

Subject: Mailchimp Template Test - "Welcome to our new IPS Grantees!"

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From: info@aequitasresource.org

To: agraber@aequitasresource.org



WELCOME NEW 2021 IPS SITES!

The IPS Initiative is growing, with 25 sites beginning innovative projects this year. New grantees are focused on restorative justice, juvenile justice, domestic violence prevention, forensic technology, digital evidence, and much more. Learn more about the IPS FY21 grantees and their projects [here!](#)



FEATURED RESOURCE

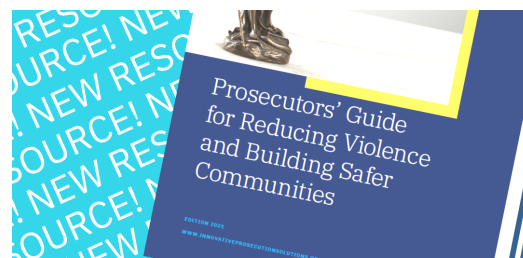
[The Prosecutors' Guide for Reducing Violence and Building Safer Communities](#)

Informed by a roundtable of experienced prosecutors from around the country, this Guide provides a systematic way for prosecutors' offices to evaluate their practices with respect to the key elements of a successful violent crime reduction strategy.

This Guide is intended to enable the



executives responsible for operating a prosecutor's office to identify policies and practices that can be readily implemented, as well as those that represent actionable goals to work toward. It suggests practices that are customizable and scalable, from foundational to enhanced, depending on an office's available resources and experiences, as well as jurisdiction-specific needs and challenges.



STRATEGIES IN FOCUS

St. Paul City Attorney's Office



“Gone on Arrival” (GOA) domestic violence incidents make up over half of the domestic violence cases referred to the [St. Paul City Attorney's Office](#) (SPCAO). Domestic abusers who flee the crime scene are often more dangerous and pose a greater threat to victim safety than arrested suspects. SPCAO created the “GOA Project” to specifically address domestic violence cases where the offender is no longer at the crime scene when law enforcement arrives. The office is employing an inter-agency approach by hiring a designated prosecutor and a system advocate to work with the St. Paul Police Department to reduce threats to victim safety by shortening case processing time, and ensuring that all victims receive immediate access to resources. The site also recently held a Domestic Violence Training Series, presented by AEquitas, to train prosecutors on complex issues such as witness intimidation, forfeiture by wrongdoing, victim participation, preserving and introducing digital evidence, and trial tactics.

CASE HIGHLIGHT

[State v. Lamoureux, 485 P.3d 192 \(Mont. 2021\)](#)

The defendant was found guilty of three counts of privacy in communications based on three threatening phone calls the defendant made to his ex-wife and his ex-father-in-law. On appeal, the defendant argued, *inter alia*, that the statute is facially overbroad and restricts content-based speech in violation of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. The Supreme Court of Montana held that the statute is “narrowly tailored to accomplish the State's asserted purpose—caustic, abusive, and robust speech is fully protected until it rises to the level of threats which cause

harm to society.” The statute at issue criminalizes intentionally harmful activities—communication with the purpose to terrify, intimidate, threaten, harass, or offend—not merely disagreeable communication. The defendant’s statements to both victims “were debasing, callous, and malicious. Although quite expressive, his statements were void of any social value whatsoever and they bore little to “no essential part of any exposition of ideas.”

The defendant filed a petition for writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court of the United States to determine “whether a statute that criminalizes speech intended to annoy or offend is unconstitutionally overbroad under the First Amendment.” The State of Montana filed a [Brief in Opposition](#) on December 15, 2021. The case is still pending.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

January 13, 2022, 9 AM ET to 4:30 PM ET: Trauma-informed Strategies to Address Victim and Witnesses Intimidation and Retaliation — A deep understanding of victim and witness intimidation and retaliation is crucial in any agency’s violent crime reduction strategy. Across our country, jurisdictions seek training and technical assistance to inform their policies and approaches when engaging with victims, witnesses, families, and communities experiencing violent crime. [Register here.](#)

January 20, 2022, 2 PM ET: AEQUITAS' Office Hours — Join AEQUITAS on the third Thursday of every month to discuss your questions regarding the prosecution of intimate partner violence, sexual violence, human trafficking, and stalking with experienced prosecutors and other participants in the field. [Register here.](#)

March 3-4, 2022: Cities & Counties for Fine and Fee Justice Bootcamp in Phoenix, AZ — Over the course of two days, the Bootcamp will provide an overview of the problem of government reliance on fines and fees, train attendees on the Roadmap for Equitable Fine and Fee Reform framework, and provide actionable tools and resources to help jurisdictions lay the groundwork to advance reform. Additionally, the Bootcamp will provide deep dives on specific reform issue areas, including roundtable conversations with policymakers and advocates leading on these reforms nationally. [Please submit the application by Sunday, January 16, 2022.](#)



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[W.E.B. Du Bois Program of Research on Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Justice System](#)

This program supports investigator-initiated research examining how observed racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system might be reduced through public policy interventions at any point during the administration of justice. Applications are accepted until January 13, 2022.

[FY 2022 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation \(CTAS\)](#)

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is seeking applications for funding to improve public safety and victim services in tribal communities. The Coordination Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) provides federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia an opportunity to apply for funding to aid in developing a comprehensive and coordinated approach to public safety and victimization. Applications are accepted until March 15, 2022.

[2022 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Community Awareness Projects Funding Opportunity](#)

The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA), in cooperation with the Office for Victims of Crime, is seeking proposals for innovative and collaborative approaches to promoting community-wide public awareness of the rights and available services for victims of all types of crimes during National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW), April 24-30, 2022.



AEquitas

1000 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 1010 | Washington, DC 20005

AEquitasResource.org | info@aequitasresource.org

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