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Final Report on the Evaluation of the Judicial Oversight Demonstration

VOLUME 4

Findings Report on Survey Methodology

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Chapter 1. Survey Methodology for the Judicial Oversight Demonstration

The JOD Demonstration

The Judicial Oversight Demonstration (JOD) Initiative was funded by the Office of Violence Against Women with the goal of improving victim safety and offender accountability in intimate partner violence (IPV) cases. JOD aimed to achieve these goals through a strong judicial response, combined with coordinated community services and integrated justice system policies in IPV cases. Since the start of JOD in 2000, the courts in Dorchester, Massachusetts, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Washtenaw County, Michigan, worked in partnership with their prosecutors' offices, victim service providers, batterer intervention programs, police, probation, and other community agencies to promote these goals. The JOD core intervention strategies included the following components:

- Uniform and consistent initial responses to domestic violence offenses, including: a) pro-arrest policies, b) identification and arrest of the primary aggressor, and c) a coordinated response by law enforcement;
- Coordinated victim advocacy and services, including: a) contact by advocates as soon as possible after the domestic violence call, b) an individualized “safety plan” for the victim and children (if appropriate), and c) provision of needed services such as shelters, protection orders, and other assistance; and
- Strong offender accountability and oversight, including: a) intensive court-based supervision, b) referral to appropriate batterer intervention and other needed programs, and c) administrative and judicial sanctions and incentives to influence offender behavior.

The demonstration was funded with two long-term goals in mind: 1) to learn from the experiences of well-qualified sites who were given resources and challenged to build a collaboration between the courts and community agencies to respond to IPV; and 2) to test the impact of JOD interventions on victim safety and offender accountability.

The evaluation included both impact and process evaluation. This chapter describes the methods used in the impact evaluation surveys of victims and offenders.

Impact Evaluation Overview

The evaluation used a quasi-experimental design that compares victims and offenders in eligible intimate partner violence (IPV) criminal cases in the Judicial Oversight Demonstration (JOD) sites to similar victims and offenders in comparison jurisdictions. Evaluation data sources included agency records and in-person interviews with victims and offenders approximately two months after case disposition or sentencing and again nine months later. Atlantic Research and Consulting (Atlantic) conducted the in-person interviews in Massachusetts. The Center for Urban Studies (CUS) at Wayne State University conducted the in-person interviews in Michigan.

The impact evaluation compared criminal IPV cases in two JOD sites, Dorchester, MA and Washtenaw County, MI to similar cases in Lowell, MA and Ingham County, MI. Court records in each site were reviewed to identify eligible cases. All domestic violence cases reaching

disposition were reviewed and sampled if appropriate. The files of all criminal domestic violence cases disposed during the sampling period in participating courts were reviewed for eligibility. Information was collected from police and court files on the incident, court processing, and the victim and offender characteristics and contained information on the population of cases represented by the survey sample recorded in a database. This database was used to identify respondents for in-person interviewing.

Victims and offenders in eligible cases were recruited for interviews independently; there was no requirement that both parties in a case agree to be interviewed. Sample members were recruited by mail, phone and in-person. Respondents completed the interviews on laptop computers, assisted as needed by the interviewer. Hardcopy versions of the questionnaires were used when interviewing incarcerated offenders and when computer difficulties arose. Neither survey firm matched respondents to interviewers based on race or gender. However, male interviewers were not assigned to interview female victims. Spanish versions of the questionnaires were prepared and used by bilingual interviewers. Bilingual interviewers and translation services were available when needed for other languages.

The initial interview was preceded by obtaining written informed consent to study participation and collecting information on how to locate respondents for the follow up interview. At this time, the interviewer answered questions about the study and gave victim respondents written contact information on agencies in their community that provided services for victims of domestic violence. All the follow up respondents were again asked for consent to complete the interview. The average time between the case disposition and completion of the initial interview was two months. The average time between the initial interview and follow up interview was nine months.

Most interviews were completed in the home, courthouse, or survey offices.¹ Other locations included food outlets, public places, homes of relatives, and jail (by special arrangement for a few offenders). Interviews were always conducted in a setting that ensured privacy for the respondent. Interviewers were trained in procedures for protecting their own safety and were told not to conduct interviews unless they felt safe.

Protection of Human Subjects procedures, reviewed and approved annually by the Institutional Review Board at the Urban Institute and Wayne State University, the MI survey contractor, included 1) informed consent, 2) staff confidentiality pledges, and 3) data security plans. At each step of the survey, procedures were designed to protect the safety of the victim.

At the end of each interview, respondents were given \$50 in cash and completed a voucher documenting name and signature, social security number (requested, but not required), and address to confirm receipt of the payment. A copy was given to the respondent, one to the interviewer for their records, and one was returned to the survey firm.

To increase the likelihood of locating respondents for the follow up interview, interim contacting procedures were developed. Respondents were asked to call to update or verify their address four months after the initial interview. In addition, the survey firm began calling respondents at four months to verify the contact information. Respondents who called or were reached by telephone by the survey firm received \$10.

¹ A very few follow up interviews were completed by telephone when the respondent had moved from the area.

Interviewers were given seven weeks to complete an interview or close the case.

- Initial interviews were completed with 50 percent of the eligible victims (49 percent from JOD sites and 51 percent from comparison sites). This provided a sample of 1035 victims (526 from JOD sites, 509 from comparison sites).
- Initial interviews were completed with 39 percent of the eligible offenders (42 percent from JOD sites and 36 percent from comparison sites). This provided a sample of 455 offenders (229 from JOD sites, 226 from comparison sites).
- Follow up interviews were completed with 90 percent of the victims interviewed at baseline (87 percent in JOD sites and 93 percent in comparison sites). This provided a sample of 914 victims (453 from JOD sites, 461 from comparison sites).
- Initial interviews were completed with 84 percent of the offenders interviewed at baseline (82 percent from JOD sites and 87 percent from comparison sites). This provided a sample of 367 offenders (180 from JOD sites, 187 from comparison sites).

The following sections describe the survey methods in detail.

The Impact Analysis Design

Two JOD sites -- Washtenaw County, MI, and Dorchester, MA -- participated in a post-only, quasi-experimental evaluation of the impact of the program. Domestic violence cases reaching case disposition during the sampling time period were compared to similar cases in two comparison sites: Ingham County, MI and Lowell, MA.²

- Lowell District Court was selected as the comparison to the Dorchester District Court (now the Dorchester Municipal Court). Lowell, north of Boston (of which Dorchester is a neighborhood), has court caseloads and population demographics similar to Dorchester. In 1999, Dorchester issued 1,448 civil restraining orders, while Lowell issued 1,625. From January to August, 2002, Dorchester arraigned 4,862 adults, while Lowell arraigned 5,095 (including DV and non-DV charges). Both communities have a similarly large proportion of residents who are immigrants and/or members of racial/ethnic minority groups (largely the same groups across the two communities).
- Ingham County was selected as the comparison area for Washtenaw County. The two areas are similar in size (279,320 vs. 322,895 residents in 2000) and demographic composition (77.4 percent vs. 79.5 percent Caucasian; 10.9 percent vs. 12.3 percent African-American). Additionally, like Washtenaw County, Ingham County includes a city (Lansing in Ingham, Ann Arbor in Washtenaw), a major university (Michigan State University in Ingham, University of Michigan in Washtenaw), and rural townships as well. Prior to the study, the Washtenaw County District Courts disposed of 43 misdemeanor IPV cases per month, compared to 100 per month in the Ingham County District Courts.

² The selection of comparison sites is discussed in the final impact evaluation report with an analysis of the services provided to domestic violence victims and offenders and the criminal justice policies and practices governing the response to domestic violence in each area during the study period.

Court records in each site were reviewed to identify eligible cases. All domestic violence cases reaching disposition were reviewed and sampled if appropriate. The sampling period was:

- January 29, 2003 to November 11, 2004 in Dorchester;
- January 29, 2003 to August 27, 2004 in Lowell;
- February 14, 2003 to April 4, 2003 and then from November 21, 2003 to October 29, 2004 in Washtenaw County; and
- March 12, 2003 to March 12, 2004 in Ingham County.

Two samples in each site were selected:³

- Sample One consisted of victims and offenders in cases in which the offender was placed on probation. This sample is designed to measure outcomes for cases in which the offenders received heightened supervision and judicial monitoring following conviction or other disposition involving probation requirements (such as “continued without a finding”). Data for this sample include interviews assigned shortly after case disposition and nine months after the first interview with both victims and offenders (but interviewed separately).
- Sample Two consisted of IPV cases that were dismissed or acquitted by the court. This sample is used to assess outcomes for victims in cases not accompanied by increased offender accountability. Victims were interviewed twice, once shortly after case disposition and a second time nine months after the first interview. Defendants were not interviewed.

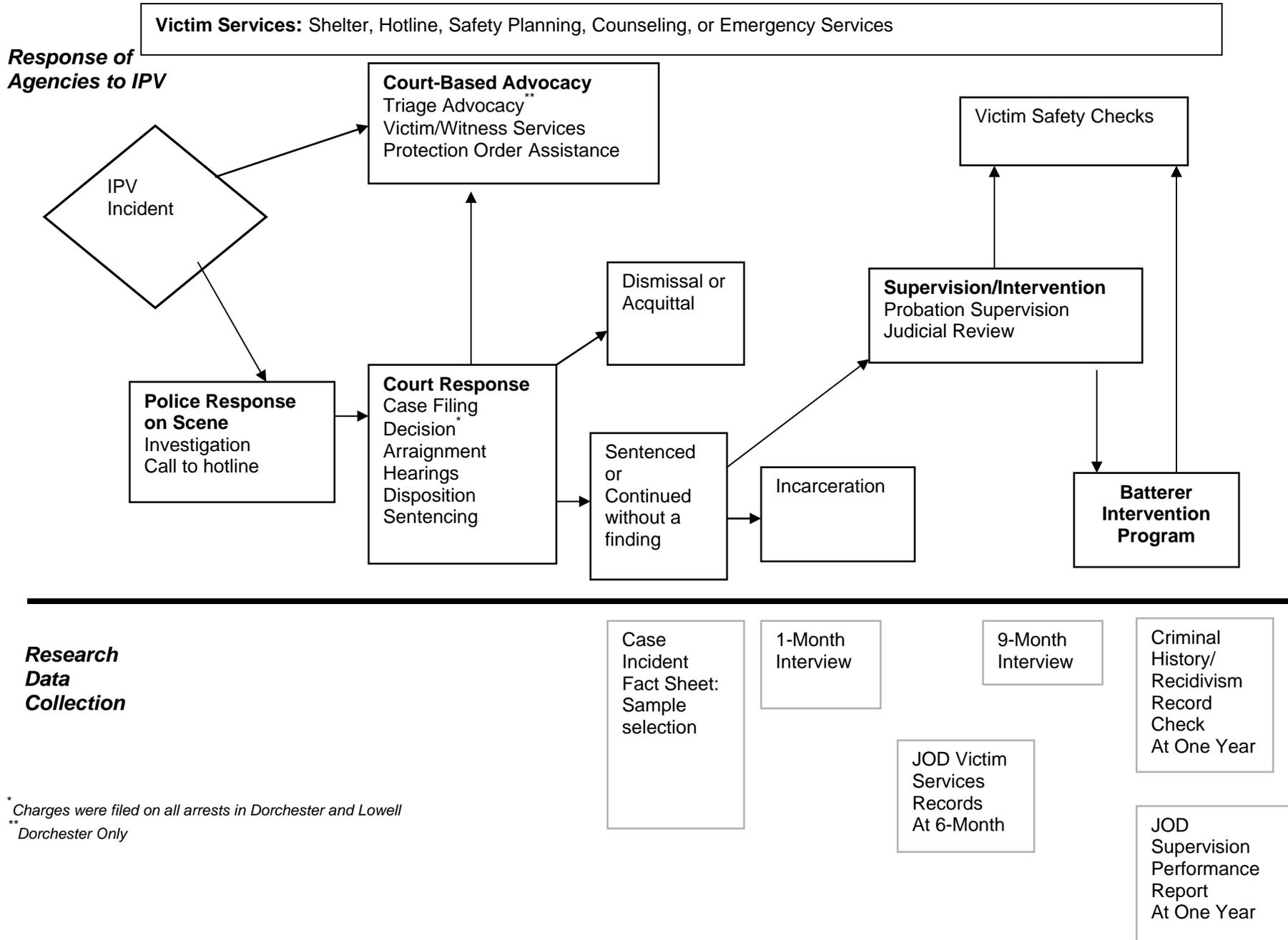
The interview data were linked to data collected from the courts and law enforcement agencies as follows:

- A Case Incident Fact Sheet (CIFS) was completed on all IPV cases in which charges were filed. The data were used to select respondents for the survey samples and describe the population of IPV cases heard in each participating jurisdiction.
- Criminal History Records were compiled from state and local law enforcement records on arrest, and court records on protection orders, warrants, and probation violation hearings.
- JOD Service Data were provided by victim service agencies and probation agencies in the JOD sites for sample members consenting to the release of these records.

Exhibit A illustrates the sequence of data collection activities and the relationship to JOD services.

³ The samples included male and female victims and male and female offenders.

Exhibit A. JOD Services and Data Collection



* Charges were filed on all arrests in Dorchester and Lowell
 ** Dorchester Only

Survey Firms

Selection Process

A list of 28 firms was compiled from a number of sources, including a Web search of national survey firms, as well as those based in the vicinity of the Dorchester and Washtenaw County JOD sites. Two RFPs were issued on July 11, 2002, with an announced deadline of August 20, 2002, one for surveys in Dorchester and Lowell, MA, and one for surveys in Washtenaw County and Ingham County, MI. Firms were invited to bid on one or both surveys. The RFPs were sent to firms via FedEx to each of their offices. Questions were received from prospective bidders and answers were distributed to all firms on the list on August 1, 2002.

Bids were evaluated on four categories: technical approach, staffing plan, relevant experience, and cost. Following a preliminary review of the proposals, follow-up questions with regard to budget, staffing, and experience were sent to bidders via email (shown below) on September 11, 2002 with a deadline for responses back by COB September 20, 2002.

Revised proposals and answers to the questions were received on September 20, 2002 prior to 5pm. Each of the firms submitted at least three references; at least two references each were checked for each of the finalists.

Following a final review, consultation with NIJ, and negotiations with competitive bidders, Atlantic Research and Consulting in Boston was selected in the fall of 2002 to conduct the surveys in Massachusetts and the Center for Urban Studies at Wayne State University in Detroit was selected to conduct the surveys in Michigan.

Atlantic Research and Consulting, Inc.

Atlantic Research and Consulting, Inc. (Atlantic), established in 1981, has extensive experience in qualitative and quantitative studies for non-profit organizations, as well as local, state and federal agencies including the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), the Department of Public Health, the Department of Social Services, the City of Chelsea, the City of Cambridge and the Boston School Department, as well as the Boston Police Department.

Atlantic survey capacity includes personal, mail, web and telephone interviewing, statistical processing and report presentation. Atlantic conducts hundreds of telephone surveys for clients each year from its telephone center in Boston, using a computer aided telephone interviewing (CATI) system and standardized interviewing techniques and offers full service web survey data collection, analysis and reporting. For Northeast regional projects, Atlantic has its own highly skilled group of trained interviewers who specialize in in-person interviewing and experienced in gaining access to hard-to-reach sample populations. Full- and part-time mail survey specialists are employed to implement large-scale surveys using highly automated techniques. Atlantic also has extensive expertise in qualitative research approaches, particularly focus groups and in-depth interviewing.

Atlantic is a member of the American Marketing Association, the Marketing Research Association and the Council of American Survey Research Organizations and subscribes to the CASRO Code of Standards and Ethics for Survey Research. Atlantic designated a Project Director and a full time Project Manager (PM) to manage the survey. The Project Director,

responsible for overseeing the progress of the project, held weekly meetings with the PM to track data collection problems and trouble-shoot staffing issues when necessary. The PM was responsible for the coordination of the survey sites to ensure proper and efficient data collection and delivery to The Urban Institute. The PM monitored the fieldwork staff and met with key site staff as a group as well as individually, when needed. The PM worked cooperatively with UI, the Lowell and Dorchester District Courts, and JOD personnel in Dorchester, MA, as well as Court staff in Lowell, MA. In addition the PM was responsible for:

- Supervising sample selection in both Dorchester and Lowell.
- Troubleshooting with sample coordinators on sample selection problems.
- Delivering bi-weekly sample reports to UI.
- Monitoring site coordinator progress at each site.
- Overseeing sample recruitment and ensuring that UI protocol was followed.
- Monitoring interview progress.
- Overseeing interview and recruiting protocol, to be sure protocol was followed.
- Communicating with House of Corrections for permission to complete interviews.
- Assisting with site staffing issues.
- Recruiting potential Field Interviewers (FIs).
- Managing incoming staff.
- Training all new FIs.
- Communicating regularly with The Urban Institute.
- Submitting weekly reports on progress to UI.
- Submitting weekly FI compensation.
- Running monthly FI meetings.
- Handling all aspects of project billing.
- Ensuring project materials and equipment was available and working.
- Extracting interview data from both sites monthly.
- Cleaning survey data.
- Submitting survey data to UI.
- Completing other requests from UI (additional reports, calls, budget modifications, etc.).
- Holding weekly staff meetings with project staff.
- Occasionally filling in for site managers and sample coordinators.
- The key staff included a site supervisor for each survey location (Dorchester and Lowell) and a sampling coordinator. The site supervisors coordinated the field work with the Urban Institute and the respective District Courts. The two site supervisor roles and responsibilities included:
 - Facilitating data collection by sending out study announcements.
 - Fielding calls from potential participants and members of the justice system.
 - Organizing participant contact information.
 - Coordinating interview times with field interviewing staff.
 - Conducting interim contacts.
 - Performing interviews, as needed.
 - Assisting with data entry, as needed.
 - Monitoring individual interviewer progress with weekly meetings.
 - Ensuring that all tasks followed data security and safety protocol developed by the Urban Institute to maintain participant confidentiality and safety.

A total of 36 field interviewers worked on the study. They were recruited by sending position announcements to local colleges and universities, newspapers, and career placement agencies. Some interviewers learned of the project by word of mouth and were referred and contacted by

someone on the project. Interested individuals sent resumes to the Project Manager. Qualifications included previous interviewing and data collection experience. These interviewers had strong interpersonal skills and were motivated to contribute to the project. The individuals were familiar and comfortable with working in the communities in which they were recruiting. All field interviewers had college degrees, and most had graduate degrees as well. Seven were bilingual (Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, and Khmer) and all had a valid driver's licenses and reliable transportation. Interviewing staff consisted of males and females in both sites. Ethnicities represented in the interviewing staff were African-American, Asian, Haitian-Creole, Hispanic, Indian and Jewish.

All interviewers completed two days of training (described in Attachment A). Since the initial survey lasted 24 months from January 2003 to January 2005, field interviewing staff turnover was inevitable. Replacement staff received the full training. In total, Atlantic conducted four separate interviewer-training sessions.

During fieldwork, interviewing staff tracked their productivity, case by case, by filling out a contact log. Site supervisors monitored field interviewer progress directly by holding individual weekly meetings with each interviewer to review the previous week's recruiting efforts and plan for the following week. The project manager received weekly feedback from the site managers regarding field progress. In addition, phone contacts were confirmed by checking the log with the monthly cell phone statement. Field interviewers attended monthly meetings at each site and quarterly cross-site meetings in Boston to discuss recruiting issues, review protocols, and address questions and concerns. Interviewers met with the project manager if problems with assignments were observed. If the problems could not be resolved, the interviewer's cases were transferred to other interviewers and no more cases were assigned to the interviewer.

Throughout the initial survey, the Urban Institute convened conference calls at least biweekly to discuss survey progress, status, and issues with the site coordinators and the survey supervisor. The senior project manager also participated regularly.

Center for Urban Studies, Wayne State University

The Center for Urban Studies (CUS) at Wayne State University (WSU), established in 1967, has extensive experience in evaluation and survey research and secondary data analysis. The Center's core areas of research are education innovation, community economic development, workforce development, public safety and criminal justice issues, urban health, and non-profit capacity building. CUS is experienced in both qualitative and quantitative research methods using the latest technology. These methods include quantitative analysis, program evaluation, GIS/mapping and Census analysis, computer assisted telephone interviews (CATI), computer assisted self-administered interviews (CASI), focus groups and field interviews, mail and web-based survey, and training and workshops.

The prior experience of CUS included in-person interviews for a number of studies on personal topics including child immunization, health status and needs, domestic violence, and batterer intervention program impact. The surveys interviewed samples requiring special locating and interviewing considerations including clients of soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, victims of domestic violence, and elderly residents in Detroit.

The staff for the JOD survey included four full-time employees of the CUS Survey Research Unit and numerous part-time employees. The primary lead was a Project Manager (PM) who was responsible for oversight on the day-to-day activities of the project, managing the contract

and budget and communicating with the client. This role changed hands mid-way through the project when the original manager, the Director of the Survey Research Unit, retired in April 2004. Transition to new project management was smoothed by a two-month period during which the original and new manager worked together. A Senior Programmer was responsible for managing all aspects of the sample, including assigning cases to the field, completing weekly disposition reports and offering guidance on how to locate participants. Field Supervisors in each site were responsible for daily communication with the site coordinators, ensuring that all procedures and protocols were adhered to, and troubleshooting any personnel issues.

The Survey Research Unit conducted a large-scale recruiting process in an attempt to attract interviewers for the JOD survey who had a social science background and/or extensive field interviewing experience. Advertisements were placed at universities in Ingham and Washtenaw Counties as well as in newspapers, and on various web sites. The search placed emphasis on attracting interviewers who were interested in family issues and in conducting face-to-face interviews with offenders and victims of domestic violence.

A coordinator was hired in each site to coordinate field work activities. The site coordinators selected for the JOD survey had strong organizational skills and extensive experience on past domestic violence studies. Site coordinators reported to CUS project management.

The 31 field interviewers who worked on the initial survey included men (7) and women (24). There were African American (7), Caucasian (23) and one Hispanic interviewer who spoke Spanish and English. They were required to have laptop computer skills, their own transportation, car insurance, and a valid driver's licence with no outstanding tickets. Three of the field staff, including one site coordinator, had extensive training and practical experience in interviewing domestic violence victims as part of their graduate work at Michigan State University.

All interviewers completed a two-day training described in Attachment A. In addition, they signed a Wayne State obligation of confidentiality, and completed the HIC (Human Investigation Committee) on-line training program on human participants and research misconduct. Across the 23 months of the initial survey (February 2003 to early January 2005), 11 separate interviewer-training sessions were conducted by CUS.

CUS management and supervisors monitored the site coordinators' and field interviewers' progress daily by email and by holding staff meetings at each site with the site coordinators and interviewers. These meetings were used to discuss recruiting issues, address questions and concerns, and review protocols as applicable. The CUS management and supervisors received feedback from the site coordinator by meeting at WSU on a weekly basis regarding field progress. Interviewers met with the site coordinator(s) weekly to receive or return their equipment and assignments, to turn in completed interviews, and to discuss problems with cases. If necessary, problems were referred back to the PM for resolution. CUS staff tracked interviewer productivity, case by case, by recording all dispositions from the contact logs.

Human Subject Protections

Procedures for the protection of human subjects included informed consent for participation, staff confidentiality pledges, and data security as described in this section. In addition, the field

work procedures, described in the following section, included protections for subjects during locating, recruitment, and interviews.

The Protection of Human Subjects procedures were reviewed and approved annually by the Institutional Review Boards at the Urban Institute and Wayne State University. The IRB conducted interim reviews of changes to the procedures required by changes in the data collection plans or experiences during field work, including all letters sent to potential respondents, strategies for handling data in the field, and concerns about victim and interviewer safety.

Informed Consent

Written consent was obtained for study participation at the time of the initial interview. The consent forms for the victim and defendant surveys, shown in Attachment B, include the following sections:

- A description of the study, its purpose, what data the study would be collecting, and how the data would be used
- A promise of privacy and confidentiality
- An offer of financial incentives for participation
- Assurance that participation was voluntary and would not affect the way a case is handled or the services received
- An assessment of risks and benefits to participation
- Consent for the research project to access service records on their cases

To clarify the request for access to records from criminal justice and community agencies, respondents were asked to write their initials by the name of each agency indicating that the research team could request information on their contacts with that agency.⁴ At the start of the follow-up interviews, respondents were asked again to agree to the interview, assured that their responses would be kept private and confidential, and told that they could refuse to answer any questions.

Staff Confidentiality

All members of the project staff were trained in the study confidentiality procedures and signed the Staff Confidentiality Pledge (Attachment C) agreeing not to divulge information they learn in the course of completing an assignment, except if they learn that a subject had specific plans to commit a crime or harm themselves or if child abuse or neglect was reported during the interview. This assurance was signed by all staff with access to confidential data, including Urban Institute staff, subcontractors, translators hired by the subcontractor, and the local on-site evaluation coordinators.

During the initial survey, one case required mandatory reporting because suspected child abuse was reported to an interviewer. In this case, the interviewer reported to their supervisor who immediately contacted the UI project director. The project director notified the proper authorities following state guidelines.

⁴ An incorrect consent form was used in a small number of victim interviews in Washtenaw; these subjects were recontacted and corrected consent forms were obtained.

Data Security

Steps taken by Urban Institute and subcontractor staff to ensure the security of hard copy and electronic data, both on-site and at the Urban Institute, are described in the Data Security Plans in Attachment D. Data to be protected included consent forms, locating forms, study logs such as telephone logs, and questionnaire responses.

Field Work Procedures

Sample Selection

Exhibit B illustrates the sample selection process. Once a week, sampling coordinators reviewed the court dockets' lists of cases identified as domestic violence and completed a Case Incident Fact Sheet (CIFS) on cases involving IPV and eligible for inclusion in the full JOD sample. Cases in which charges were not filed by the prosecutor (dismissed at arraignment) were not eligible for the full JOD sample and CIFSs were not completed on these cases. New cases on individuals sampled earlier were excluded from subsequent sampling to avoid including them more than once.⁵

Eligible cases were divided into two samples. Sample 1 included cases in which a sentencing hearing was held and the offender was assigned to begin probation within six months,⁶ or the case was continued without a finding pending completion of probation supervision requirements. In Sample 1, victims and offenders were assigned for interview if they met personal eligibility rules described below. Sample 2 included cases in which charges were arraigned but later dismissed or acquitted. In Sample 2, only victims meeting personal eligibility rules described below were assigned for interview. Offenders in Sample 2 were not interviewed because they were not exposed to intensive probation, supervision, court-mandated batterer intervention, or review hearings.

Personal eligibility rules specified that the victims and offenders in eligible cases had to be age 18 or older and; live in the target jurisdiction at the time of case disposition; and be involved in a case that reached disposition within 9 months of the incident (extended to one year in Dorchester to avoid eliminating too many cases). In eligible cases, victims and offenders were recruited for interviews independently; there was no requirement that both parties in a case agree to be interviewed. The sample was not restricted to both parties in eligible cases for two reasons: 1) asking for joint permission was deemed to be a safety risk because the issue of consent could trigger disputes between the offender and victim, and 2) the sample might be biased by excluding respondents when the other party (victim or offender) could not be found or did not agree to participate.

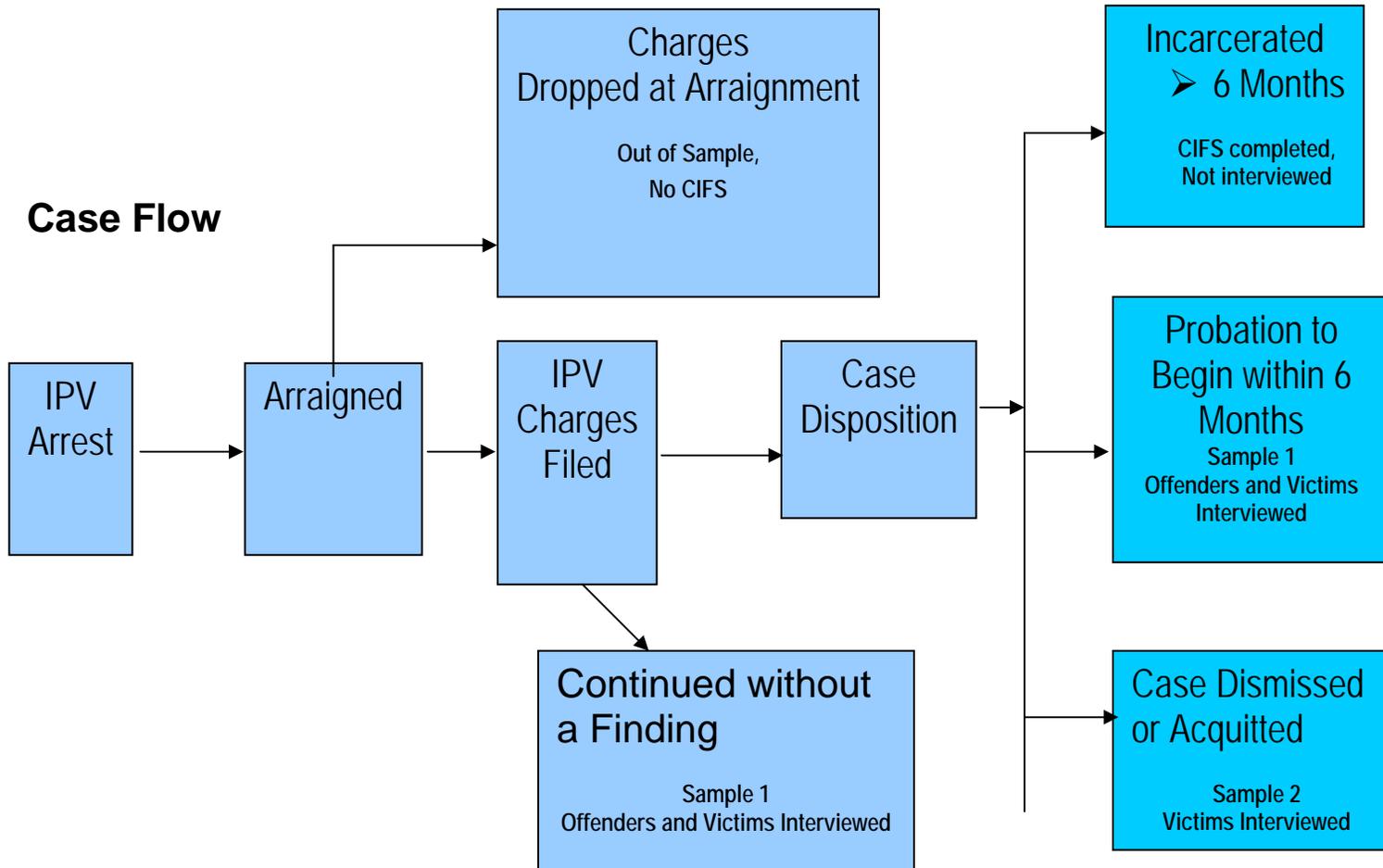
In Dorchester and Lowell, sampling coordinators employed by Atlantic were responsible for case identification. In Washtenaw County and Ingham County, a sampling coordinator working

⁵ In cases of dual arrest, the court determined which party was charged as the offender so that no cases involving two offenders for the same incident were found.

⁶ Some offenders were given a "split sentence" in which they were required to initially serve a period of incarceration, to be followed by a period of probation. We excluded those who would not begin probation within six months (due to a period of incarceration longer than six months) because of their limited opportunity to reoffend and limited experience with probation, treatment, and court supervision requirements by the time of the 9-month follow-up interview.

Exhibit B

JOD Impact Evaluation Sample Selection



for the Urban Institute was responsible for case identification and transmitting the information needed for interview assignment to CUS.

Sample Identification

A CIFS was completed for all cases that had been arraigned and charged with IPV and involved victims and offenders above age 18. Procedures for identifying eligible cases varied slightly by site depending on record-keeping practices and access to files, as described below.

Dorchester

Step 1. Collected Disposition Sheets from District Attorney's Office for the past week. (The disposition sheets were photocopied by each DV DA each week and left in a bin at the front desk for the Sample Coordinator.) The Disposition Sheet⁷ data were used to identify eligible cases in which the incident involved IPV, both victim and defendant were 18 or older, and the incident occurred within 12 months of case disposition. The eligible cases were classified as Sample 1 or 2. If the defendant was already listed in the CIFS Database (and thus previously sampled), a CIFS was completed, but the case was coded as ineligible for survey recruitment.

Step 2. Collected DV Docket Sheets from the Dorchester Site Supervisor for the corresponding week. The Docket Sheets were used to add the 1) defendant's PCF number (Probation Central File number), and 2) name of assigned Probation Officer to the records of eligible cases.

Step 3. Retrieved computerized police reports on recruitable cases from police intranet computer in Dorchester Court Police Room. Collaboration with the police room made it possible for the sample coordinator to search for incident reports rather than submitting weekly requests for police reports and paying for each through formal channels. Locating the correct police report required careful matching on offender (or occasionally victim) name and date of incident. If no police report was found, a secondary computer search for reports listed by date in police district journals was conducted. If the report did not verify that the incident involved intimate partner violence, the case was dropped. The police reports were used to code whether an arrest was made at the time of the incident (or a warrant issued) and charges at arrest. Additional contact information (address, phone number) for victims and defendants was collected when shown on the report.

Lowell

Step 1. Collected the prior week's docket sheets and checked all cases listed as disposed in the computerized Warrant Management System (WMS) to determine which ones involved domestic violence. If the disposition status was not clear or not listed in the WMS, hard copy files were reviewed to determine the status of the case.

Step 2. Retrieved and reviewed court hard-copy files of police report cover sheets and narratives for all cases to identify eligible cases (i.e., those that involved intimate partner violence, a defendant and victim that were both age 18 or older, and an incident within nine months of case disposition). If the police reports were missing from the court file room or did

⁷ The Disposition Sheets included: 1) date of the disposition; 2) defendant's name and case number, 3) name of the victim and their most recent address/telephone # as known by the court, 4) the charges pursued by the court, 5) the sentence, 6) the date of incident, and 7) whether victim/defendant were over 18 at the time of the incident (always crossed checked with the incident report).

not include needed information, emails requesting missing information were sent to a detective at the Domestic Violence Resource Center of the Lowell Police Department who agreed to assist.

Step 3. Coded eligible cases as recruitable or not recruitable depending on whether they had been previously sampled. In Lowell, the number of dismissed cases considered recruitable was limited to four per week to ensure that a sufficient number of cases with offenders on probation would be included in the sample.

At the time the CIFS was completed, two identification numbers were assigned. One was the CIFS number, which was stored in the CIFS database and used as the public ID number whenever personal identification was included in the data (hard copy or computer file). This CIFS number was also recorded in a separate, password-protected linking file with a study ID number. The study ID number was never stored with personal identifiers (hard copy or computerized), but was the only ID number located on questionnaire data (hard copy or computerized). Because this number was central to linking data from multiple sources, it was checked carefully at the time it was created.

and laying out the recruiting schedule and timeline. An interviewer assignment sheet was added to each folder along with an addressed envelope for mailing the study announcement. Identification numbers were crossed checked to ensure that survey results identified only by case numbers could be correctly identified. A red dot was placed on the folders when the victim and defendant lived together.

The computerized CIFS database and linking file were merged weekly with master data files at Atlantic and study IDs added to the master sample files at the Urban Institute.

In both Dorchester and Lowell, the CIFS database was updated regularly with new victim or defendant addresses (when identified), missing zip codes identified by internet search, missing arraignment dates and bail information from hard copy files in the District Attorney's office, and missing PCF numbers found on court session sheets. In Lowell, the probation department provided assistance in identifying PCF numbers when these were missing from the files. Names and identifiers for offenders with missing PCF numbers were sent in batches to the probation department with a self-addressed envelope and the PCF numbers were added to the CIFS database when completed request sheets were returned.

Washtenaw County

Step 1. Collected hard copies of IPV cases disposed in the prior week in four Washtenaw courts -- 14A, 14B (Washtenaw County), 14B (Ypsilanti Township), and 15. Files for Courts 14A, 14B County and 15, including all court correspondence, police reports, and other applicable information, were collected by the Washtenaw County JOD Grant Coordinator and placed on the desk of the UI sample coordinator (SC).⁸ The SC then checked with each prosecutor in the Washtenaw County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit to determine that no IPV files disposed within the prior week were missed. To obtain copies of the police reports for 14B Ypsilanti Township court cases, the names of offenders in cases disposed in 14B Ypsilanti Township court were identified on a court docket provided by the Grant

⁸ These cases included but were not limited to the following charges: domestic violence, assault and battery, telephone tapping/cutting lines, malicious destruction of property, stalking, and breaking and entering.

Coordinator and given to a Washtenaw Deputy Sheriff, who requested copies of the police reports from the Ypsilanti Township Police Department and gave them to the SC.

Step 2. Identified eligible sample members (i.e. the cases that involved intimate partner violence, a defendant and a victim who were both over the age of 18, and an incident that occurred within nine months of the case disposition) by reviewing the hard copy files. Arraignment and sentencing information for all Ypsilanti Township cases and for other cases missing this information was obtained by searches of Fulcrum and the Domestic Violence Database. Fulcrum is the database maintained and used by all the courts in Washtenaw County. It contains data on criminal and civil cases and information on offenders under probation supervision. The Domestic Violence Database, developed under JOD, contains data entered by probation officers on offender compliance with conditions of probation and officer contacts with offenders and victims.

Step 3. Completed CIFS forms for all eligible cases and identified as eligible for survey up to five dismissed cases per week and all convicted cases (after checking the names of all the offenders and victims against those of previously sampled victims and offenders to avoid duplication). Late in the sampling, the Washtenaw County JOD Grant Coordinator realized that some cases that should have been considered for sampling had not been properly identified. To obtain data on the characteristics of the complete intended sampling frame, CIFS forms were subsequently completed at the end of sampling for cases identified as eligible, but not sampled.

Step 4. Checked the Michigan Department of Corrections Offender Search Database to determine if any of the sampled offenders were currently in the correctional system, and, if so, how long they would be incarcerated. If offenders were sentenced to incarceration for more than 6 months between the initial and the follow-up interview, they were not eligible for the survey sample.

Step 5. Entered data into a CIFS database, encrypted the file, and transmitted it weekly to the Urban Institute where it was appended to the master CIFS file. The encrypted CIFS database file for that week was then forwarded to CUS. The hard copies were stored by the SC and destroyed upon completion and verification of the database.

Ingham County

Step 1. Collected hard copies of files (all court correspondence, police reports, and other applicable information) for cases⁹ disposed in Ingham County courts 54A and 55.¹⁰ Three times a week, the SC reviewed folders of closed cases placed by prosecutors in a central drawer pending final storage and checked with each prosecutor to be sure that no closed cases had been missed. Advocates in the Victim/Witness Unit also provided files of IPV cases given to them by prosecutors for victim notification of case disposition.

Step 2. Identified eligible sample members (i.e., the cases that involved intimate partner violence, a defendant and a victim who were both over the age of 18, and an incident that occurred within nine months of the case disposition) by reviewing the hard copy files. Arraignment and sentencing information, which not included in the case hard files, was retrieved

⁹ These cases include, but were not limited to, the following charges: domestic violence, assault and battery, telephone tapping/cutting lines, malicious destruction of property, stalking, and breaking and entering.

¹⁰ Court 54B was not included due the low numbers of domestic violence cases reaching disposition each year.

from databases maintained by the courts: Quadtran for the 54A court and Courtview for the 55 court.

Step 3. Completed CIFS forms for all eligible cases and identified as eligible for survey up to four dismissed cases per week (two from each court) and all convicted cases (after checking the names of all the offenders and victims against those of previously sampled victims and offenders to avoid duplication).

Step 4. Checked the Michigan Department of Corrections Offender Search Database to determine if any of the sampled offenders were currently in the correctional system, and, if so, how long they would be incarcerated. If offenders were sentenced to incarceration for more than 6 months between the initial and the follow-up interview, they were not eligible for the survey sample.

Step 5. Entered data into a CIFS database, encrypted the file, and transmitted it weekly to the Urban Institute where it was appended to the master CIFS file. The encrypted CIFS database file for that week was then forwarded to CUS. The hard copies were stored by the sample coordinator and destroyed upon completion and verification of the database.

The research sample was checked against a list provided by Ingham County prosecutors to identify cases assigned to the DART program (described in the cross-site process report chapter) to eliminate a relatively small number of domestic violence victims (n=28) and offenders (n=16) receiving enhanced services.

Field Work Procedures

Study Recruitment

The lists of recruitable cases from the prior week's sample selection were given to survey managers on Mondays (CUS received the sample records from the Urban Institute; Atlantic gave the sample records to the Site Coordinators). A study announcement was mailed to the current week's victim respondents and the previous week's offender respondents within two days. The mailings to victims and offenders occurred on different weeks and used envelopes with different appearances to minimize the likelihood that the offender might recognize announcements sent to victims and react negatively.

The announcements asked respondents to call a toll free number to learn more about the specifics of the study. A \$5 cash incentive payment was enclosed with the announcement. Respondents who called the toll-free number were given additional information about the study, and either an interview was scheduled (Atlantic) or they were told that an interviewer would be contacting them within the next day (CUS). Special telephone numbers were established to insure that the correct survey firm staff member answered the calls; if the call was after hours or could not be answered, an answering machine requested respondents to leave a call-back number. The scripts used in answering these calls were carefully prepared to guard the privacy of those calling in and did not disclose the nature of the study. Staff responding to these calls did not administer the consent form, which was done in person by trained interviewers.

At CUS, Locator Forms with pertinent case information were sent to the Site Coordinators (one each in Ingham and Washtenaw counties) within two days of the study announcements being mailed, and distributed to Field Interviewers. At Atlantic, Contact Logs were given to Field Interviewers at the time of case assignment (the day the announcement was mailed). Neither survey firm matched respondents to interviewers based on race or gender. Once cases were assigned to the field, interviewers were encouraged to mail copies of flyers when

they obtained new address information and if in-person attempts to contact the respondent were not fruitful.

CUS

The steps used in managing the fieldwork at CUS are shown in Exhibit C. The top half describes their locating and recruiting steps. CUS interviewers were given seven weeks to try to complete the interview. During this time, they were expected to complete ten attempts (a minimum of 5 in-person attempts) at reaching the respondents assigned to them. This included a minimum of two in-person attempts to reach the respondent within the first week. All attempts, whether in-person or by telephone, were to be made at varying times of day and on different days of the week to insure that every effort was made to reach the potential respondent at a time when they would be available. When the respondent was not home, interviewers left a copy of the study announcement in a sealed envelope addressed to the respondent. All attempts to make contact were immediately recorded on the Locator forms.

When making attempts by telephone, interviewers were trained to confirm the identity of the respondent before proceeding with details about the study. Once the identity of the person to whom they were speaking was confirmed and the study introduced, the respondent was asked if they were interested in participating in the study, and if so, an appointment was scheduled at a safe and convenient time and place to conduct the interview. If not interested, staff asked if the respondent would like to learn more about the study, or if they had any questions that the staff could answer that might encourage their participation. If the caller remained uninterested in participating, they were thanked for their time and assigned a "Refusal" disposition, and no further contact was made.

When attempting in-person contacts, a similar protocol was followed. CUS interviewers were told only to make such attempts if they had time to actually administer the survey should the respondent so request. Atlantic interviewers made attempts at any time and either scheduled the interview for another time/place or completed the interview at that time. If the interviewer was told that the respondent no longer lived at the address given, they asked for the person's new phone number and address, and, if that information was available, noted it on the Contact Form for use in future contact efforts.

If new information was not available, locating efforts were initiated. At CUS, interviewers used the internet to search for updates, and sent requests to the study manager at CUS.

Atlantic

Atlantic interviewers began their efforts to locate respondents with a telephone call to the number provided (when available). Interviewers had dedicated study cell phones that had personalized voicemail. Their message stated the interviewer's name and requested that the respondents leave their name and call back number, along with a good time for the interviewer to return the call. When leaving messages on a respondent's voicemail, interviewers were trained to leave carefully worded requests for a call back. They were instructed to give their name and explain that they were calling from the Urban Institute in regards to a community study they were selected to participate in. The number to the interviewer's phone was left for the respondent to return the call. If the number had been disconnected or was unlisted, the interviewer went to the address and attempted to speak with the respondent in person. If the address was a house and no one was at home, the interviewer left a recruitment letter in an envelope addressed to the respondent and tried to verify that the respondent lived at the address by asking neighbors. If the address was an apartment building with security entrances, the interviewer left a recruitment letter in an envelope addressed to the respondent as close to the front door as possible. After no response to the two letters left at the house, no success in finding a working phone number,

and no success in confirming that the address belonged to the respondent, the interviewer returned the case to the site supervisor for more intensive locating procedures.

At Atlantic, the Site Supervisor checked the following sources for a correct, working phone number: telephone information (411); online reverse look-up databases in order to match a phone number to the address; and online phone directories.¹¹ The probation officer was contacted to get the updated contact information on offenders who could not be located. In addition, police in both Dorchester and Lowell were helpful in searching their databases for updated information on missing respondents. The SC gave the name, last known address and phone number, social security number and date of birth of a lost respondent to police personnel who agreed to assist the project. The police then searched the more extensive databases available to the law enforcement agencies and, in a few cases, contacted other state agencies for additional information. This process usually produced one or two different sets of updated information for each missing respondent.

Telephone contact was attempted as soon as updates were received. If the effort to make telephone contact was unsuccessful, a recruitment letter was immediately sent to all available addresses. The new contact information was then forwarded to the interviewer to resume recruiting as scheduled. These locating methods were used continuously until it became clear that no additional locating information could be found.

UI Locating

The Urban Institute was notified as soon as a case was returned to a supervisor with a request for locating assistance. In Michigan, CUS identified hard to locate sample members and forwarded their names and addresses to Urban on a locating spreadsheet each week. Urban attempted to locate updated address information and determine whether victims or offenders were incarcerated. Each name and address was checked using the online Experian database, which displays the various addresses reported by an individual and when they reported using the listed addresses. The most up-to-date address was recorded in the locating spreadsheet. Prison incarceration information was obtained from the offender search resource on the Michigan Department of Corrections' website. Urban sent updated locating spreadsheets to CUS who then passed the updated information to field interviewers.

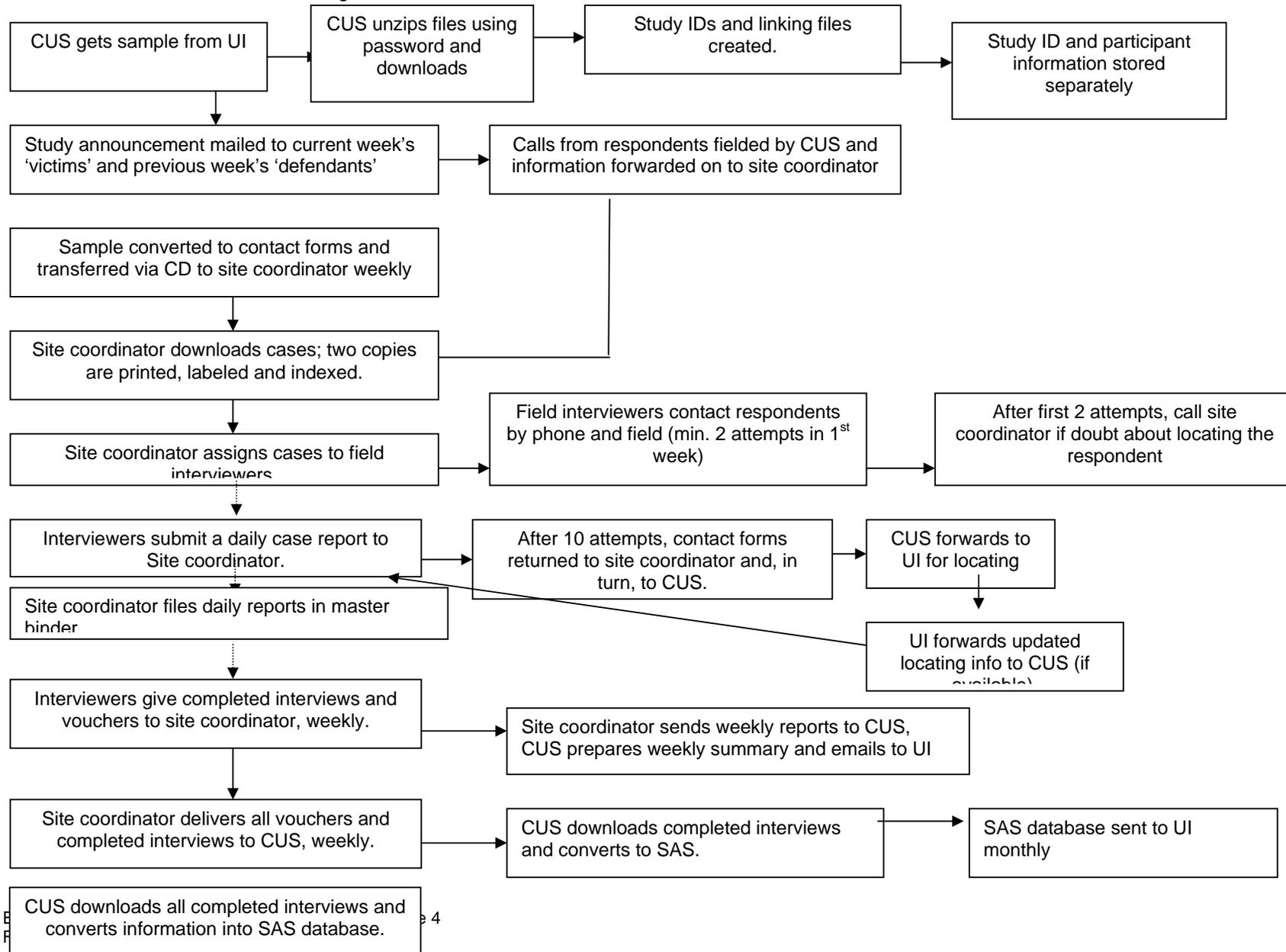
The weekly list of victims and offenders that the interviewers from CUS were unable to locate was also sent weekly to the SC in Michigan. The SC checked with probation officers, victim advocates, the jail database (Michigan Department of Corrections Offender Search Database), and the Grant Coordinator (in Washtenaw County only) to see if other addresses or phone numbers were available for the lost respondents. If updated locating information was found, it was transmitted to The Urban Institute in encrypted files.

Conducting the Interview

The interviewing process, starting with case assignment, is diagrammed in Exhibit D. If the respondent was initially reached by telephone, an appointment was made to meet at an agreed upon location. If the respondent was initially reached at home and there were other adults present, interviewers explained that they were there about a survey regarding court and community services to the public, and scheduled the interview for another time.

¹¹ Databases used online included but were not limited to: anywho.com, people.yahoo.com, whitepages.com, switchboard.com, and Autotrax.

Exhibit C: Flowchart of CUS Sample Management of Judicial Oversight Demonstration Project



Interviewers were trained to answer questions that the respondent may have had. The respondent then completed pertinent forms, including “Informed Consent”, “Locator”, and “Release of Information” forms (Attachment F), and when completed and signed, the interviewers began to conduct the survey using laptop computers. At this time, victim respondents were also given written contact information on agencies in their community that provided services for victims of domestic violence.

Upon completion of the initial interview, respondents were given \$50 in cash and completed a voucher (name and signature, social security number (requested, but not required), and address) confirming receipt of the payment. The interviewer also signed the voucher. One copy was given to the respondent, one to the interviewer for their records, and one was returned to the survey firm.

Interviews with some offenders were conducted in jail. In Michigan, the SC checked the Michigan Department of Corrections Offender Search Database to determine if a sampled defendant was being detained. If a sampled offender was in jail, arrangements were made with the staff of the correctional facility to interview the offender in jail. Contacts with jail personnel were arranged and facilitated by staff of agencies working with the project. The arrangements included agreements on how to request and schedule interviews and the procedures and location to be used during the interview (always out of the hearing of guards, but within their view).

In Massachusetts, interviews were conducted with some respondents in jail at the House of Corrections (HOC). To get permission to conduct a jail interview the PM mailed a letter to the inmate explaining the study and requesting that the inmate call Atlantic collect if they did not want to be contacted. At the same time, the PM sent a fax over a secure line to the Deputy Superintendent’s Office at HOC requesting permission to interview the inmate. Once a response was received confirming that the potential participant was in the institution and giving permission for the interview, the interviewer (the site coordinator) called the jail to schedule the interview. Upon arrival at HOC, the officer at the desk confirmed permission for the visit and arranged for the inmate to be escorted to the visitor’s room. The guards remained where they could see, but not hear, the interview. The interview followed standard procedures except that answers were recorded on paper questionnaires, because laptop computers were not allowed in the visitor’s room, and money orders were used for incentive payments instead of cash. The money orders were prepared in advance, shown to the inmate, and deposited to the inmate’s account when the interviewer checked out at the front desk.

Data Management

The data collection involved hard copy data and databases as described above. Procedures for protecting data security are described in the data security plan.

Each week the staff identifying eligible sample members in each site submitted electronic files for the CIFS data with a public identification number and a linking file of ID numbers. These were appended to existing lists and rechecked to avoid entering existing sample members a second time. The weekly linking files were then transferred to the Urban Institute and added to the master sampling file. Work on completing CIFS forms for all eligible cases and adding information missing at the time of sampling continued across the survey period and required ongoing updates to the CIFS data for all sites. CIFS databases were cleaned and compiled at the end of the initial survey. At Atlantic, copies of records collected during sample selection were placed in folders with survey assignment sheets and other information for interviewers. Interviewers used these data to locate respondents and schedule interviews. At CUS, the interviewers were given locator forms printed from the CIFS database, with all contact information from the CIFS database, and other pertinent

materials (voucher, locating form, explanation of study and confidentiality statement, consent form) by the SC, along with a separate envelope with the study ID, as a complete packet.

Each week the site supervisors collected progress reports for the interviewers on the status of their assignments. These were used to produce weekly reports in Excel on the status of the field work, including the number of cases assigned, the number completed, the number pending (by time in the field), and the number closed without interview with the reason for closing the assignment. Contact sheets were collected each week during the weekly meetings. They were placed inside the folder for that case and stored in a locked file cabinet to which only the site supervisor had a key. At CUS, interviewers reported their progress daily to the SC for all cases worked on any given day. These reports were compiled weekly for each case, and this report was then submitted to CUS. This weekly report from the SC was then used as the basis for the "WSU Weekly Report" sent to UI. The weekly reports on fieldwork status from both firms were used to produce monthly response rate analyses at the Urban Institute.

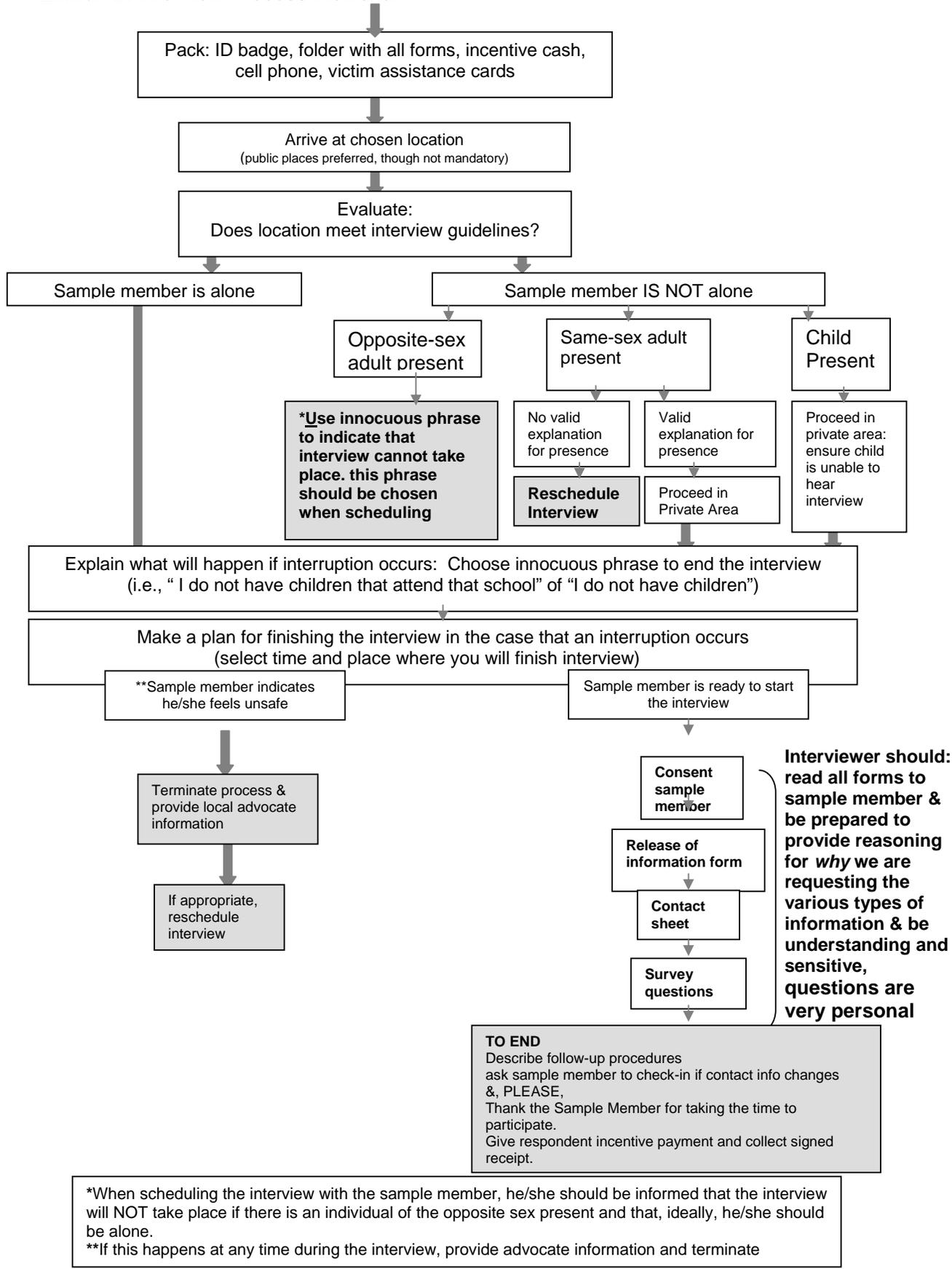
Interview data, identified only by a research number, were stored on the laptops. Each week, records of completed interviews were removed from laptops and added to the master survey data files at CUS or Atlantic. A voucher for the incentive payment and a signed consent form were submitted with each interview file. These were stored securely at the survey firm. Each month, the survey data files were converted to SAS, cleaned, and submitted to the Urban Institute to be appended to the master survey data files. When an interview was completed or a case closed without interview, the entire assignment packet was returned to the main office at CUS or Atlantic, logged into the database, and any new or additional information added to the master database. Hard copies of all forms were placed in binders and stored in a secured office. Copies of signed consent forms were submitted to the Urban Institute and used to document consent when requesting data from agency records.

Questionnaires

The questionnaires summarized in Exhibit E below were developed at the Urban Institute to operationalize the following concepts derived from the Evaluation Framework guiding the study. The full questionnaires are shown in Attachment E. Many of the items or measures included in the questionnaires are drawn from questionnaires used in other studies and suggested by the National Program Advisory Board. These include the physical violence scale from the revised Conflict Tactics Scale (Straus, 2000), to which two items on sexual aggression from the Violence and Threats of Violence Against Women in America Survey (Tjaden, 1996) were added. Measures of responses to intervention efforts and services, such as ratings of effectiveness, procedural justice, and satisfaction, used answer formats that can be combined to form scales to increase the stability of the measures by including multiple indicators. Consistent formats in rating responses to JOD services were adopted to allow comparisons of perceptions of different JOD partners.

The questionnaires were available in English and Spanish and were programmed in Sawtooth's CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) software by the CUS. Hardcopy versions of the questionnaires were used when interviewing incarcerated offenders and when computer difficulties arose. The questionnaires were extensively pre-tested by the UI and Atlantic project teams. UI staff tested the hard copy questionnaires, checking for wording, skip patterns, and flow. At Atlantic, four staff went through the computer survey (CAPI), comparing each question to the appropriate question in the final hard copy of the survey. At CUS, five domestic violence victims were recruited from cases active in

Exhibit D. Interview Process Flowchart



Washtenaw County in order to test the CAPI programming and assess the ease of locating potential survey participants.

Of the five potential respondents recruited by CUS, three completed interviews and one refused to participate. The interviewer reported no problems with regard to the computer or the programming. The data were downloaded and no problems with skip patterns or other data issues were found.

Initial Survey Response Rates

Survey Case Disposition

The response rate calculations in Table 1 below are based on the number of cases found eligible for interview by the survey firm. A total of 53 victims and 32 offenders were dropped from the interview sample identified by the CIFS sampling process prior to interview assignment.

The overall assignment dispositions for victims and offenders show that half of the eligible victims and nearly 40 percent of the offenders were interviewed. Offenders and victims were almost equally likely to refuse to participate (12 percent and 13 percent respectively) and to fail to complete an interview even when the survey firm had a good address for them (15 percent and 14 percent respectively). However, offenders were less likely than victims to be located by the survey firm; 34 percent of the offenders were never located, compared to 22 percent of the victims. While it is often difficult to get accurate locating information from police and court files due to reporting problems and high mobility rates, obtaining current addresses was made even more difficult by the nature of the cases in which the respondents were involved.

Many offenders received no-contact orders and had to leave the residence they shared with victims at the time of the incident; some victims chose to change address, some going to lengths to conceal their new address.

The results show three primary sources of non-response:

1. Failure to locate the sample member. Failure to find sample members at the addresses available from police and court files was a major source of survey non-response at all four sites, even with help from the sites, particularly probation officers, and searches of internet databases. The locating rate was higher for victims (74 percent) than for offenders (66 percent), possibly because many offenders move to new addresses when a no-contact order is issued.
2. Refusal to participate. About a fifth of those invited to participate refused to do so, despite the offer of a \$50 incentive. Some said they wanted to put the matter behind them; others were suspicious or hostile. The interviewers were trained to accept refusals graciously and not to pressure respondents, particularly victims. Offenders in the comparison group were particularly likely to refuse.
3. Problems scheduling interviews with located respondents. Despite many efforts, interviewers were unable to schedule interviews (or respondents failed to keep appointments). This was particularly true for victims and may have been a form of 'soft' refusal.

Exhibit E. Contents of the Initial Survey

	Victims	Offenders
Demographics	x	x
Victim & Offender Relationship	x	x
Victim Opinion of Offender Problems	x	
The Incident	x	x
Prior Incidents	x	x
Substance Abuse Before Incident		x
Risk of Future Violence	x	x
Police Contacts	x	x
Defense Contacts	x	x
Protection Orders	x	x
Court Contacts	x	x
Probation Contacts	x	x
BIP contacts	x	x
Contacts with other service providers	x	x
Perceptions of Police	x	x
Perceptions of Defense Attorneys		x
Perceptions of Court Staff	x	
Perceptions of Judge and Case	x	x
Perceptions of Probation Officer	x	x
Perceptions of BIP		x
Perceptions of Victim Services	x	
Social Support	x	x
Service Needs and Response	x	x
Abuse Since The Incident	x	x
Court Contacts Since Incident	x	x
Perception Of Consequences For Future Violence With Partner		x
Non-Compliance With Court/Protection Orders	x	x
Substance Abuse Since The Incident		x
Victim Safety and Well-Being Since Incident	x	

Detailed analysis by sample type showed that:

1. Victims in dismissed cases were more difficult to locate and interview in all sites. The percentage of victims in dismissed cases who were located was lower than the percentage of victims in cases resulting in probation for the offender by 10 percentage points or more. If located, they were more likely to refuse to participate in the interview; their refusal rates were higher than those of victims in the probation cases by 2-9 percentage points.
2. Offenders in comparison sites were more difficult to locate and interview than those in JOD sites. The percentage of offenders in comparison sites who were located was lower than the percentage of offenders located in JOD sites by 5 percentage points or more. If located, they were more likely to refuse to participate in the interview; their refusal rates were higher than those of offenders in JOD sites by 6 percentage points.
3. The difficulty in locating and interviewing comparison group offenders was offset (in terms of the final response rate) by the higher rates of incarceration among JOD offenders in the sample.

Table 1. Final Disposition of Eligible Cases Assigned for Interview: Initial Survey

	Victims			Offenders		
	JOD	Comp	Total	JOD	Comp	Total
Eligible for interview	1067	991	2058	546	620	1166
Not located	290	237	527	171	226	397
Located/ closed without contact	19	12	31	50	28	78
Too risky to participate	0	0	0	5	6	11
Not in area	19	10	29	15	9	24
Deceased	0	0	0	1	0	1
Institutionalized	0	2	2	29	13	42
In jail or prison	0	0	0	12	6	18
In treatment (Psychiatric/substance abuse)	0	0	0	4	0	4
Other institutions	0	2	2	13	7	20
Located/contacted/not interviewed	232	233	465	96	142	238
Expired with contact (including broken appointments)	106	79	176	53	43	93
Refused	124	147	271	38	98	136
No interpreter available	2	7	9	5	1	6
Total not interviewed	541	482	1022	317	396	710
Total interviewed*	526	509	1035	229	226	455
Response rate	49%	51%	50%	42%	36%	39%

*The final analysis samples are reduced by two (one comparison group victim and one comparison group offender) due to incomplete interviews.

Although response rates were similar in the two comparison sites, the JOD sites varied in survey outcomes. Compared to Washtenaw, Dorchester had lower overall response rates for victims and offenders. The large numbers of cases closed with contact but no interview more than offset the higher rate of locating offenders and lower offender refusal rates in

Dorchester. It is possible that in Dorchester, with its high number of recent immigrants, respondents may have feared involvement with authorities and lacked confidence in the guarantees of confidentiality offered by the interviewers and, therefore, did not respond to multiple contact attempts.

Locating Sample Members

Locating respondents was difficult and the major reason why sample members were not interviewed. In the majority of all cases, a correct address could not be identified, despite the locating procedures described above. In addition, interviewers in all sites encountered situations in which they believed (or knew for sure) that the address was correct, but were unable to schedule an interview. Frequently this was due to efforts by respondents to avoid the interviewer. For example, in 42 Ingham cases and 32 Washtenaw cases, interviewers had contact with someone at the address who confirmed that the respondent still resided at the given address, but were unable to schedule an interview. In addition, in Washtenaw interviewers were unable to access the respondent's home address because it was in a secure, gated community or apartment complex in half a dozen cases. The locating experiences are summarized in Tables 2 and 3 below.

Table 2. Average Number of Locating Attempts: CUS

	Washtenaw County			Ingham County		
	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2
All cases						
Ever contacted						
All contact efforts	7.7	7.6	8.2	8.0	8.1	8.8
Letter	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Phone	2.4	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.5	4.0
In person	4.3	3.9	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.8
Additional mail	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Never contacted						
All contact efforts	9.5	9.8	10.5	9.9	10.6	10.3
Letter	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Phone	2.9	3.5	4.1	3.9	4.4	4.0
In person	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.0	5.2	5.3
Additional mail	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Table 3. Average Number of Locating Attempts by Completion Status: Atlantic

Interview Completed	Dorchester			Lowell		
	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2
All contact efforts	3	4	3	8	5	6
Letter	1	1	1	1	1	1
Phone	2	3	2	4	3	3
In person	0	0	0	3	1	2
Additional mail	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interview Not Completed						
All contact efforts	6	7	7	6	9	6
Letter	1	1	1	1	1	1
Phone	3**	4*	3***	3	5	3
In person	2**	2*	3***	2	3	2
Additional mail	0	0	0	0	0	0

* averaged using 66 of 153 cases; other contact logs missing

** averaged using 132 of 186 cases; other contact logs missing

***averaged using 110 of 190 cases; other contact logs missing

Table 4. Field Experience: Completed Initial Interviews

	Dorchester		Lowell		Washtenaw County		Ingham County	
	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender
Mean days: Incident to interview	170.1	169.2	172.6	164.0	151.1	161.7	118.6	116.0
Location of interview								
Home	56.0	19.5	62.2	48.4	64.4	55.0	36.5	23.4
Courthouse/survey office	37.8	65.2	24.5	19.6	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
Jail	0.0	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.4	0.0	7.0
Victim's home*	N/A	1.7	N/A	3.1	N/A	4.5	N/A	5.5
Food outlet	3.3	2.5	3.8	10.3	21.5	21.6	49.1	53.9
Public place	1.3	0.9	0.7	1.0	13.2	9.9	11.3	6.3
Other	1.6	0.0	4.6	5.2	0.5	0.9	2.2	3.1
Missing	0.0	0.0	4.2	12.4	0.5	1.8	0.9	0.8
Translator used for interview?								
Yes	0.7%	2.6%	5.4%	13.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.8%

* Victim interviews at home were coded as home interviews.

Follow up Survey

Interim Contact Efforts

At the time of the initial interview respondents were given a “CALL REMINDER” card and asked to call the survey firms four months later to confirm or change their address and telephone number, in an effort to maintain up-to-date contact information on sample members. Participants were told they would receive \$10 for updating their contact information. If they did not call, the survey firms attempted to contact them to verify the address and telephone number. All of those who confirmed their contact information received \$10.

At Atlantic, the respondents were sent a personalized letter the first week of the month they were due to make the interim contact. The letter reminded them to call to update their current location in exchange for \$10. If the respondent did not call within two weeks, Atlantic began trying to call the respondent. If the phone was disconnected, the SC sent a second letter to the respondent and door-to-door contact attempts were initiated. Next, efforts were made to locate the respondent through the alternate contact provided at time of initial interview. The alternate contact was attempted by phone first. If this was not successful, a letter requesting information on the respondent, along with a signed copy of a permission form, was mailed to the alternate contact, requesting help in locating the respondent. At the same time, Atlantic began searching telephone databases (411, and computer telephone locating databases). In Dorchester, if the respondent sought was on probation, efforts were made to get updated information from the probation officer. If the respondent was fluent in a language other than English, an interviewer fluent in the respondent’s language was asked to make the contact.

At CUS, staff began contacting respondents who had not updated their contact information by calling within four months after the initial interview. Calls were made at varying times of the day, as well as on different days of the week, including weekends. As respondents were reached or called in, updated information was merged into the master spreadsheet for inclusion in the 9-month follow-up locator forms given to interviewers. All respondents who were contacted by CUS, or who took time to do so on their own, were sent a letter of thanks and a \$10.00 check for taking the time to provide this information.

The contact results, shown in Table 5, indicate that the two firms achieved almost identical contact rates despite their differences in locating methods. Just over 45% of the JOD victims and about 35% of the JOD offenders were contacted for interim updates of their location. Larger portions of the comparison sample respondents were located: about two-thirds of the victims and over half the respondents in comparison sites provided updated contact information.

Table 5: Interim Contact Results

	Dorchester		Lowell		Washtenaw		Ingham	
	Victim	Offenders	Victim	Offenders	Victim	Offenders	Victim	Offenders
# Letters sent	408	163	326	56	0	0	0	0
# Calls made	66	23	73	17	428	213	401	269
# Location confirmed or updated	148	40	196	55	100	38	143	66
% of Initial respondents contacted	48%	34%	68%	58%	46%	36%	64%	52%

Follow up Locating and Interviewing

When possible, respondent follow up interviews were assigned to the interviewer that conducted the initial interview. The interviewing procedures were similar to those used at initial interviews. Contact and interviewing of victims was governed by the safety procedures for the study. At the start of each interview, respondents were asked to affirm their consent to participate in the study. At the end of the interviews, respondents were thanked and given a \$50 cash incentive for participating. Interviews were scheduled in advance when possible and took place at a safe location convenient for the respondent.

At Atlantic, follow-up training included both an individual meeting and a group meeting with each interviewer to reassess appropriate protocol knowledge. The follow-up survey was then reviewed and the site coordinators fielded any questions or comments raised at both times. Monthly meetings with the SCs and FIs were held to brainstorm recruiting concerns and go over protocol in order to maximize response rates.

At CUS, the PM and FC made three trips to Ann Arbor, and two to Lansing, before beginning follow-up interviews in order to meet with interviewers as a group to review policies and procedures for the project. On each of the first trips to each location, they went over the follow-up survey, responding to interviewer questions and concerns as they arose, and focused on locating procedures. On subsequent trips, the focus was primarily on issues surrounding locating problems, with a discussion on interviewers sharing information, as well as communicating those problems to CUS, without violating the confidentiality protocols.

At CUS, 9-month follow-up locator forms for respondents were produced from the master respondent location spreadsheet and sent to the SCs on CD via the United States Postal Service. These locator forms included all of the information that was on the Initial Contact Form, as well as any additional information gleaned during attempts to reach respondents at the 4-month point, including changes in phone numbers and addresses. The Site Coordinators then assigned the cases to the interviewers on a weekly basis.

CUS interviewers were given eight weeks to try to complete the interview. During this time, they were expected to complete a minimum of ten attempts (including a minimum of 5 in-person attempts) at reaching the respondents assigned to them. This included a minimum of two attempts to reach the respondent in-person within the first week. All attempts, whether in-person or by telephone, were to be made at varying times of day and on different

days of the week to insure that every effort was made to reach the potential respondent at a time when they would be available. When the respondent was not home, interviewers left a copy of the study announcement in a sealed envelope addressed to the respondent. All attempts to make contact were immediately recorded on the locator forms.

When making attempts by telephone, interviewers used their training to confirm the identity of the respondent before proceeding with scheduling an appointment at a safe and convenient time and place to conduct the interview. If the respondent was no longer interested in participating, they were thanked for their time and assigned a "Refusal" disposition, and no further contact was made.

When attempting in-person contacts, a similar protocol was followed. CUS interviewers were told only to make such attempts if they had time to actually administer the survey should the respondent so request. If the interviewer was told that the respondent no longer lived at the address given, they asked for the person's new phone number and address, and, if that information was available, to note it on the contact form and to make future attempts appropriately.

If new information was not available, locating efforts were initiated. At CUS, interviewers used the internet to search for updates, and sent requests to the study manager at CUS. Initially these requests were forwarded to UI following the same procedures that were used during the initial phase of the study, where additional databases were consulted in order to find new information on these respondents. In May of 2005 this method was discontinued in favour of having CUS conduct the look-ups directly, using the on-line service Intellius.com. When new information was available through the earlier method, it was returned to CUS and then disseminated to the interviewers and SC; when methods changed, the new information was sent directly to the interviewers as well as the SC. All subsequent attempts to reach a respondent used the updated information.

At Atlantic, the locating forms and alternate contact information provided by the respondent at the first interview as well as any interim update forms were placed in the assignment file given to the interviewer for follow up interviews. If the interviewer determined that the location information was no longer valid, then:

- In Lowell, Atlantic submitted the location request form by email to the Lowell PD and forwarded via email the necessary information to initialize a search through BPD/LPD Captain to search locating databases;
- In Dorchester, Atlantic attempted to get updated information from the probation officer for offender information (for offenders) and computer locating databases.

If these efforts did not produce results, Atlantic initiated an Autotrax search. As a last resort, the case was sometimes assigned to a new interviewer to try in person locating. If the respondent was located in jail, efforts were made to the contact the correctional institution to determine length of stay and whether an interview of victim or offender would be possible.

Once the respondent was contacted, a date and time to meet for the final interview was arranged. Respondents met in a safe and private location. The interview protocol was identical to that of the initial interview. The consent form was read aloud to the participant and any questions were answered at that time. Once the consent form was signed, the interview began. After the interview, respondents were compensated. Victims were reminded to contact the police or various victim agencies if they needed help. The strategies used to locate the respondents are shown in Tables 6 and 7. They indicate that four to 11 contact efforts were required to complete interviews and that the survey firms made many more unsuccessful efforts to reach the non-respondents, with an average of **x**

contacts across all non-respondents. Lowell respondents were the most difficult to contact by far, as shown by the contact efforts made for both completed and not completed interviews.

Table 6. Average Number of Locating Attempts at Time of Assignment for Follow Up by Completion Status: CUS

Interview completed	Washtenaw			Ingham		
	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2
Average # contact efforts	7.8	5.2	5.1	7.8	8.5	7.1
Letter	< 1	< 1	0	< 1	< 1	0
Phone	4.0	3.1	2.7	4.3	5.8	4.5
In person	3.7	2.1	2.4	3.4	2.7	2.6
Additional mail	< 1	< 1	0	< 1	< 1	0
Interview not completed						
Average # contact efforts	11.1	7.5	7.7	8.1	8.5	8.7
Letter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phone	6.6	4.2	5.7	4.7	4.8	6.0
In person	4.5	3.3	2.0	3.4	3.7	2.7
Additional mail	0	0	0	0	0	0

Survey Completion

The disposition of cases assigned for follow up interview is summarized in Table 8. Response rates for victims and offenders exceeded 80% in both JOD and comparison samples. Of the sample members eligible for a follow up interview, about 90% of the victims and 84% of the offenders completed the follow up survey. A few sample members initially interviewed were not eligible for a follow up interview due to incarceration of the offender for more than 6 months, death, or, in Washtenaw, through failure to assign the cases to the field interviewers. The primary cause of incomplete interviews was a failure to locate the respondent; relatively few respondents refused the interview request (1% to 2% of the eligible respondents).

One offender interview was later discarded because it was incomplete.

The location of the follow up interviews varied by site and by whether the respondent was a victim or offender. The location variation was related to two factors: interviewers had access to office space in Massachusetts, but not in Michigan, and interviewers were more comfortable conducting home interviews with victims than home interviews with offenders. The most frequently used alternative locations were food outlets and public places such as libraries (in Michigan). Translators were used infrequently except in Lowell where translators were used in 11 percent of the offender interviews and 6.9% of the victim interviews.

Table 7. Average Number of Locating Attempts at Time of Assignment for Follow Up by Completion Status: Atlantic

Interview completed	Dorchester			Lowell		
	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2	Offenders	Victims Sample 1	Victims Sample 2
Average # contact efforts	5.9	4.5	5.0	6.4	4.3	11.4
Letter	1.0	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8
Phone	4.2	2.4	3.2	4.4	2.6	3.3
In Person	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.3
Additional mail	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1
Interview not completed						
Average # contact efforts	11.9	11.3	14.1	18.5	10.9	26.3
Letter	2.7	1.7	2.8	3.0	1.3	3.0
Phone	8.2	6.4	6.9	10.8	5.8	16.8
In Person	2.0	3.2	4.3	4.6	2.6	6.0
Additional mail	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5

Table 8. Final Disposition of Eligible Cases Assigned for Interview: Follow up Survey Nine Months After Initial Interview

	Victims			Offenders		
	JOD	Comp	Total	JOD	Comp	Total
Initial interview completed (#)	526	509	1035	229	226	455
Institutionalized	0	1	1	5	4	9
Deceased	2	0	2	0	0	0
Not assigned/not eligible	1	10	11	5	6	11
Eligible for follow-up interview (#)	523	498	1021	219	216	435
Not located	44	15	59	24	11	35
Located/ closed without contact	5	10	15	6	9	15
Located/contacted/not interviewed	22	12	33	9	10	19
Refused	9	7	16	4	5	9
Other	12	4	17	5	5	10
Not interviewed (#)	70	37	107	39	30	69
Interviewed* (#)	453	461	914	180	186	366
% of eligible interviewed	87%	93%	90%	82%	86%	84%

Table 9. Field Experience: Completed Follow-up Interviews

	Dorchester		Lowell		Washtenaw County		Ingham County	
	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender
Location of interview (#)								
Home	48.5	12.4	69.5	14.6	43.3	21.7	33.7	16.5
Courthouse/ survey office	35.3	54.6	14.5	62.2	0	0	0.5	1.9
Jail	0	7.2	0	0	0	1.2	0	1.9
Victim's home*	na	3.1	na	4.9	na	20.5	na	2.9
Food outlet	4.9	4.1	19.8	6.1	19.8	24.1	44.7	55.3
Public place	1.5	3.1	0.8	0	9.6	6.1	6.5	7.8
Other	2.6	2.1	7.6	12.2	25.1	1.2	13.6	0
Phone	2.3	2.1	1.2	0	2.1	0	0.5	1
Missing	4.9	11.3	1.5	0	0	25.3	0.5	12.6
Translator used for interview? (%)								
Yes	0.8%	0	6.9%	11.0%	0	0	0.5%	0

Chapter 2. Representativeness and Characteristics of the Sampled Intimate Partner Violence Cases

The impact evaluation of the Judicial Oversight Demonstration (JOD) is based on data gathered from interviewed samples of intimate partner violent (IPV) victims and offenders in JOD and comparison sites. The two JOD sites were Dorchester, MA and Washtenaw County, MI; the two comparison sites were Lowell, MA and Ingham County, MI. Court records in each site were reviewed to identify eligible cases. All domestic violence cases reaching disposition were reviewed and sampled if appropriate. The files of all criminal domestic violence cases disposed during the sampling period in participating courts were reviewed for eligibility. Information was collected from police and court files on the incident, court processing, and the victim and offender characteristics and contained information on the population of cases represented by the survey sample recorded in a database. This database was used to identify respondents for in-person interviewing.

Because samples, rather than the entire population of IPV victims and offenders, provided data for analysis, this chapter assesses the representativeness of each sample with regard to its respective population. Where differences exist, statistical methods will be used to help control for these differences and establish the generalizability of impact evaluation results. The chapter goes on to examine the extent to which failure to respond to the follow up interview affected the representativeness of the samples used in the outcome analyses.

Case Selection

In each JOD and comparison site, all IPV cases reaching disposition or sentencing during the sampling period in participating courts were reviewed weekly. A Case Incident Fact Sheet (CIFS) was completed on every case involving intimate partner violence between adult parties (both victim and defendant age 18 or older) that reached disposition within one year of the violent incident. The CIFS data are available for the population of study-eligible cases filed in participating courts during the sampling period (N=2246).

The population of cases was then divided into three groups, two of which were eligible for interview assignment:

- *Victim and Offender Eligible for Interviewing (Sample 1)* consisted of cases resulting in conviction or probation before sentencing. In these cases both the victim and the offender were assigned for interviewing provided that neither had previously been sampled (N=1198).
- *Only Victim Eligible for Interviewing (Sample 2)* consisted of cases resulting in dismissal or acquittal. In these cases, only the victim was assigned for interviewing (N=923).
- *Not Eligible for Interviewing* included: (1) cases in which the offender was incarcerated during the six months immediately following conviction and thus had no opportunity to be exposed to post-sentence probation or opportunities for reoffending, (2) cases in which the incident happened more than one year before case disposition, and (3) cases involving victims or offenders already sampled (n=125). These cases were excluded from the surveys; neither offender nor victim was assigned for interviewing.

Victim interviews were assigned in all eligible IPV cases, regardless of disposition type—conviction, dismissal, or acquittal.¹² Offender interviews, on the other hand, were limited to those that resulted in conviction, as well as those referred to probation before sentencing.

For a number of reasons, it was not possible to complete interviews with all victims and offenders whose cases were assigned for interviewing (Chapter 1 of this volume presents detailed information on interviewing strategy, completion, and refusal rates). To assess the extent to which the interviewed samples are representative of the population, this chapter compares interviewed victims and offenders to those not interviewed to identify possible sources of selection bias.¹³ The comparisons are based on the data recorded in the CIFS from official records that describe victim and offender demographics, incident characteristics, case processing, and sentences. Consequently, comparisons are limited to information that was observed or known to official persons and do not include all possible differences that might affect the analyses findings.

Analytic Approach

The analysis first describes the population of cases meeting the study eligibility rules, in total and by sample, using the CIFS data. The analysis then compares interviewed respondents (victims, offenders, or both) to nonrespondents. Bivariate comparisons test one characteristic at a time and are conducted separately for offenders eligible for interviewing and victims eligible for interviewing. Finally, a series of multivariate logistic regressions were used to predict interview completion or not. The logistic regressions are conducted separately to compare interviewed respondents to nonrespondents based on:

- Cases in which offenders were interviewed compared to eligible offenders who were not interviewed;
- Cases in which victims were interviewed compared to eligible victims who were not interviewed; and
- Cases in which both the victim and offender were interviewed compared to eligible cases lacking interviews with the victim, the offender or both.

The Population of Cases

Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4 show descriptive statistics for all cases reviewed during the sampling period and thus describes the population of IPV cases in participating sites. The results divide the population into cases eligible for interviewing (further divided into cases in which both offender and victim were eligible for interviewing and cases in which only the victim was eligible because the case was dismissed or the offender found not guilty) and cases not eligible for interviewing.

The location of cases identified during the sampling period as meeting the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the study is shown in Table 1 shows. Approximately half of the population of cases came from JOD sites and half from comparison sites. Within the JOD cases, more than half came from Dorchester. Within the comparison sites, more than half came from Lowell.

¹² A larger number of cases resulted in dismissal or acquittal than conviction, for this reason researchers randomly selected the first of every five dismissed or acquitted cases per week for interviewing.

¹³ Selection bias results when interviewed respondents differ from non-interviewed individuals in characteristics that affect both the decision to be interviewed and the outcome being analyzed (e.g., victim safety).

Table 1. Location of the Population of IPV Cases Eligible for the Study

	All Study-Eligible Cases (n=2246)	Victim and Offender Eligible for Interview (n=1198)	Only Victim Eligible for Interview (n=923)	Not Eligible for Interview (n=125)
Location (#)				
JOD	49.2	46.6	54.8	33.6
Dorchester	30.4	26.6	35.8	27.2
Washtenaw	18.8	20.0	19.1	6.4
Comparison	50.8	53.4	45.2	66.4
Lowell	29.6	25.5	29.9	66.4
Ingham	21.2	28.0	15.3	0.0
* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001, **** p≤.0001				

The characteristics of the victims and offenders in the population of study-eligible cases are shown in Table 2. In most cases, victims were female and offenders male. However, approximately 15 percent of the cases eligible for interview involved female offenders. The victims averaged 32 years old, the offenders 34. Virtually all cases involved English-speaking victims and offenders.

Race/Ethnicity was based on records found in the court file. When this information was missing from the file, respondent answers on the initial interview were used for those who were interviewed. Because various data sources characterized race/ethnicity in different ways, Hispanic is treated as a separate category. If the data source separately classified Hispanics as white, black or other, the individual was placed in the other race category. The race/ethnicity variable indicates mix of Black, white, and other races.

The Incident shown in Table 3, were similar across all groups, except for the cases not eligible for interviewing.¹⁴

- Approximately three-quarters of cases had a top arrest charge of assault and battery;
- The offender was arrested at the time of the incident in more than half the cases;
- Dual arrest (charging of both the victim and offender) rarely occurred in the eligible cases;
- Weapons were used about one-fifth of the time; and
- Children present one-third of the time.

¹⁴ Cases not eligible for interviewing were smaller in number (N=125) and somewhat more serious, in that offenders were sentenced to more than six months of incarceration. Both of these factors yielded somewhat differing case characteristics.

Table 2. Victim and Offender Characteristics in the Population of IPV Cases Eligible for the Study

	All Study-Eligible Cases (n=2246)	Victim and Offender Eligible for Interview (n=1198)	Only Victim Eligible for Interview (n=923)	Not Eligible for Interview (n=125)
Victim (%)				
Female	86.7	88.1	84.1	92.7
Age in years ¹⁵ (#)	32.5	32.7	32.2	32.9
Race/ethnicity				
White	42.6	46.0	36.8	53.7
Black	36.9	32.9	43.0	29.6
Asian	4.5	4.2	5.4	0.9
Hispanic	7.7	8.7	5.9	12.0
Other/multiracial	8.3	8.2	8.9	3.7
Missing race	3.7	3.3	2.9	13.6
English-speaking	98.5	98.7	98.4	97.6
Offender (%)				
Male	86.4	88.0	83.6	92.0
Age in years ⁴ (#)	34.1	34.0	34.1	34.2
Race/ethnicity				
White	38.8	42.5	33.0	46.3
Black	42.2	38.2	50.1	23.1
Asian	4.1	3.6	5.0	2.5
Hispanic	8.9	8.8	7.5	20.7
Other/multiracial	6.0	6.9	4.5	7.4
Missing race	1.3	1.0	1.5	3.2
English-speaking	97.9	97.6	98.3	98.4

The case processing data, shown in Table 4, indicated little variation across the population subgroups. Arraignment occurred within 20 days of the incident, on average, and offenders were typically charged with only one charge—most often, assault and battery. About half were released on their own recognizance pending trial, and half were required to post bail or bond. The time from arraignment to disposition was about 30 days longer for cases in dismissed or not guilty cases (only victims eligible for interviewing) than for cases that were convicted, continued without a finding or offered deferred prosecution, though both were subject to a similar average number of predisposition hearings.

¹⁵ If age was missing from the official records, the age reported on the survey was used for those interviewed.

Table 3. Incident Characteristics in the Population of IPV Cases Eligible for the Study

	All Study-Eligible Cases (n=2246)	Victim and Offender Eligible for Interview (n=1198)	Only Victim Eligible for Interview (n=923)	Not Eligible for Interview (n=125)
Incident (%)				
Top charge at arrest				
Sexual assault/rape	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Aggravated assault & battery	15.6	14.4	16.6	19.2
Assault & battery	73.2	76.3	71.6	55.2
Threats, harassment, intimidation	3.3	3.2	3.5	4.0
Property crime	2.4	1.8	3.4	1.6
Other	0.3	0.0	0.4	2.4
Violation of order	5.0	4.2	4.3	17.6
Arrested at time of incident	58.8	64.2	55.3	32.8
Dual arrest or charging	0.7	1.2	0.2	0.0
Weapon used	21.0	21.0	21.6	16.9
Child present	34.3	34.5	36.2	18.9
Days from incident to arraignment (#)	18.3	16.9	17.6	37.4 ¹⁶
Missing days from incident to arraignment	3.2	2.0	4.2	6.4
* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001, **** p≤.0001				

Table 4. Case Characteristics in the Population of IPV Cases Eligible for the Study

	All Study-Eligible Cases (n=2246)	Victim and Offender Eligible for Interview (n=1198)	Only Victim Eligible for Interview (n=923)	Not Eligible for Interview (n=125)
Case processing (%)				
Number of charges filed				
One charge filed	66.7	65.0	71.0	52.0
> 1 charge filed	33.3	35.0	29.0	48.0
Top charge at filing				
Sexual assault/rape	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Aggravated assault & battery	16.9	15.3	18.5	20.8
Assault & battery	72.4	75.3	71.1	53.6

¹⁶ When cases greater than one year were excluded, the average number was 22.4 days (n=114).

Table 4. Case Characteristics in the Population of IPV Cases Eligible for the Study

	All Study-Eligible Cases (n=2246)	Victim and Offender Eligible for Interview (n=1198)	Only Victim Eligible for Interview (n=923)	Not Eligible for Interview (n=125)
Threats, harassment, intimidation	3.7	3.7	3.6	4.8
Property crime	2.2	1.8	2.7	3.2
Other	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.8
Violation of order	4.5	3.8	3.9	16.8
Release conditions¹⁷ (%)				
ROR	48.8	45.2	54.1	44.8
Bail/bond	51.6	59.9	43.8	29.6
No contact order	41.8	50.5	33.7	18.4
Days from arraignment to disposition (#)	93.0	79.7	108.5	110.4 ¹⁸
Missing days from arraignment to disposition	3.2	2.0	4.3	6.4
Number of predisposition hearings (#)	1.6	1.6	1.5	2.1
Missing number of predisposition hearings	8.1	10.9	4.3	8.8
Case Disposition (%)				
Any guilty charge	42.7	69.8	0.0 ¹⁹	98.4
All charges dismissed	39.3	0.0	95.7	0.0
All charges not guilty	1.7	0.0	4.1	0.0
All charges CWO or DP ²⁰	14.7	27.3	0.0	1.6
Other (mixed disposition types)	1.7	2.9	0.2	0.0
Guilty Cases	(n=959)	(n=836)	N/A	(n=123)
Days from disposition to sentencing (#)	18.8	20.8	N/A	2.0
Missing days from disposition to sentencing	9.1	6.5	N/A	26.8
Top charge at conviction (%)				
Sexual assault/rape	0.0	0.0	N/A	0.0
Aggravated assault & battery	9.4	8.1	N/A	18.7
Assault & battery	75.0	77.8	N/A	56.1

¹⁷ In one comparison site (Ingham County, Michigan), release conditions of *both* bond and ROR were possible for the same defendant; such defendants were offered immediate release on bond, or release on their own recognizance after 7 to 10 days of incarceration.

¹⁸ When cases greater than one year were excluded, the average number was 91.4 days (n=111).

¹⁹ This portion of the population was confined to cases that were dismissed or the offender found not guilty.

²⁰ In Dorchester and Lowell, cases could be continued without finding (CWO) or prosecution could be deferred (DP). Cases disposed in this manner were removed from the defendant's record upon successful completion of specified requirements (e.g., no further domestic violence) during a set period of time.

Table 4. Case Characteristics in the Population of IPV Cases Eligible for the Study

	All Study-Eligible Cases (n=2246)	Victim and Offender Eligible for Interview (n=1198)	Only Victim Eligible for Interview (n=923)	Not Eligible for Interview (n=125)
Threats, harassment, intimidation	4.4	4.2	N/A	5.7
Property crime	2.6	2.4	N/A	4.1
Other	4.3	4.8	N/A	0.8
Violation of order	4.3	2.8	N/A	14.6
Sentence (%)				
Jail/prison and probation (no time suspended) ²¹	12.5	12.0	N/A	16.3
Probation only (any jail/prison time suspended)	63.8	72.6	N/A	4.1
Probation required, of those with suspended jail/prison	94.0	94.2	N/A	80.0
Jail/prison only (time not suspended)	14.3	9.1	N/A	49.6
Other (BIP, RH, suspended jail/prison, other condition)	4.3	2.6	N/A	15.5
No sentence	5.1	3.7	N/A	14.6
* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001, **** p≤.0001				

Comparison Of Survey Respondents And Nonrespondents

A substantial portion of the cases assigned for interviewing could not be located for the initial interview. The reasons for non-response, described in Chapter 1, related primarily to difficulty in locating sample members and, to a lesser degree, to refusal to participate in the survey. In this section, interviewed respondents are compared to non-respondents for three samples used in the analysis: 1) the offender sample (from cases in column 2 above), 2) the victim sample (from cases in columns three and four of tables above), and 3) the sample of pairs of victims and offenders (from cases in column 2 above). Comparisons are made based on all relevant characteristics; for example, sentencing characteristics were not relevant to the victim only sample, which consists of dismissed or acquitted cases.

Sample Representativeness: Bivariate Analysis

Tables 5 and 6 compare the respondent and non-respondent offenders. Notably, there were no significant differences between offenders interviewed and those not interviewed with regard to the following characteristics: victim age; offender gender and age; top charge at arrest; dual arrest or charging; weapon used; child present; number of charges filed; and, for those convicted, sentences imposed.

The respondent offenders differed significantly from nonrespondents on several variables, although these differences were relatively small. Respondents were more likely than nonrespondents to:

²¹ The question regarding suspended jail/prison time was not asked in Lowell.

- Be from JOD sites (50 percent of respondents compared to 44 percent of nonrespondents);
- Be from “other” or multiracial groups (12 percent compared to 4 percent);²²
- Have Black victims (36 percent compared to 31 percent);
- Be English-speaking and have English-speaking victims (nearly 100 percent compared to 98 percent); and
- Have been arrested on the day of the incident (69 percent compared to 61 percent).

Respondents were less likely than nonrespondents to

- Have female victims (86 percent compared to 90 percent), though the observed difference in offender gender was not statistically significant; and
- Be White (40 percent compared to 44 percent) or Hispanic (7 percent compared to 10 percent).²³

Table 5. Comparison of Offender Respondents and Nonrespondents

	Respondents (n=454)	Nonrespondents (n=744)
Location (%)		
JOD *	50.4	44.2
Victim (%)		
Female *	85.7	89.5
Age in years (#)	32.9	32.6
Race/ethnicity *		
White	44.7	46.8
Black	36.4	30.7
Asian	3.4	4.6
Hispanic	9.7	8.1
Other/multiracial	5.8	9.7
Missing race *	2.0	4.2
English-speaking *	99.6	98.1
Offender (%)		
Male	85.7	89.4
Age in years (#)	33.9	34.1
Race/ethnicity ****		
White	40.1	44.0
Black	38.3	38.1
Asian	2.9	4.1

²² This is at least partly a result of the use of survey data to supplement race information collected from official records; for example, several respondents self-identified as both White and Hispanic (i.e., multiracial).

²³ Additionally, respondents were less likely to have missing race data because survey responses were used to supplement race data collected from official records.

Table 5. Comparison of Offender Respondents and Nonrespondents

	Respondents (n=454)	Nonrespondents (n=744)
Hispanic	6.8	10.0
Other/multiracial	11.9	3.8
Missing race **	0.0	1.6
English-speaking **	99.3	96.5
Incident (%)		
Top charge at arrest		
Sexual assault/rape	0.0	0.3
Aggravated assault & battery	15.0	14.1
Assault & battery	77.1	75.8
Threats, harassment, intimidation	2.0	3.9
Property crime	2.0	1.6
Other	0.0	0.0
Violation of order	4.0	4.3
Arrested at time of incident **	68.7	61.4
Dual arrest or charging	0.4	1.6
Weapon used	22.5	20.1
Child present	36.7	33.1
Case Processing (%)		
Number of charges filed		
One charge filed	65.6	64.7
> 1 charge filed	34.4	35.4
Guilty Cases (Remainder On Pre-Sentencing Probation) (%)		
	(n=331)	(n=505)
Sentence		
Jail/prison and probation (no time suspended)	13.0	11.3
Probation only (any jail/prison time suspended)	74.0	71.7
Probation required, of those with suspended jail/prison	94.8	93.8
Jail/prison only (time not suspended)	8.2	9.7
Other (BIP, RH, suspended jail/prison, other condition)	2.4	2.8
No sentence	2.4	4.6
* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001, **** p≤.0001		

Table 6 compares the respondent and non-respondent victims. Notably, there were no significant differences between victims interviewed and those not interviewed with regard to the following characteristics: JOD site; top charge at arrest; dual arrest or charging; weapon used; child present; and number of charges filed.

The respondent victims differed significantly from nonrespondents on several variables, though again most differences were relatively small. Respondents were more likely than nonrespondents to:

- Be female (90 percent of respondents compared to 83 percent of nonrespondents);
- Have male offenders (89 percent compared to 84 percent);
- Be from “other” or multiracial groups (12 percent compared to 5 percent);
- Have White offenders (40 percent compared to 37 percent); and
- Speak English (nearly 100 percent compared to 98 percent) and have English-speaking offenders (99 percent compared to 97 percent).
- Respondents were less likely than nonrespondents to:
 - Be Black (35 percent compared to 39 percent);
 - Be Asian and have Asian offenders (3 percent compared to 6 percent); and
 - Have had the offender arrested on the day of the incident (58 percent compared to 62 percent).

Table 6. Comparison of Victim Respondents to Nonrespondents

	Respondents (n=1034)	Nonrespondents (n=1087)
Location (%)		
JOD	50.9	49.5
Victim (%)		
Female ****	89.9	83.0
Age in years ** (#)	33.1	31.9
Race/ethnicity ****		
White	42.6	41.5
Black	35.2	39.4
Asian	3.2	6.2
Hispanic	7.2	7.8
Other/multiracial	11.9	5.1
Missing race ****	0.0	6.2
English-speaking ***	99.5	97.6
Offender (%)		
Male ***	88.8	83.5
Age in years * (#)	34.6	33.6
Race/ethnicity *		
White	40.4%	36.5%
Black	43.2%	43.5%
Asian	2.8%	5.5%

Table 6. Comparison of Victim Respondents to Nonrespondents

	Respondents (n=1034)	Nonrespondents (n=1087)
Hispanic	7.4%	9.0%
Other (incl. multiracial)	6.2%	5.6%
Missing race	1.1%	1.4%
English-speaking **	98.7%	97.0%
Incident (%)		
Top charge at arrest		
Sexual assault/rape	0.1	0.3
Aggravated assault & battery	14.4	16.3
Assault & battery	73.8	74.7
Threats, harassment, intimidation	4.5	2.2
Property crime	2.5	2.4
Other	0.2	0.2
Violation of order	4.6	4.0
Arrested at time of incident *	58.1	62.4
Dual arrest or charging	0.6	0.9
Weapon used	20.7	21.8
Child present	36.1	34.4
Case Processing (%)		
Number of charges filed		
One charge filed	65.8	69.4
> 1 charge filed	34.2	30.6
* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001, **** p≤.0001		

In the sample of victims, respondents and their offenders were significantly older (about one year) than the non-respondents and their offenders.

Table 7 compares the respondent and non-respondent pairs. Respondent pairs are those cases in which both offender and victim were assigned for interview and both were interviewed. They are compared to cases in which only the victim, only the offender, or neither one was interviewed. There were no significant differences between pairs interviewed and those not interviewed with regard to the following characteristics: JOD site; victim gender, age, race or language; offender age or gender; top arrest charge; dual arrest or charging; weapon used; child present; number of charges filed; and, for those convicted, sentences imposed.

There were three significant differences between respondent pairs and nonrespondents. Offenders from respondent pairs were more likely to:

- Come from “other” or multiracial groups (12 percent of respondents compared to 5 percent of nonrespondents),
- Speak English (99 percent compared to 97 percent); and
- Have been arrested on the day of the incident (69 percent compared to 63 percent).

Table 7. Comparison of Paired Sample Respondents and Nonrespondents

	Both Interviewed (n=328)	None/One Interviewed (n=870)
Location (%)		
JOD	50.6	45.1
Victim (%)		
Female	88.4	87.9
Age in years (#)	33.2	32.5
Race/ethnicity		
White	45.1	46.4
Black	35.7	31.8
Asian	3.4	4.5
Hispanic	9.8	8.3
Other/multiracial	6.1	9.0
Missing race ****	0.0	4.6
English-speaking	99.7	98.3
Offender (%)		
Male	88.4	87.8
Age in years (#)	34.5	33.9
Race/ethnicity **		
White	40.9	43.1
Black	37.8	38.3
Asian	2.7	4.0
Hispanic	7.0	9.4
Other/multiracial	11.6	5.1
Missing race *	0.0	1.4
English-speaking *	99.4	96.9
Incident (%)		
Top charge at arrest		
Sexual assault/rape	0.0	0.2
Aggravated assault & battery	14.9	14.3
Assault & battery	77.7	75.8
Threats, harassment, intimidation	2.1	3.6
Property crime	1.5	1.8
Other	0.0	0.0
Violation of order	3.7	4.4
Arrested at time of incident *	68.6	62.5
Dual arrest or charging	0.6	1.4
Weapon used	20.7	21.1
Child present	36.0	33.9

Table 7. Comparison of Paired Sample Respondents and Nonrespondents

	Both Interviewed (n=328)	None/One Interviewed (n=870)
Case Processing (%)		
Number of charges filed		
One charge filed	65.6	64.8
> 1 charge filed	34.5	35.2
Guilty Cases (%)	(n=239)	(n=597)
Sentence		
Jail/prison and probation (no time suspended)	13.4	11.4
Probation only (any jail/prison time suspended)	76.2	71.2
Probation required, of those with suspended jail/prison	95.2	93.8
Jail/prison only (time not suspended)	5.9	10.4
Other (BIP, RH, suspended jail/prison, other condition)	2.5	2.7
No sentence	2.1	4.4
* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001, **** p≤.0001		

In summary, many of the characteristics tested did not differ significantly or sizably in any comparison of interviewed and non-interviewed persons. These similarities included site location; victim or offender age and English-speaking;²⁴ top charge at arrest; dual arrest or charging; weapon used; child present; number of charges filed; and, for those convicted, sentences imposed.

Across all groups, the most notable differences between respondents and non-respondents had to do with the following characteristics:

- **Gender:** Respondent offenders were less likely to have female victims, and respondent victims were more likely to be female and have male offenders.
- **Race:** Respondent offenders, respondent victims, and offenders from respondent pairs were more likely to come from “other” or multiracial groups (however, as previously noted this at least partly results from the use of survey data to supplement race information collected from official records). Also, respondent offenders were more likely to have Black victims, while respondent victims were more likely to have White offenders. In contrast, respondent offenders were less likely to be White or Hispanic, while respondent victims were less likely to be Black or Asian (or to have Asian offenders).
- **Arrest at the time of the incident:** Respondent offenders and offenders from respondent pairs were more likely to have been arrested at the time of the incident, while respondent victims were less likely to have had the offender arrested on that day.

²⁴ Although often statistically significant, the percentage of English-speaking persons never differed greater than 3 percent between groups.

Logistic Regression

In this last section, the most notable differences identified through the previous comparisons of means are tested simultaneously using logistic regression. Each regression has one simple dichotomous outcome: *Was the person interviewed?* The purpose of these regressions is to highlight any factors that appear to be driving the differences between interviewed and non-interviewed victims, offenders, and pairs. The logistic regressions are conducted separately for offenders and pairs in sample one and for all victims in samples one and two. However, all regressions include the same five predictor variables measuring victim and offender gender, race (White or Black versus “other/multiracial”), and arrest at time of the incident.

Table 8 shows the logistic regression results for all groups. The results show that:

- Interviewed offenders were more likely than those not interviewed to be of a race classified as other/multicultural, have black victims, and be arrested at the time of the incident;
- Interviewed victims were more likely than those not interviewed be female, be of a race classified as other/multicultural, and less likely to involve offenders of a race classified as other/multicultural;
- Interviewed pairs were more likely than those not interviewed to have a Black victim, and less likely to have a Black offender.

Conclusion

Interviewed and non-interviewed victims, offenders, and pairs of victims and offenders in the JOD impact evaluation samples were similar in many ways. Respondents and nonrespondents were largely similar with regard to site location (JOD or comparison); victim or offender age and English-speaking; top charge at arrest; dual arrest or charging; weapon used; child present; number of charges filed; and, for those convicted, sentences imposed.

However, the analysis did indicate that the study participants differed from those not interviewed, particularly on gender and race of the victims and offenders. The study had a particularly difficult time recruiting male victims, and contains more than expected proportion of multi-cultural offenders and victims, perhaps an artifact of the way this variable was defined.

Table 8. Logistic Regressions Predicting Interview (1=Yes, 0=No).

	Offenders Eligible for Interview (n=1198)	Victims Eligible for Interview (n=2121)	Pairs Eligible for Interview (n=1198)
Likelihood ratio (model)	21.35 **	51.80 ****	11.28
Odds Ratios			
Victim			
Female	0.91	2.44 **	0.96
White	1.42	0.59 ***	1.28
Black	2.20***	0.60 **	1.90 **
Offender			
Male	0.91	0.73	1.25
White	0.65*	2.09 ****	0.76
Black	0.48**	1.69 **	0.55 *
Incident			
Arrested at time of incident	1.35*	0.84	1.28
Percent missing (model)	4.26	4.29	4.26
* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001, **** p≤.0001			

Chapter 3. Comparability of Intimate Partner Violence Cases in the Judicial Oversight Demonstration and Comparison Samples and Analysis of Attrition

The quasi-experimental design of the Judicial Oversight Demonstration (JOD) impact evaluation involves comparison of samples from jurisdictions that did and did not adopt the JOD intervention strategies. The differences in the JOD and non-JOD jurisdictions, particularly with respect to their responses to intimate partner violence (IPV), are described in the cross-site analysis chapter. The design assumes that differences in outcomes result from these differences in responses to IPV and not from differences among individuals in the samples drawn from IPV cases. In the absence of random assignment, it is necessary to examine the tenability of this assumption that the samples are similar with respect to individual characteristics that might affect their responses to survey questions and the likelihood of various outcomes, including recidivism and victim well-being.

To examine the comparability of individual sample members, this chapter compares the two samples across a number of IPV-related incident and personal characteristics. The results were used to identify statistically significant differences so that outcome analyses can introduce appropriate statistical controls to minimize the effects of individual characteristics on the findings.

Sampled Cases

As described in the previous chapter, the impact evaluation sampled court cases involving intimate partner violence between adult parties (both victim and defendant age 18 or older). However, cases in which case disposition occurred more than one year after the violent incident and convicted cases in which the offender would not be on probation within six months of the conviction (e.g., incarcerated more than six months) were excluded. The victim interview sample included victims from all IPV cases filed in court, including those resulting in dismissal or acquittal. The offender interview sample was limited to cases that resulted in conviction as well as cases referred to probation before sentencing.

Data on the incident characteristics were derived from official records, while personal characteristics of the victims and offenders were derived from the interviews. It should be noted that the list of factors included in the analysis is limited to observed factors and as a result, do not include all possible differences that might affect the analyses findings.

Approximately one thousand IPV victims (N=1,034) and nearly five hundred offenders (N=454) participated in the initial interviews. The division between JOD and comparison samples was virtually even: 526 victims and 229 offenders were from JOD sites, and 508 victims and 225 offenders were from comparison sites. These represented a total of 589 court cases in the JOD sites and 571 court cases in the comparison samples, since both parties were interviewed in 328 cases. See Table 1 for the numbers of cases in which both parties, only the victim, and only the offender were interviewed.

Because the majority of the impact analyses will be based upon separate analyses of victim and offender samples, the comparability analyses that follow examine the victim and offender interview samples separately; however, analysis of the 328 members in each sample who have a partner in the other sample is also presented.

Table 1. Numbers of Court Cases Included in Impact Evaluation Sample

	JOD Cases	Comparison Cases	TOTAL
Only victim interviewed	360	346	706
Only offender interviewed	63	63	126
Both interviewed	166	162	328
TOTAL	589	571	1160

Comparability of Incident Characteristics

The following characteristics of the IPV incident that led to inclusion in the sample were examined: whether a physical or sexual assault had occurred, weapon usage, injury severity, presence of a child, arrest information, and the lengths of time between incident and arraignment and interview.

Victim Interview Samples

There were several statistically significant differences in incident characteristics between JOD and comparison victim interview samples (see Table 2). Compared to victims in the non-JOD sample, victims in the JOD sample were:

- More likely to have been involved in incidents involving a weapon (although this may be due to improved police incident reports in JOD sites);
- More likely to have sustained an injury requiring treatment;
- More likely to have had children present at the time the police responded;
- More likely to have been in incidents with top arrest charges of aggravated assault and battery, threats, harassment, and intimidation, or property crime, but less likely to have physical assault as the top charge.

There was also a longer time period from incident to arraignment and from the incident to the initial interview in the JOD sites than in the comparison sites.

Overall, there were no significant differences between JOD and comparison sites with regard to sexual assault during the incident; arrest at the time of the incident; number of arrest charges; and dual arrest or charging.

Offender Interview Samples

There were fewer (four) significant differences in incident characteristics between JOD and comparison offender interview samples (see Table 2). JOD sample incidents were less likely to involve assault and battery charges but more likely to involve aggravated assault or property charges (the same story as told by victim interview cases). And JOD sample incidents had a significantly longer time from incident to the initial interview than in the comparison sample.

There were no significant differences in the likelihood of physical or sexual assault, weapon usage, presence of children, on-scene arrest, number of arrest charges, dual arrest or charging, and length of time from incident to arraignment.

Paired Interview Samples

Among the paired cases in which both victim and offender were interviewed, few characteristics distinguished the JOD and comparison samples (see Table 2). JOD sample incidents were less likely to involve assault and battery charges but more likely to involve aggravated assault or property charges (the same story told by offender and victim interview cases, when analyzed separately). And JOD sample incidents had a significantly longer time from incident to arraignment and from incident to the initial interview than the comparison sample.

There were no significant differences in the likelihood of physical or sexual assault, weapon usage, injury requiring treatment, presence of children, on-scene arrest, number of arrest charges, and dual arrest or charging.

Table 2. Comparability of Incident Characteristics

Incident Characteristic ²⁵ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples		Paired Interview Samples	
	JOD (N=526)	Comp. (N=508)	JOD (N=229)	Comp. (N=225)	JOD (N=166)	Comp. (N=162)
Physical assault during incident	81.2 **	88.2	65.1	68.0	83.1	87.7
Sexual assault during incident	5.1	4.1	0.0	1.3	4.2	2.5
Weapon used	23.9 **	17.4	24.5	20.5	22.3	19.1
Injury requiring treatment	16.0 *	11.6	Not available		13.3	12.4
Minor or unknown age child present	40.6 **	31.4	38.8	34.5	40.9	31.1
Arrested at time of incident	59.8	56.4	65.9	71.6	66.3	71.0
Number of arrest charges (#)	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Top Arrest Charge (%)	Arrest ***		Arrest ***		Arrest *	
Sexual assault and rape	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Aggravated assault and battery	16.5	12.2	18.8	11.1	18.1	11.7
Assault and battery	65.2	82.7	69.9	84.4	71.7	84.0
Threats, harassment, intimidation	7.4	1.4	2.2	1.8	2.4	1.9
Property crime	4.9	0.0	3.9	0.0	3.0	0.0
Other	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Violation of order	5.3	3.7	5.2	2.7	4.8	2.5
Dual arrest or charging	0.4	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.0	1.2
Number of days from incident to arraignment (average)(#)	21.3 **	14.2	17.5	11.9	20.0 *	11.0

²⁵ Data on physical and sexual assault during the incident were derived from the victim and offender interviews. All other data are from law enforcement, court, and prosecution records.

Table 2. Comparability of Incident Characteristics

Incident Characteristic ²⁵ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples		Paired Interview Samples	
	JOD (N=526)	Comp. (N=508)	JOD (N=229)	Comp. (N=225)	JOD (N=166)	Comp. (N=162)
Number of days from incident to initial interview (average)(#)	162.5 ***	146.3	166.5 ***	138.0	159.0 **	132.8

* p≤.05, ** p≤.01, *** p≤.001

Comparability of Personal Characteristics

The JOD and comparison samples were also compared on the following personal characteristics: age, gender, race, education and employment history, alcohol and drug abuse, the nature of the relationship with the other party, children, and any prior violence, police contacts, or arrests.

Victim Interview Samples

The victim interview samples were comparable on a number of personal characteristics of the parties involved (see Table 3). JOD and comparison sample victims were similar in age (around 33), gender (nearly nine out of ten were female), and likelihood of being born in this versus another country (about 85 percent were U.S.-born). Likewise, offenders in victim interview cases were similar across samples with regard to age and gender. The JOD and comparison samples were also quite similar on factors related to victim employment, income, and relationship with the defendant.

Of more than twenty characteristics examined, seven significant differences emerged. JOD victims and their offenders were more likely to be Black or “other” race, while comparison site victims were more likely to be White, Asian, or Hispanic. JOD victims were more likely to have graduated from high school, though at least three-quarters of both groups reported being high school graduates; and their offenders were less likely to be currently employed. In addition, JOD victims were less likely to be living with the defendant at the time of the incident and to have been physically or sexually assaulted by the defendant in the year prior to the incident. Offenders in JOD victim cases also had a higher number of prior arrests than offenders in comparison victim cases.

Offender Interview Samples

There were more significant differences between the JOD and comparison offender samples (see Table 3). JOD offenders were younger (by about two years); and JOD offenders and their victims were more likely to be Black or “other” race, whereas comparison sample offenders and their victims were more likely to be White or Hispanic. Both groups were equally composed of males (about 86 percent), U.S.-born (about 86 percent), and high school graduates (a little under three-quarters of the samples).

Some statistically significant differences also emerged on income, relationship with the victim, and abuse history. Compared to offenders in the comparison sample, JOD offenders were lower on income levels, had shorter relationships with the victims, were less likely to be married at the time of the violent incident, and were less likely to be living together at that time. They were also more likely to have had a protection order issued against them at the time of the incident, and they had a higher number of prior arrests.

There were no JOD-comparison sample differences on other measures of employment, alcohol/drug problems, children, and prior police response.

Paired Interview Samples

Among the paired interview cases, there were only four significant differences between the JOD and comparison offender samples (see Table 3). JOD offenders were younger (by about two years); and JOD offenders and their victims were more likely to be Black or “other” race, whereas comparison sample offenders and their victims were more likely to be White or Hispanic. JOD offenders also accumulated a higher number of arrests prior to the incident date than comparison site offenders.

There were no JOD-comparison sample differences with regard to victim or offender gender, likelihood of being U.S. born, education, employment, income, type and length of relationship, children, prior police response or protection orders, and abuse history. In addition, there were no differences with regard to victim age or homelessness and offender alcohol/drug problems.

Table 3. Comparability of Personal Characteristics

Personal Characteristic ²⁶ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples		Paired Interview Samples	
	JOD (N=526)	Comp. (N=508)	JOD (N=229)	Comp. (N=225)	JOD (N=166)	Comp. (N=162)
Victim age (years)	33.0	33.2	32.1	33.7	32.5	34.0
Offender age (years)	34.7	34.5	32.9 *	35.0	33.4 *	35.6
Victim Gender (%)						
Male	11.4	11.4	15.3	13.3	11.5	11.7
Female	88.6	88.6	84.7	86.7	88.6	88.3
Offender Gender (%)						
Male	89.2	88.4	84.7	86.7	88.6	88.3
Female	10.8	11.6	15.3	13.3	11.5	11.7
Victim Race (%)	Race ***		Race ***		Race ***	
White	26.4	59.3	30.7	59.5	29.5	61.1
Black	53.6	16.1	52.6	19.4	51.8	19.1
Asian	1.0	5.5	1.3	5.5	0.6	6.2
Hispanic	4.4	10.0	5.7	13.8	7.8	11.7
Other (including multiracial)	14.6	9.1	9.7	1.8	10.2	1.9
Offender Race (%)	Race ***		Race ***		Race ***	
White	26.2	55.2	26.6	53.8	28.3	53.7
Black	62.1	23.4	54.6	21.8	52.4	22.8
Asian	1.2	4.6	1.8	4.0	1.2	4.3
Hispanic	0.0	15.2	0.0	13.8	0.0	14.2

²⁶ Race was derived from the victim and offender interviews, as well as law enforcement, court, and prosecution records. Criminal history data were obtained from official police records. All other data were derived from victim and offender interviews.

Table 3. Comparability of Personal Characteristics

Personal Characteristic ²⁶ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples		Paired Interview Samples	
	JOD (N=526)	Comp. (N=508)	JOD (N=229)	Comp. (N=225)	JOD (N=166)	Comp. (N=162)
Other (including multiracial)	10.5	1.6	17.0	6.7	18.1	4.9
Victim U.S. born	85.0	85.4	Not available		87.4	83.3
Offender U.S. born	Not available		87.8	84.4	89.2	83.3
Victim high school graduate	81.9 *	75.8	Not available		81.9	77.8
Offender high school graduate	Not available		75.4	71.1	74.1	72.2
Victim currently employed (full or part-time)	54.0	53.7	57.1	61.4	56.6	58.4
Offender currently employed (full or part-time)	48.8 *	56.0	54.0	57.3	53.9	55.6
Victim income of \$20,000 or more	31.3	32.1	Not available		31.0	33.5
Offender income of \$20,000 or more	Not available		33.8 *	44.0	34.2	43.3
Alcohol problem scale ²⁷ (#)	Not available		0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6
Drug problem scale (#)	Not available		0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
Homeless/shelter	1.0	1.2	Not available		1.8	1.2
Same sex victim and offender	1.7	2.3	1.8	1.8	2.4	1.2
Length of relationship (months)	79.2	82.1	74.0 *	90.8	75.3	87.1
Married at time of incident (even if separated)	26.7	27.8	26.4 *	35.1	24.7	32.1
Lived together at time of incident	59.3 *	66.6	65.1 **	77.3	64.5	79.0
Joint children victim and offender	51.9	52.4	48.3	51.1	50.6	51.9
Children under 18 living with victim at time of incident	66.6	66.1	Not available		64.6	60.5

²⁷ The alcohol and drug problem scales ranged from 0 to 4, with one point each for the following problems: near relative or close friend worried or complained about respondent's drinking/drug use; respondent got into trouble at work because of drinking/drug use; respondent lost a job because of drinking/drug use; and respondent went to someone for help about drinking (or respondent experienced the desire to cut back drug use and could not). Both scales consisted of questions derived from the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and the Short Michigan Alcohol Screening Test. Alpha reliabilities were 0.72 for the alcohol problem scale and 0.79 for the drug problem scale.

Table 3. Comparability of Personal Characteristics

Personal Characteristic ²⁶ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples		Paired Interview Samples	
	JOD (N=526)	Comp. (N=508)	JOD (N=229)	Comp. (N=225)	JOD (N=166)	Comp. (N=162)
Children under 18 living with offender at time of incident	Not available		40.6	47.6	38.0	48.2
Any prior police response	Not available		36.8	36.8	41.2	36.3
Any prior protection orders ²⁸	22.4	24.9	39.8 *	29.0	22.6	25.5
Any physical or sexual assault by offender in year before incident	66.5 *	73.0	Not available		63.3	66.7
Number of months from first abuse by offender to interview date (average) ²⁹ (#)	45.6	46.5	Not available		42.0	48.5
Criminal History						
Offender number of arrests prior to incident (#)	9.9 **	7.5	8.6 ***	4.3	9.7 ***	4.9
* p≤.05, ** p≤.01, *** p≤.001						

Summary

The comparability analyses found no significant differences with regard to sexual assault during the incident; number of arrest charges; dual arrest or charging; gender of the victim and offender; victim employment; U.S. born; offender alcohol or drug problems; same-sex relationships; and joint or minor children.

However, the analyses did identify several differences between JOD and comparison site samples that were present in the victim interview, offender interview, and paired interview samples. These differences showed that cases from the JOD samples were:

- More likely to have a top arrest charge for aggravated assault or property crime, but less likely to have a top arrest charge for assault and battery;
- More likely to involve victims and offenders who were Black or from “other” racial groups, and less likely to involve White or Hispanic victims and offenders; and
- More likely to involve offenders with a higher number of prior arrests.

Also, JOD sampled cases had a longer period of time from the incident to the initial interview. Collectively, these differences point to the importance of including the following control variables in subsequent analyses of domestic violence outcomes:

²⁸ For victim interviews this referred to any prior order against the defendant including at the time of the incident, while for offender interviews this referred to an order in place at the time of the incident. For analysis of paired cases, victim reports are used.

²⁹ Approximately 14 percent of data were missing in each sample; averages are based on non-missing data.

- Top arrest charge;
- Race of victim and offender;
- Number of prior arrests; and

Additional personal characteristics and abuse history, depending on whether victim or offender or paired interviews are the subject of analysis (see paragraphs below for elaboration).

When looking specifically at victim interview cases, those in the JOD sample were less likely to involve physical assault during the incident, but more likely to involve weapon usage and injury requiring treatment. Victim cases were also more likely to have a minor child present at the time police arrived, involve the arrest of the offender at the time of the incident, to have a top arrest charge of threats, harassment, or intimidation, and to have a longer period from incident to arraignment. Sampled JOD victims were also more likely to be high school graduates (and their offenders were less likely to be currently employed) and less likely to have been physically or sexually assaulted by the defendant in the year prior to the incident.

When looking at offender interview cases, those in the JOD sample were younger, less likely to have an income of \$20,000 or more, and they had a shorter average length of relationship with their victim. They were also less likely to be married or living together at the time of the incident, but more likely to have a protection order in place at the time.

When looking at paired interview cases, offenders in the JOD sample were younger by an average of two years.

Attrition

Of the sample members eligible for a follow-up interview, about 90% of the victims and 84% of the offenders completed the follow-up survey. A few sample members initially interviewed were not eligible for a follow-up interview due to incarceration of the offender for more than 6 months, or death. In Washtenaw, a small number of JOD respondents were inadvertently not assigned to interviewers for follow up. The primary cause of incomplete interviews was a failure to locate the respondent; relatively few respondents refused the interview request (1% to 2% of the eligible respondents).

Incident Characteristics

Overall, there were virtually no differences with regard to incident characteristics between respondents who were interviewed at both the initial and follow-up interviews and those who were only interviewed initially. The two groups showed similar likelihoods of physical or sexual assault during the incident; weapon use; arrest at time of the incident; number of arrest charges; top arrest charge; dual arrest; and number of days from incident to arraignment.

Only one difference emerged in both victim and offender interview cases: respondents interviewed at both the initial and follow-up interviews were less likely to have had a child present at the incident (35% compared to 45% among victim cases, and 33% compared to 51% among offender cases).³⁰ In addition among victim interview cases, those interviewed

³⁰ However, as seen shortly, the analysis of personal characteristics showed no significant differences in the likelihood of children living with respondents at the time of the incident.

at both the initial and follow-up interviews had a shorter number of days between the incident and their initial interview (153 days compared to 169 days).

Personal Characteristics

There were virtually no differences with regard to personal characteristics between respondents who were interviewed at both the initial and follow-up interviews and those who were only interviewed initially. The two groups were similar with regard to age; gender; racial breakdown; likelihood of being U.S. born; high school graduate; currently employed; same-sex relationship; length and marital/co-habitation status of relationship; and children living with respondents at the time of the incident. In addition among victim cases, those interviewed at the initial and follow-up interviews had similar percentages of homelessness and prior abuse histories. Among offender cases, those interviewed at both timepoints rated similarly on the drug problem scale.

The few significant differences that emerged were as follows: Among offender cases, respondents interviewed at both the initial and follow-up interviews were more likely to have an income of \$20,000 or more; to have scored lower on the alcohol problem scale; and to have experienced a prior encounter with police. Among victim cases, respondents interviewed at both timepoints were more likely to have acquired a protection order at some point prior to the incident, and their offenders had a higher number of prior arrests.

Multivariate Prediction of Sample Attrition

When all incident and personal characteristics above were included in two separate multivariate models predicting (1) victim interview at follow-up and (2) offender interview at follow-up, the following characteristics emerged as significant:

- Among victim interview cases³¹, only one characteristic continued to predict who was interviewed at both timepoints: sample members with a greater number of days between the incident that led to court and the initial interview conducted about two months after case disposition were less likely to complete a follow up interview. These may be the most mobile victims as delays in locating them may have delayed case prosecution and led to difficulty in completing a follow up interview.
- Among offender interview cases,³² three characteristics significant in the previous bivariate analyses continued to differentiate those interviewed at both timepoints from those only interviewed initially: those with a minor child present at the time of the incident, those with an income below \$20,000, and those who scored higher on the alcohol problem scale were less likely to have been interviewed at both the initial and follow-up interviews. In addition, two characteristics not previously significant in the bivariate analyses emerged as significant in the multivariate model: offenders who had joint children with the victim and those who scored higher on the drug problem scale (while controlling for alcohol problem score) were more likely to have been interviewed at both timepoints.

The characteristics identified above as distinguishing the follow-up sample from those only interviewed initially will be taken into consideration when conducting outcome analyses of JOD effects; in this way, pre-existing sample differences will be statistically accounted for.

³¹ Multivariate results are based on 73% of the sample (27% of cases were excluded due to missing data when all variables were included in one model).

³² Multivariate results are based on 85% of the sample (15% of cases were excluded due to missing data when all variables were included in one model).

Table 4. Comparability of Initial and Follow-up Samples: Incident Characteristics.

Incident Characteristic ³³ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples	
	Initial & Follow-up (N=914)	Only Initial (N= 120)	Initial & Follow-up (N=365)	Only Initial (N=89)
JOD	49.6 *	60.8	49.3	55.1
Physical assault during incident	84.7	84.2	66.9	65.2
Sexual assault during incident	4.6	5.0	0.6	1.1
Weapon used	20.4	22.7	21.4	27.0
Injury requiring treatment	13.7	15.0	Not available	
Minor or unknown age child present	34.9 *	45.4	33.2 **	50.6
Arrested at time of incident	57.7	61.3	70.1	62.9
Number of arrest charges (#)	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4
Top arrest charge (%)				
Sexual assault and rape	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Aggravated assault and battery	13.8	19.2	14.3	18.0
Assault and battery	73.9	73.3	78.4	71.9
Threats, harassment, intimidation	4.6	3.3	1.9	2.2
Property crime	2.7	0.8	2.2	1.1
Other	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0
Violation of order	4.8	2.5	3.3	6.7
Dual arrest or charging	0.6	0.8	0.3	1.1
Number of days from incident to arraignment (average)(#)	17.1	22.0	13.0	21.2
Number of days from incident to initial interview (average)(#)	152.7 *	168.8	150.9	158.6
* p≤.05, ** p≤.01, *** p≤.001				

³³ Data on physical and sexual assault during the incident were derived from the victim and offender interviews. All other data are from law enforcement, court, and prosecution records.

Table 5. Comparability of Initial and Follow-up Samples: Personal Characteristics

Personal Characteristic ³⁴ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples	
	Initial & Follow-up (N=914)	Only Initial (N= 120)	Initial & Follow-up (N=365)	Only Initial (N=89)
Age (years)	33.2	32.0	34.4	32.2
Gender (%)				
Male	9.6	14.2	84.4	91.0
Female	90.4	85.8	15.6	9.0
Race (%)				
White	43.1	38.3	41.1	36.0
Black	35.1	35.8	37.8	40.5
Asian	3.2	3.3	2.2	5.6
Hispanic	7.0	8.3	6.9	6.7
Other (including multiracial)	11.6	14.2	12.1	11.2
U.S. born	85.7	81.7	87.1	82.0
High school graduate	79.6	73.3	74.8	67.1
Currently employed (full or part-time)	54.1	51.7	56.0	53.9
Income of \$20,000 or more	32.2	27.5	41.8 *	27.7
Alcohol problem scale ³⁵ (#)	Not available		0.5 **	0.8
Drug problem scale (#)	Not available		0.3	0.3
Homeless/shelter	0.9	2.5	Not available	
Same sex victim and offender	2.0	2.5	1.6	2.3
Length of relationship (months)	81.0	77.3	85.0	71.6
Married at time of incident (even if separated)	27.4	25.8	30.0	33.7
Lived together at time of incident	63.3	60.0	70.7	73.0
Joint children victim and offender	52.4	50.4	50.4	46.6
Children under 18 living with respondent at time of incident	67.0	61.3	43.6	46.1
Any prior police response	Not available		39.1 *	27.3
Any prior protection orders ³⁶	24.6 *	16.0	33.7	37.5

³⁴ Race was derived from the victim and offender interviews, as well as law enforcement, court, and prosecution records. All other data were derived from victim and offender interviews.

³⁵ The alcohol and drug problem scales ranged from 0 to 4, with one point each for the following problems: near relative or close friend worried or complained about respondent's drinking/drug use; respondent got into trouble at work because of drinking/drug use; respondent lost a job because of drinking/drug use; and respondent went to someone for help about drinking (or respondent experienced the desire to cut back drug use and could not). Both scales consisted of questions derived from the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and the Short Michigan Alcohol Screening Test. Alpha reliabilities were 0.72 for the alcohol problem scale and 0.79 for the drug problem scale.

³⁶ For victim interviews this referred to any prior order against the defendant including at the time of the incident, while for offender interviews this referred to an order in place at the time of the incident.

Table 5. Comparability of Initial and Follow-up Samples: Personal Characteristics

Personal Characteristic ³⁴ (%)	Victim Interview Samples		Offender Interview Samples	
	Initial & Follow-up (N=914)	Only Initial (N= 120)	Initial & Follow-up (N=365)	Only Initial (N=89)
Any physical or sexual assault by offender in year before incident	70.2	65.8	Not available	
Number of months from first abuse by offender to interview date (average) ³⁷ (#)	47.1	37.8	Not available	
Criminal History				
Offender number of arrests prior to incident (#)	9.0 *	6.7	6.5	6.4
* p≤.05, ** p≤.01, *** p≤.001				

³⁷ Fourteen percent of data were missing; averages are based on non-missing data.

Attachment A: Interviewer Training Materials

Attachment B: Consent Forms

Attachment C: Staff Confidentiality Pledges

Attachment D: Data Security Plans

Attachment E: Questionnaires

Attachment F: Locator and Release of Information Forms