DEPARTMENT NOTICE

26-135
Published: XX/XX/XX
Expires: XX/XX/XX

Revised SFPD Form 617

DGO 6.09, *Domestic Violence*, was adopted by the Police Commission and is effective on XX/XX/XX. As such, *SFPD 617 Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment* has been updated since its last revision in April 2022. Since that time, there have been some changes with domestic violence investigations. Therefore, SFPD 617 has been updated with the following changes:

- The Lethality Assessment is no longer titled as "CONFIDENTIAL"
- Body Worn Cameras shall not be deactivated while conducting the Lethality Assessment
- Members are no longer required to call an advocate if the victim declines
- Two new advisements have been added that members can read directly to the victim

Members shall immediately begin use of the new SFPD 617 and recycle outdated forms. A copy of the revised SFPD 617 is attached to this Department Notice and can be located in the desktop file "SFPD Forms" and in the PowerDMS folder titled "Forms." The facilities coordinator at each district station or unit can pick up copies of SFPD 617 at the print shop in the basement of the HOJ, 850 Bryant Street, or order them with your supplies order.

PENDING DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

DERRICK J. LEW
Chief of Police

Per DN 26-131, all sworn & non-sworn members shall electronically acknowledge this Department document in PowerDMS within (30) thirty calendar days of issuance. Members whose duties are relevant to this document shall be held responsible for compliance. Any questions regarding this policy should be sent to sfpd.writtendirectives@sfgov.org who will provide additional information.

SFPD Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment

Victim Advisement: "I'm required to ask a few questions to determine whether your situation is at high risk of serious injury or death. Your answers will help me determine if we should connect with an advocate who can help with immediate needs for the next 24 hours, such as shelter. **Your participation is voluntary."**

Officer:	Date:	Case #:
Victim:		
□ **Check here if the victim declined to participate in the screening questions**		
□ **Check here if the officer could not administer the screen**		
Section A: "Yes" response to any of these questions classifies the victim as High-Danger		
1. **Weapon Use:** Has your partner ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with one?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
2. **Death Threats:** Has your partner threatened to kill you (or the children)?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
3. **Victim Fear:** Do you think your partner might try to kill you?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
Section B:** If the victim answers "No" to all questions in Section A, **they are still classified as High-Danger if they answer "Yes" to four or more of the following:		
4. **Gun access**: Does your partner have a gun or can they access one easily?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
5. **Strangulation:** Has your partner ever tried to choke/strangle you?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
6. **Jealousy/Control**: Is your partner violently or constantly jealous, or do they control most of your daily activities?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
7. **Separation**: Have you left or separated from your partner after living together or being married?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
8. **Unemployed**: Is your partner currently unemployed?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
9. **Suicidal Ideation**: Has your partner ever tried or threatened to kill themselves?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
10. **Non-Biological Child**: Are any of the children in the home not biologically your partners?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
11. **Stalking**: Does your partner follow or spy on you or leave threatening messages?		□ Yes □ No □ No answer
High-Danger Assessment:		
Check one: □ Victim screened in based on score ("Yes" to any question in Section A **-OR-** "Yes" to 4 or more questions in Section B) □ Victim screened in based on observation of risk by the officer (officer discretion/override)		
High-Danger Advisement: "This situation has been assessed as High-Danger, which means there is a high risk of your serious injury or death. I urge you to contact a DV advocate to see if immediate services can be provided. The advocate's contact information will be included in the paperwork I provide you with. You do not have to speak with them now, but I strongly encourage you to do so. Would you like me to call a domestic violence advocate for you right now?"		Advisement made: □ Yes □ No
Did the victim decline to call the hotline advocate? Did the victim call and speak with a hotline advocate? Did the victim accept any immediate services?		□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □Unknown

PENDING DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

Referral Protocol

1. For incidents that DID NOT screen as High-Danger: Officers may use discretion on how to end the assessment (discuss follow-up forms, provide information about DV advocates and programs, etc.)

2. For incidents that DID screen as High-Danger: Read the victim the "High- Danger Advisement"
   - If the victim accepts the offer to call, the officer will call the hotline from their department-issued cell unless the victim prefers to use their own phone.
     - The officer will call one of the three primary 24/7 victim services listed on SFPD Form 142:
       - La Casa de las Madres hotline at: (877) 503-1850
       - W.O.M.A.N., Inc. hotline at: (877) 384-3578
       - San Francisco Women Against Rape (SFWAR) hotline at: (415) 647-7273
   - If the victim declines the offer to call the advocate, the above resources are listed in the Special Victims Follow Up & Resource Guide (SFPD 142).
3. **This does not meet the criteria for deactivating BWC per DGO 10.11.**

4. Members shall complete the form and ensure it is entered into Evidence.com. Members shall categorize each piece of digital evidence as AME.

5. Responses recorded on this form are subject to disclosure in accordance with applicable law, including disclosure during criminal proceedings. If the victim requested confidentiality pursuant to Penal Code § 293, the victim's name shall be protected from public disclosure.

PENDING DEPARTMENT APPROVAL