Law Enforcement Survey on Domestic Violence Incidents – Informed Consent

About the Study
This study is designed to explore the perceptions, opinions, and impact of training for law enforcement officers who deal with domestic violence offenders and victims in the criminal justice system. This survey is designed to explore your opinions and perspectives on policing and domestic violence, so there are no “right or wrong” answers. We hope that the results of the study will inform decisions around law enforcement training on domestic violence issues. The survey will take approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

Voluntary Participation
The choice of whether to participate in this study is completely up to you. Your participation is completely voluntary, and refusal to participate will involve no penalty to you. If you decide to participate in the study, you have the right to withdraw your consent or discontinue participation at any time. You also have the right to refuse to answer any question you do not wish to answer.

Confidentiality
We guarantee that all of your answers and comments are confidential. Your responses to survey questions will be protected according to professional standards established by the Institutional Review Board at the UCD&HSC. Please do not include your name on the survey materials to help protect confidentiality. The information you provide will only be reported in aggregate form. Access to the raw data is limited to the researchers and graduate student assistants working on this project. The data will be securely stored for a 3 year time period only.

Benefits and Risks to Participation
Although you may not directly benefit from completing this survey, this research will provide you with the opportunity to have direct input on how to improve the response to and investigation of domestic violence calls. The minimal risks to your participation may include feelings of discomfort or embarrassment about domestic violence issues.

Researcher Contact Information
If you have any questions or concerns about the research study, please contact Mary Dodge, Ph.D., Associate Professor at UCD&HSC by phone (303) 556-5987 or email: mary.dodge@cudenver.edu. If you have questions about your rights as a participant, you may contact the Human Subjects Research Committee Administrator, 1380 Lawrence Street, Suite 300, at (303)556-4060.

Thank you for support,

Mary Dodge, Ph.D.
Angela Gover, Ph.D.