Registrar Safety and Rural Registration

Paul Fuentes
Probation Officer, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma

Amber Choate
Oklahoma Department of Corrections
Chicago, IL
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Objectives

- Identify risks and concerns in offender behavior
- Demonstrate registrar safety
- Apply field verification safety
Risks and Concerns

- Tendencies
- Target of choice
- Victim access
- Related/unrelated victims
- Undetected deviant sexual behaviors

Sexual Characteristics

- History of violence
- Domestic violence
- Controlling nature
- Violent opinions
- Access to weapons
Mental Health And Substance Abuse Conditions

- Mental health disorders
- Personality disorders
- Suicidal ideation
- Substance abuse or dependency issues
- Rooted in drug culture

*It is important to be able to recognize individuals in a state of crisis and how to access help for them.*

Registrar Safety

- Facility and property exposed to risk?
  - Uneven floors, exposed electrical wiring, poor lighting
- People exposed to risk?
  - Public, sex offender, new employees, untrained workers
- Discuss worst-case scenarios
- Prioritize risks
Risk Analysis and Mitigation (cont.)

- Prepare observations and recommendations
- Identify protocols and practices for clients when entering building and/or office
  - Client screening
  - Client attire/bags
  - Client access/entrance to office space
    - Offender Shoots Parole Officer
- Share/establish expectation with client

Personal Safety

- Partner to observe or assist
- Keep safe distance
- Never have your back toward the person
- Have an escape plan

Personal Safety (cont.)

- No personal identifiers
- Social media awareness
- Keep personal life private
Security Controls and Risk Management

• Secure all weapons before entering
• Search room prior to and after an interview
• Simple desk and chairs
• No heavy, large or sharp objects
• Away from general public and noise

Maintaining Safety During Registration

• Assemble forms for offender to complete beforehand
• Assess offender body language, attitude and safety risks
• Assess your own nonverbal actions and attitude
• Stay calm and confident
• Non-confrontational while completing forms and processing

Building Rapport With Registrant

• Practice active listening
• Help identify their network of support
• Encourage consistency and self-control
• Recognize their success
• Demonstrate empathy and concern
• Offer resources such as mental health services
Utilizing Technology

- Walkthrough metal detector
- Wand hand-held metal detector
- Security cameras

*Implementation of screening devices should always be approved by administration/governing body.*

Field Verification Safety

Personal Safety in the Field

- Dress in a manner that —
  - Assists you in performing your duties
  - Helps identify your official capacity
  - Allows you ease of movement
  - Does not create additional risks or allow someone to control you (lanyard, scarf, neck tie)
  - Wear ballistic vest if available
Personal Safety in the Field (cont.)

- Advise dispatch, supervisor or another person where you are going
- Written itinerary in order of when you are attempting verifications
- Take a partner
  - Safety in numbers
  - Jeffrey M. McCoy
- Trust your instincts for threat assessment
  - It’s OK to come back later!

Personal Safety in the Field (cont.)

- Warrant check before going to the home
  - Active warrants could cause offender to become an increased safety risk
- Know offender’s work/treatment schedule
- Ideally conducted in daylight hours
- If possible, do not schedule visit ahead of time
  - Sporadic and unscheduled home visits are best

Safely Approach the Home

- Know offender’s case
- Know location of residence prior to arriving, aerial/street view
  - google map
- Know who else lives in the home
- Park a house or two away and leave clear escape path
  - If on a dead-end road or rural setting, park tactically
- Check communication device for channel and battery level
Safely Approach the Home (cont.)

- Call in any vehicle plates, colors and make
- Assess environment before you get out of the car
  - Come back later if environment seems high risk (lots of cars/people, etc.)
- Be alert for animals, snakes, insects
- Keep keys in your hand (non-dominant hand if carrying weapon)
- Move to side of door before you knock
  - Make sure you and your partner are not in front of windows

Safety Inside the Home

- Body mechanics, balanced stance, supportive stance, weapon bladed away
- Never close off your escape route or box yourself in
  - Fatal funnel (doorways, stairwells, hallways)
- Always ask who else is in the residence
- Quickly scan kitchens or areas where dangerous items can be located
- Watch their hands
- While you focus on offender, have partner observe home environment

Safety Inside the Home (cont.)

- While walking through home, have offender in front of you
  - Never turn your back on an offender or others, even when exiting the home
- Make sure home is well lit before proceeding with visit
  - Always carry a flashlight in case of low lighting or no power
- Have the offender sit if in home for extended timeframe after walkthrough
- Sit on hard areas, instead of sofas or couches
  - If soft seating area is only seating available, search area before offender sits
Oklahoma Deputy Fatally Shoots Suspect Who Stabbed Him

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOMNaJXparE

What’s Wrong With This Photo?
Questions?

Paul Fuentes
Probation Officer
Chickasaw and Choctaw Tribes, Oklahoma
Judicial Branch
405-422-7760
pfuentes@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

Amber Choate
Training Officer
Probation and Parole Office IV
Probation and Parole Services
Oklahoma Department of Corrections
405-622-1551 (l)
405-529-1375
amber.choate@doc.ok.gov

SMART Office
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice

700 Seventh St. NW
Washington, DC 20531
phone: 202-514-4689

Twitter: @DOJSMART
Facebook: @DOJSMART
Facebook: @NSOPW

Thank you.