

NIWAP

CONFERENCE

Strengthening Community and Organizational Responses: Serving
Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON
COLLEGE OF LAW

THE WHY AND HOW OF RELATIONSHIP BUILDING AMONG LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTORS, COURTS, AND IMMIGRANT VICTIM'S ADVOCATES

Plenary IV
August 2023

NIWAP

National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project
American University Washington College of Law

Introductions



Rosemary Collins
Judge, Rockford, IL
(Retired)



Elliott Casey
Staff Attorney, Virginia
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Introductions



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Executive Director
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Thank You to OVW

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Learning Objectives

Throughout this workshop, participants will:

- Be provided the opportunity to work through a series of scenarios and exercises with the goal of building knowledge and sharing experiences in building collaborations that effectively address the needs of immigrant domestic and sexual violence victims

QUESTIONS FOR TODAY:

1. What are the problems in our collaborations regarding immigrant domestic and sexual violence victims?
2. What are the barriers to fixing the problems?
3. What are some ways that we have fixed broken relationships in the past?
4. What are the benefits of collaboration to address the needs of immigrant domestic and sexual violence victims?

A TRAGIC EXAMPLE: THE MURDER OF CLAIRE JOYCE TEMPONKO

- On October 22, 2000, Claire Joyce Tempongko was brutally murdered by her ex-boyfriend, Tari Beltranchuc, aka Tari Ramirez.
- For more than 18 months, Claire had repeatedly called San Francisco police to report Beltranchuc's violence and threats against her.
- She repeatedly told officers of the escalating violence, her fears for herself and her children, and of her desire that Beltranchuc be arrested and prosecuted.
- After a particularly violent assault that Beltranchuc committed while on probation for a previous assault on Claire, the case was referred to probation, rather than for criminal charges.

MURDER AND THE CHANGE THAT FOLLOWED

- The DA's office claims they never received the report, despite indications on the police report that their office was copied.
- No arrest was made, and no charges were filed. No one served Beltranchuc with a protective order that Claire had obtained.
- Beltranchuc returned and threatened Claire.
- Soon thereafter, Beltranchuc stabbed Claire to death in her home in front of her two young children.
- Beltranchuc escaped to Mexico and was extradited in 2006.
- Beltranchuc is now in prison for the murder.
- This case led to many changes in San Francisco's legal system.

THE PROBLEMS WE FACE

Challenges Ahead

Large Group Discussion

What are the problems in our collaborations regarding immigrant domestic and sexual violence victims?

PROBLEMS WE FACE

- Inadequate responses to community members who are in danger
- Immigrant survivors may lack trust or confidence in legal system
- Perpetrators may exploit immigrant victims without detection for extended time
- Challenges connecting people to u-visa, t-visa, and VAWA relief
- *What problems do you face?*

BARRIERS TO FIXING THE PROBLEMS

What Stands In The Way

Large Group Discussion

What are the barriers to fixing the problems?

BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

- A history of past failures and broken promises?
- Lack of trust?
- Lack of cooperation between agencies?
- Inadequate resources?
- *What barriers have you experienced?*

HOW HAVE WE OVERCOME OUR CHALLENGES?

Ways We Have Fixed Broken
Relationships In The Past

Large Group Discussion

What are some ways that we
have fixed broken relationships
in the past?

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

- Listening to communities
- Partnering with community organizations
- Educating communities to overcome myths and misunderstandings
- *What has worked for you in the past?*

BENEFITS OF COLLABORATION

A Brighter Future

Large Group Discussion

1. What are the benefits of collaboration to address the needs of immigrant domestic and sexual violence victims?

WHY COLLABORATION IS ALWAYS BETTER

- Effective delivery of services to people most in need
- Building trust and confidence in the criminal justice system
- Identifying the best resources to solve problems
- Improving policies and practices to better service communities
- *Tell us how collaboration has changed your community*

QUESTIONS?

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Technical Assistance and Materials

- NIWAP Technical Assistance:
 - Call (202) 274-4457
 - E-mail info@niwap.org
 - Web Library: www.niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu
- Materials for this Workshop:
 - <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/BostonRelationshipBuilding>
- Contact NIWAP to provide training for your jurisdiction