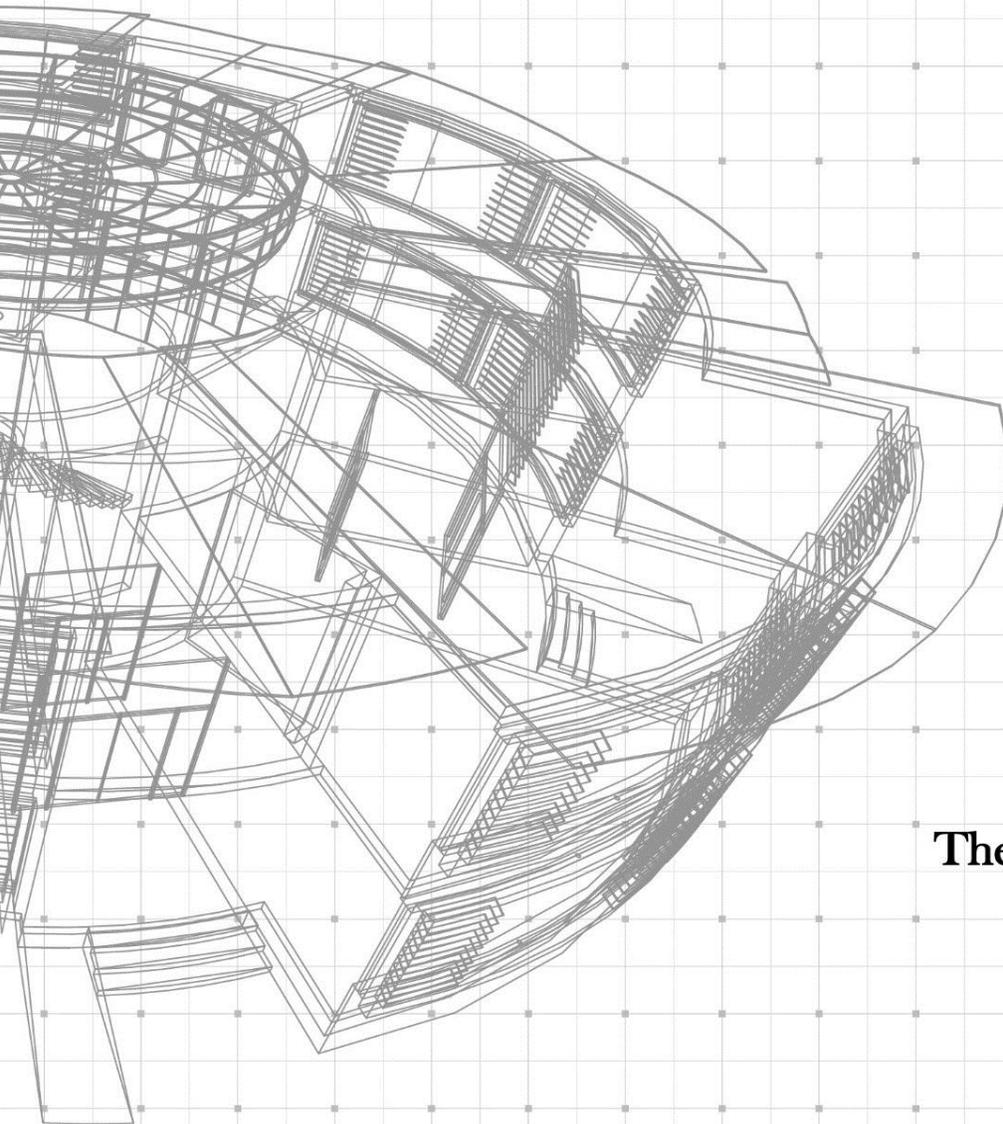


CHAPTER TEN

Court

City of New Orleans Municipal Court



The New Orleans
blueprint
for **safety**

Court

A Municipal Court Approach to Domestic Violence

Philosophies

Allow prosecutors/probation to present relevant information regarding the violence, risk, context, and severity of the case.

Determine pretrial conditions of release and bail based on risk factors present, victim safety, public safety and likelihood of reappearance.

Determine the issuance of stay away orders, pre-trial and post-conviction, on an individual basis. If the victim objects to issuance of a stay away order, assess both the context and risk to the victim if the stay away order is not issued and the difficulty for victim if it is ordered.

Establish a process to allow victims to request modification or dismissal of stay away orders.

Issue pretrial and probationary conditions in clear and precise language.

Read key conditions of probation aloud during sentencing.

Communicate in a person's first language and in ways that address limited English proficiency and literacy when possible.

Provide a prompt response to violations of conditions of pretrial release.

Distribute court orders, including conditions of pretrial release, stay away orders (and any modifications or cancellations), and probation conditions to involved parties and agencies, including to victim unless provided by another agency.

Issue a ruling that reflects risk, context and severity.

Obtain victim input on pleas and sentencing if possible.

Hear probation violations promptly.

Advise defendants of federal prohibitions on possession of firearms while under an order of protection.

Establish a courtroom atmosphere that enhances criminal justice system intervention to support victim safety and offender accountability.

Conduct regular supervisory review of court practices.