What Happens When I Call 911 For Help?

Victim calls 911 for help

Operator answers call. Asks for information from caller

If non-English Speaker, operator accesses Language Line for interpreter

Operator classifies call and assigns a priority code

Dispatcher assigns squad car.
Dispatcher enters information about call into computer in squad cars

Operator keeps caller on line and updates changes to the call or ends the call

Dispatcher checks in with police officers as they respond to the emergency

At any point you can contact
St. Paul & Ramsey County
Domestic Abuse Intervention
Project, 651-645-2824,
to speak with a
confidential advocate

Dispatcher will change the urgency and priority of the call based on the information that is given by the caller

What do St. Paul Police do when they respond to a 911 domestic abuse call?

911 dispatches squad

Officers arrive on scene, survey area, observe scene and activity, determine if weapons are present, determine if paramedics are needed

Interview the victim and suspect separately

Check for warrants, orders for protection, domestic abuse no contact orders or harassment restraining orders

Collect evidence:

Call camera car to take photos

Observe and document injuries

Observe damage / disarray

Interview you, suspect, witnesses

Have victim sign medical release form

Ask risk questions

If you don't speak English, police can access interpreter

If in Safe at Home Program, tell police. Give PO Box. Ask it be marked non-public

> If suspect Gone on Arrival (GOA), police call the dispatcher to update them and write GOA report

Dispatcher broadcasts description of GOA to all squads. Officers can arrest the suspect up to 72 hours

What do St. Paul Police do when they respond to a 911 domestic abuse call?

Determine:

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If anyone acted in self-defense

Who the primary aggressor is

Whether there is probable cause to arrest

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Police can:

Arrest

Not arrest

Advise

If arrest, suspect transported to jail and booked

Write police report

What happens when someone is arrested and brought to jail?

Officer brings suspect to jail

Inmate's property is collected, inventoried

Each morning jail staff check court list for inmates to appear in court for arraignment or first appearance when bail/ conditions of release may be

ordered

Deputy brings inmate to court

If release ordered, jail staff attempt to notify victim of inmate release

Get information about inmate by calling, 651-266-9350 or on website

www.co.ramsey.mn.us/sheriff/bookings

In domestic abuse cases, contact by inmate with you is blocked by jail

If no domestic abuse no contact order in place and you want contact, call jail to discuss

Bail is money given to court as a promise to appear. If bail not affordable, bail bondsman can pay court for non-refundable fee of 10%--20% of bail plus, in some cases, collateral

If you don't speak English, jail staff can access an interpreter.

What happens if I am contacted by a police investigator?

Family and Sexual
Violence Unit
receives police report
from the original
patrol/responding
officer

If you don't speak English, investigators can access an interpreter.

Case assigned to investigator

Investigator follows up

Reviews evidence collected

Collects additional evidence (medical reports, reinterviews you and witnesses, takes new photos, etc.)

Gives you contact information for investigator

Reviews case for charging

Consults with prosecutor

Submits case to prosecutors for charging

How does a defendant get released from jail before trial?

Project Remand (PR) gets notified from law enforcement center once defendant charged and booked

If you don't speak English, Project Remand staff can access an interpreter.

PR staff get criminal history, interview defendant, try to contact you to explain arraignment process and when defendant will appear in court

At any point you can contact St. Paul & Ramsey County Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, 651-645-2824, to speak with a confidential advocate.

Project Remand:

Completes bail evaluation

Presents to prosecutor, defense counsel and judge

Makes release recommendation

Judge orders bail and/or conditions of release

Project Remand will

- •explain conditions of release
- •call you to tell you of judge's order
- supervises defendant awaiting trial

Bail evaluation includes criminal and social history. It is tool that predicts defendant's likelihood to reoffend and to make court appearances

PR gets name and numbers of people who can verify information and calls to verify

PR also screens for public defender eligibility, chemical/alcohol and mental health problems

How does a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor domestic violence case move through the criminal justice system?

If suspect arrested, city attorney decides whether to charge within 36 hours unless judge grants extension to keep suspect in jail longer

If charged, prosecutor appears in arraignment court where

In misdemeanor case defendant pleads guilty or not guilty

Gross misdemeanor no plea, new court date set for plea

Project Remand presents pre-trial/bail evaluation

Judge orders conditions of release and/or bail

If guilty plea, case is resolved in arraignment court

If suspect not charged, suspect is released from jail

If suspect gone from scene, Gone on Arrival, prosecutor decides to charge or not charge. If charged, warrant will be issued for suspect's arrest

St. Paul City
Attorney's office tries
to contact you before
arraignment court

If domestic abuse no contact order is issued, city attorney's office will notify you by phone or mail

If not guilty plea, case scheduled for pre-trial or omnibus hearing

Defendant may be released from jail on conditions/bail until hearing

How does a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor domestic violence case move through the criminal justice system?

Pre-sentence investigation ordered (PSI)

Sentencing ordered approximately six weeks after guilty plea

 Defendant may be released until sentencing on condition he have no contact with you

Some St. Paul cases of high risk/lethality are directed to the Joint Special Victims Unit

Prosecutor and defense attorney try to settle case at pretrial/omnibus hearing

Case settled

Case not settled

Case scheduled for jury trial

If you don't speak English St.
Paul City Attorney staff can
access an interpreter

How does a felony domestic violence case move through the criminal justice system?

All felonies prosecuted by Ramsey County Attorney's Office When investigation is complete, case presented to county attorney. County attorney can:

charge

decline to charge or

release suspect pending further investigation

If felony charged, formal complaint drafted and filed If county attorney declines to charge, suspect released

If defendant is in jail, the first appearance occurs within 36-48 hours. At this hearing:

The defendant can plead guilty, but usually does not enter plea at this hearing

Eligibility for public defender is decided

Judge sets bail and/or conditions of release

County attorney's office victim/witness advocate assigned

Investigator can bring case to city attorney for charging review as misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor

How does a felony domestic violence case move through the criminal justice system?

Approximately four weeks after first appearance, omnibus hearing scheduled. Defendant pleads guilty or not guilty. Attempts are made to settle case.

Approximately four weeks after omnibus hearing, pre-trial is scheduled

Approximately four weeks after pre-trial, jury trial is scheduled

If guilty,
approximately six
weeks after jury trial,
sentencing occurs

Some St. Paul cases of high risk/lethality are directed to the Joint Special Victims Unit

At any time in process, defendant can plead guilty. After guilty plea:

Pre-sentence investigation ordered (PSI)

Probation will contact you for input

Approximately six weeks after plea, sentencing occurs

If you don't speak English, the staff at the Ramsey County Attorney's Office can access an interpreter

What happens after a defendant is found guilty or pleads guilty?

Court orders a pre-sentence investigation (PSI) done by probation

Probation will contact you for your input on domestic abuse history, desire for contact and sentence

Probation writes a PSI that includes

Official version of crime

Prior criminal history

Social history

Drug and alcohol background

Victim statement

History of domestic violence

Recommendations for sentence

If you don't speak English, probation officer can access an interpreter

If you are in Safe At Home Program you can give the probation officer your post office box mailing address

What happens after a defendant is found guilty or pleads guilty?

Your views go into confidential section of report

Note: although confidential section of PSI is not supposed to be shared with defendant, it is shared with defense attorney

PSI writer will confirm date, time of place of sentencing

After PSI presented, offender is sentenced

You can be present at sentencing and present a victim impact statement that defendant can read or hear

If offender placed on probation, supervising probation officer will be assigned to case within 3-5 business days

Supervising probation officer:

Sends you letter with his/her contact information

Monitors offender's behavior