

## Prostitution Diversion and Human Trafficking Court Self-Assessment

A self-assessment provides an opportunity for courts to take inventory of current practices and identify areas that may need improvement. This self-assessment, in particular, is designed as a guide for jurisdictions interested in developing or enhancing a court model that responds to prostitution, human trafficking, and/or the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). It can be administered by an individual court, or be led by a statewide agency, such as the Administrative Office of the Courts. Responses can then be used to inform the development of new policies and initiatives.

Enhancing Victim/Defendant Safety and Reducing Barriers					
	Yes, Fully In Place	In Progress	Needs Improvement	Don't Know	N/A
There is clear signage at the courthouse that directs victim/defendants to services and other safety-related resources.					
Courtroom staff are trained on the dynamics of prostitution and human trafficking, trauma reactions, adolescent brain development, and how to improve courtroom practices to reduce re-traumatization.					
Potential victim/defendants are identified and receive a needs assessment.					
Potential victim/defendants are diverted to advocacy, child welfare, truancy, and social services with trafficking expertise.					
Courtroom staff create a safe environment for victim/defendants.					
The court has extra security measures (such as removing exploiters and traffickers from the courtroom and/or escorting the victim/defendant out of the courthouse) when necessary.					

Criminal convictions and the use of jail or detention are reduced for potential victim/defendants.					
The court follows confidentiality rules per each case type and avoids revealing sensitive information in open court.					

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Individualized Treatment or Service Mandate

	Yes, Fully In Place	In Progress	Needs Improvement	Don't Know	N/A
The court brokers and maintains partnerships with local service providers to facilitate referrals for victim/defendants.					
The court, or co-located service providers, use an assessment tool to determine victim/defendant needs and appropriate referrals/mandates.					
The assessment tool is gender responsive and trauma-informed.					
The court links victim/defendants to appropriate trauma-informed services (i.e., counseling, advocacy, child welfare, legal services, housing, drug treatment, etc.) based on their needs.					
The court uses a continuum of treatment modalities and services that address victim/defendant needs.					
The court ensures that referrals are to service providers that use trauma-informed and evidence-based practices.					

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Language Access for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Litigants

	Yes, Fully In Place	In Progress	Needs Improvement	Don't Know	N/A
Interpreter services are made available to victim/defendants (i.e., non-English languages or American Sign Language) or Language Line services are used.					
Services are available both inside and outside of the courtroom, included in court-mandated programs.					
If appropriate in your community, court forms are available in multiple languages (i.e., Spanish, Mandarin, etc.).					
Training on interpreter best practices and language access obligations is available to judges and courtroom staff.					
Training on the dynamics of prostitution and trafficking, trauma reactions, and improved courtroom practices is available to interpreters.					

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Procedural Justice

	Yes, Fully In Place	In Progress	Needs Improvement	Don't Know	N/A
The judge introduces themselves at the beginning of proceedings and greets all parties neutrally.					
The judge makes eye contact with the victim/defendant.					
The judge and attorneys give victim/defendant an opportunity to speak during judicial status hearings and ask open-ended questions.					
The judge and attorneys explain the court process and how decisions are made.					
The judge explains sidebars.					
The judge uses plain English and clearly explains responsibilities and decisions to victim/defendants.					
The court shows interest in victim/defendant needs.					
The court makes it clear how LEP victim/defendants can request an interpreter.					

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Victim/Defendant Accountability and Compliance

	Yes, Fully In Place	In Progress	Needs Improvement	Don't Know	N/A
The court regularly reviews victim/defendant compliance with court orders.					
The court uses a continuum of graduated sanctions to address non-compliance with mandated services and/or re-arrest that recognize barriers victim/defendants experience.					
Service providers accurately and regularly inform the court about victim/defendant progress and compliance with court orders.					

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Stakeholder Collaboration and Enhancement

	Yes, Fully In Place	In Progress	Needs Improvement	Don't Know	N/A
Community and justice system stakeholders actively engage with the court and court staff on a regular basis (e.g. stakeholder meetings).					
Justice system stakeholders collaborate on court policies and case-level decisions.					
Justice system stakeholders and service providers collaborate to offer services and assess victim/defendant progress/compliance.					
Justice system stakeholders and service providers both participate in case review meetings as appropriate (while adhering to confidentiality protocols).					
The court continually seeks new and relevant stakeholder/agencies to participate in stakeholder meetings.					
The court provides leadership in developing partnerships with culturally and linguistically-specific providers to ensure that underserved populations are able to access voluntary and mandated services.					

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Training

Which court staff/partners have been trained regarding prostitution and human trafficking dynamics, trauma reactions, trauma-informed courtroom practices, adolescent brain development, and/or effective court-based strategies?	Yes	If yes, what topics?	No	Don't Know	N/A
Judge(s)					
Clerk(s)					
Court Officer(s)					
Project Coordinator/Planner					
Prosecutor(s)					
Defense Attorney(s)					
Interpreter(s)					
Child Welfare Agency					
Other (specify)					
	How often do such trainings occur? <b>(a)</b> Regularly <b>(b)</b> One-time <b>(c)</b> No training currently provided <b>(d)</b> Other, please specify: _____				
	What was the date of the most recent training for court staff/partners?				
	What topics would you like to see addressed in a future training?				

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Evaluation

	Yes, Fully In Place	In Progress	Needs Improvement	Don't Know	N/A
The court has established program goals and performance measures.					
The court collects key data elements to effectively gauge performance.					
The court monitors its implementation and outcomes on a regular basis.					
The court has had, or is in the process of undergoing, an independent evaluation.					

What goals or milestones will you meet in the next twelve months for items that are indicated as a work in progress or that need improvement?

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## Technical Assistance Project

The Center for Court Innovation is part of the Human Trafficking and the State Courts Collaborative, through which it provides hands-on training and technical assistance to jurisdictions seeking to plan, implement, enhance, or evaluate a local court response to human trafficking. The Center's approach to technical assistance is practitioner-focused and results-oriented, based on direct in-house expertise implementing court reform projects.

With support from the State Justice Institute, the Center is able to provide a variety of technical assistance services, including:

- Intensive, hands-on assistance to courts in all stages of planning and implementation;
- Site visits to prostitution diversion/human trafficking courts;
- Customized workshops, panels, and trainings on a range of topics, such as understanding the needs of trafficking victims, effective court-based responses, and "how to" sessions on planning court-based initiatives, engaging stakeholders, and integrating evidence-based practices;
- Model documents, a planning toolkit, and evaluation and research tools.

For more information or to request training and technical assistance, contact Danielle Malangone, Associate Director of the Center's Human Trafficking Initiative, at [malangoned@courtinnovation.org](mailto:malangoned@courtinnovation.org).