community task forces and committees.

Catherine has given a number of trainings on the prosecution of family and sexual violence cases. She continually adapts and improves her presentations based on feedback from past audiences. She uses examples from her closed cases as well as other examples she has learned about from her trainings, travel and experience in the field.

Catherine received the 2012 James P. Damos Award by the Missouri Victims' Assistance Network (MOVA) in recognition of her willingness to go above and beyond her designated duties in order to effect positive change for victims.

Catherine has served as an appointed member of the Missouri Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children, which was created by the General Assembly in 2011. Catherine has chaired the Task Force's Multi-Disciplinary Team Best Practices Working Group since 2013. Catherine has served on several other groups, including the Department of Public Safety's Cyber Crimes Advisory Group, the State of Missouri's Child Fatality Review Panel and the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorney's Best Practices Initiative Special Victims' Subcommittee, among others.