

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE FOR CALIFORNIA MCLE

Top portion of form to be completed by the Provider

It is preferred that the form is pre-printed with the attendees name and bar number.

Provider Name: Ventura County District Attorney's Office
Provider Number: 1130
Title of Activity: Strangulation
Date(s) of Activity: May 23, 2018
Time of Activity: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location of Activity (City/State): Ventura, CA

This Activity qualifies for: Participatory ☒ Self-Study ☐
Total California MCLE Credit Hours for the above activity: 2.00 hours, including the following sub-field credits:

- Legal Ethics: _____
- Recognition and Elimination of Bias: _____
- Competence Issues: _____

Bottom portion of form to be completed by the Attorney after participation in the above-referenced activity

By signing below, I certify that I participated in all, or some*, of the activity described above and am therefore entitled to claim the following California MCLE credit hours:

Total California MCLE Credit Hours: _____, including the following sub-field credits:

- Legal Ethics: _____
- Recognition and Elimination of Bias: _____
- Competence Issues: _____

(You may not claim credit for the subfields above unless the provider is granting credit in those areas above.)

Print Your Name (clearly): _____

Your California State Bar Number: _____

Signature: _____

* partial participation hours must be pro-rated

Audry Nafziger- Strangulation outline

STRANGULATION & LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Why Strangulation?

Why Now?

STRANGULATION & FEMALE HOMICIDE

Non-fatal strangulation is highly associated with future lethality (2008 Study)

56% Female homicide victims experienced previous strangulation by their partners (1994-2000 study)

2 Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Daniel Webster, Jane Koziol-McLain, et al. "Risk Factors for Femicide in Abusive Relationships: Results from a Multisite Case Control Study." American Journal of Public Health, Volume 93, No. 7 (July 2003) 1089-1097

Glass, N, et al (2008). Non-fatal strangulation is an important risk factor for homicide of women. Journal of Emergency Medicine Oct; 35(3): 329-35.

Of these 68% of women...

A STRANGULATION VICTIM IS 750% MORE LIKELY TO BE MURDERED

Glass et. Al. (2008) Non-fatal strangulation is an important risk factor for homicide of women. Journal of Emergency Medicine, 35(3), 329-335

How children in Violent homes are impacted

Strangulation is the most lethal form of violence

Children are present 50% of the time

Young boys who are physically abused are 3x more likely to becoming a violent offender

Young boys who witness DV in the home are 6x more likely to becoming a violent offender

Survey of Homicidal Violence Against
Law Enforcement in Riverside County
(1993-2012)

D.V. HOMICIDE IN VENTURA COUNTY

Past 14 months

Nine Domestic Violence Related Homicides

Ventura County 2016 Stats

Over 3,000 Domestic Violence Incidents

Nationwide 10% = Strangulation

Estimated over 300 strangulation related in Ventura County

**VCMC Leaders in the Movement
To Treat Victims of Strangulation**

15-25 Hospitals Nationwide have Strangulation Protocol

Ventura County Efforts to Protect & Treat Victims of Strangulation

New law enforcement training underway

VPD first agency fully trained as of May 2017

County-wide Law Enforcement goal

Protocol on Strangulation adopted by end of 2017

Other First Responder Training

Fire/EMT

Outreach to other area hospitals

CASE STUDY

With permission- Riverside County

Case Management

HPI: "The patient is a 36 year old female who had domestic violence in the past from strangulation from her husband who was involved in a recurrent domestic violence assault last Thursday **six days prior to presentation**. At that event, she has some area or the event that are somewhat cloudy, but she states he remembers him 'coming going for her throat.'"

NO EXTERNAL SIGNS OF INJURY

50% Of Fatal Strangulations had no external signs of injury

50% had visible injuries

Of these, only 15% can be externally photographed

STRACK, G.B. McClane, G.E., & Hawley, D (2001) A review of 300 attempted strangulation cases: Part 1: Criminal Legal Issues

CRIMINAL LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

TORTURE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

WILLFUL CRUELTY TO A CHILD

INFLECTING TRAUMATIC INJURY TO CHILD

ELDER ABUSE

Why are these cases so challenging for Law Enforcement?

Visible external injury may not be immediately present

Victim may have difficulty describing the incident

We may be focused on other injuries

We lack a consistent approach to investigating these cases

MEDICAL EVIDENCE

Documented Signs

Documented Symptoms

Photos, Radiological evidence

*Rhino-laryngoscopy

Written Observations

Internal Petechial Hemorrhaging

Victim May Have Difficulty Remembering Trauma

Evidence of Alterations of Consciousness

= Anoxic Injury

A period of dizziness

Felt stunned or disoriented

Seen stars or spots (visual impairment)

Loss of consciousness or blacked out

Loss of memory

Standing up one minute then waking up on the floor

Change of location

Bowel or bladder incontinence

Unexplained bump on head

Brain Injury in Battered Women,

Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 2003, Vol. 71, No. 4, 797-804

Long Term Health Consequences Include

Death

Stroke –Acute Ischemic and Cryptogenic

CTE

Cervical spinal injury

Seizures

Thyroid Storm

Carotid artery dissection

Jugular thrombosis

Airway swelling

Medical Professionals Best Position to Gather Signs & Symptoms

We call this “Evidence”

Better Documented less likely call you to Court

Stronger cases = more guilty pleas

At times, ability to utilize other experts

May still need you at trial

Resources

www.strangulationtraininginstitute.com

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SUPERVISING SR. DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

Strangulation: Assessment To Sentencing

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

Gina D'Aquila

Gina D'Aquila

1. Strangulation [20 minutes]
 - a. Introduction
 - i. Why now
 - b. Case Study
 - i. Background
 - ii. Medical vs. Forensic
 - iii. injuries
 - iv. medical studies
 - v. Case outcome
 - c. Definition of strangulation
 - i. Manual
 - ii. Ligature
 - iii. Choking
 - iv. Suffocation
2. Strangulation Facts [20 minutes]
 - a. Pounds of pressure
 - i. Occlusion of vessels and blood flow
 1. Pounds per square inch
 - ii. Signs and symptoms of occlusion
 1. Assessment
 2. Injuries
 3. Lack of injuries
 - b. Signs and systems
 - i. Most common S/S
 - ii. Subjective reports
 - iii. Related research
 - c. Medical studies
 - i. Golden standard
 1. CTA
 2. MRI
 - d. Effects on the brain
 - i. Hippocampus
 - ii. LOC
 1. Memory loss
 2. Cell death
 - e. Petechial hemorrhage
 - i. Venous blood
 - ii. Arterial blood

1. Blood flow related to visible injury

iii. Scleral hemorrhage

3. Case study [20 minutes]

a. Case Background

i. Injuries

ii. Case Outcome

b. Injury examples

i. Patterned marks

ii. Fingertip bruising

iii. Scratch marks

iv. Petechiae

v. Scleral hemorrhage

vi. Ligature marks

c. Minimization

i. By professionals

ii. Defendants

iii. Victims

iv. Power and control wheel

d. Research

i. Controlled inmate study

ii. Filmed hangings

iii. Surviving victims