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# **NEWSLETTER**

The New LAP Form

The Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General recently updated the Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) Form. Since our team began in April, we've listened to feedback from professionals across the field who identified areas for improvement. We combined those suggestions to create a more streamlined form that highlights key information for law enforcement, victim service providers, and, most importantly, victim safety.

Below is a walkthrough of the updated form and its major changes:

### **Initial Information**

The top section of the form has been updated to include:

- Agency & Officer
- Date/Time
- Case #
- Offender
- Date of Birth
- Race/Sex
- Arrested?

## The Victim Assessment

The form is now divided into two main sections. The first is the Victim Assessment, which includes the standard 11 LAP questions. A reminder at the top instructs officers to complete this section away from the dominant aggressor. Key updates include:

- Changing the response option from "refused" to "not ans."
- Adding a checkbox for officers to indicate whether the victim screened in according to the protocol.



# **Bring LAP Training to Your Community**

Partner with Us to Strengthen Your Response to IPV

If your agency or community is interested in strengthening your response to intimate partner violence, we would be happy to provide a LAP training. Our team offers in-person and virtual sessions tailored to law enforcement, prosecutors, and service providers. To request a training or learn more, please fill out the form below—we're here to support your team in implementing a proactive, coordinated approach to victim safety.

# **Training Request Form**

# **Statistics**

Oklahoma has consistently ranked in the Top 10 in women being murdered by men in single victim/single offender incidents since 1996. The most recent state rankings ranked Oklahoma as 2nd in the nation when analyzing 2020 homicide data.



#### The Officer Assessment

The Officer Assessment section has been an established component of the LAP Form. A text box has now been added to allow officers to document the specific reason the protocol was initiated. This section emphasizes that officers may trigger the protocol based on training, experience, or gut instinct, even if the victim does not screen in.

The form states: "If the victim did not screen in or respond, use your training and experience to assess the situation. Document any lethality indicators or danger cues you observe, such as property damage, visible injuries, aggressive behaviors, or victim statements that suggest fear or risk."

Officers must then check a box indicating whether they chose to screen the victim in and provide a written explanation for their decision.

## **Trigger of the Protocol**

Finally, the form includes a box outlining the steps once the protocol is triggered:

- After advising the victim of a high danger assessment, officers ask if the victim would like to speak with a local OAG-Certified Domestic Violence Hotline Advocate or Tribal DV Hotline.
- If local programs cannot be reached, officers are instructed to call the 24/7 State SAFELINE (number provided on the form).
- Officers then indicate "yes" or "no" as to whether the victim spoke with a hotline.
- A final checkbox confirms whether the officer shared a safety plan with the victim.

# Resources

We offer two versions of the LAP Form: a Fillable version and a Printable version. The Printable form is a static version designed for manual completion, while the Fillable form allows users to complete it electronically. Both versions include a drop-down list of all OAG-Certified Victim Service Providers.

LAP Form - Printable LAP Form - Fillable OAG LAP Team Webpage



When the new form was first introduced, it included a Victim Services Confirmation Number. That requirement has been removed for now and will not be needed until the digital platform launches. On the updated form, the confirmation number box has been blacked out to reflect this change.

#### I Finished the Form. Now What?

Once the LAP form is completed, it must be routed according to your agency's policy.

By having a clear policy, agencies can ensure that LAP forms are not only completed but also used effectively to strengthen collaboration and increase victim protection.

## **Moving Forward, Together**

The updates to the form were designed to improve law enforcement's response to victims of intimate partner violence and to streamline the connection with victim service providers. The foundation of the form has not changed; the questions and overall process remain the same. What has changed is a stronger focus on officers' assessment of the scene

If your agency has any questions about this process, please don't hesitate to reach out to our team. We understand that changes to critical procedures can be challenging, and we're here to support you as we transition to the new form together. Ultimately, this form was developed with victim safety as the top priority, and we believe its implementation will strengthen the response to intimate partner violence cases.

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The Lethality Assessment Protocol represents one of our most critical tools in protecting vulnerable Oklahomans. This partnership between law enforcement and victim advocates isn't just procedure - it is a lifeline that saves lives."

