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Project Director

Help on the Homefront

ACTION OHIO

Coalition For Battered Women

5900 Roche Dr., Suite 445

Columbus, OH 43229-3285

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CRISIS MANAGEMENT

Domestic Violence in the Department

*For Law Enforcement Officers
Especially Police Chiefs, Sheriffs &
Supervisory Staff*



Tuesday, October 28, 2008

9 A.M. – 3:15 P.M.

At Ohio Department of Agriculture

Bromfield Administrative Building

8995 East Main St.

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Certificates of Participation (5 hrs)
awarded to attendees.

Featuring

Aviva Kurash

MSW, Project Manager, Police Response to Violence Against Women Project
International Association of Chiefs of Police

Ret. Corporal Dave Thomas

Formerly with the Montgomery County (MD) Police Department

The Domestic Response Unit

Akron Police Department



Part I—Morning Session

Police leaders across the country have taken steps to prevent violence, reduce department liability, enhance victim safety and preserve careers by proactively confronting the issue of domestic violence committed by police officers. IACP's Police Response to Violence Against Women Project offers law enforcement leaders the opportunity to learn how to cope with domestic violence when it involves your officers, and more importantly, how to put a plan in place before facing this crisis. Part I will highlight practical strategies, resources and tools including the IACP Policy on Domestic Violence by Police Officers.

Part II—Afternoon Session

Following lunch break the Domestic Response Unit of the Akron Police Department will provide information about the impact of domestic violence on the department and its response to this crisis. The Domestic Response Unit serves as an example of how one law enforcement agency confronted and worked through a crisis and developed a workable solution to benefit officers, their families and the department. The presentation will include:

- APD's Domestic Violence Procedure;
- Support for officers & their families;
- Community collaboration & referral services;
- Measurable outcomes as result of the Domestic Response Unit.

Presenters

Aviva Kurash is Project Manager for the Police Response to Violence Against Women Project. In her role she has educated law enforcement and created policies and instructive tools on Violence Against Women crimes since 2001. Ms. Kurash has advocated for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse, both in the U.S. and internationally. She spent two years working in child protective services and four years counseling victims and survivors and facilitating groups in a community-based domestic violence center in Jerusalem, Israel. She then moved to Northern Virginia where she managed a transitional housing program for women and children fleeing abuse and provided training for local law enforcement and social services providers. Ms. Kurash was a member of the Fairfax County Network Against Family Abuse and was active in the Northern Virginia Turn Off the Violence Youth Speak Out Against Violence and has taught in the Master's of Social Work Program at George Mason University (VA). She received a B.A. in Psychology from Indiana University and a Master's of Social Work degree from Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel.

Ret. Cpl. Dave Thomas retired on full disability from the Montgomery County Police Department in December of 2000 after 15 years of service. His final assignment was with the Domestic Violence Unit, which he helped establish. He was responsible for developing the department's domestic violence training program, curriculum and policy. Upon leaving the department, Mr. Thomas served as a Senior Advisor to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention Victim Services Unit as a Domestic Violence Specialist. He currently holds the position of Program Administrator of the Domestic Violence Education Program for the Police Executive Leadership Program at Johns Hopkins University. His duties include coordination of domestic violence training throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region. Mr. Thomas presently serves on the Board of the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence, Attorney General and Lt. Governor's Family Violence Council Legislative Action Team, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' Advisory Board, and The Battered Women's Project National Advisory Board. He is also a domestic violence instructor for the IACP, the Office on Violence Against Women, the National Institutes of Justice, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Community Policing Institute, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the National College of District Attorneys. He has also provided domestic violence training in Russia and Ukraine on behalf of the U.S. State Department. He received his Bachelor's degree from Towson University and his Master's degree from the University of Maryland.