

Policy and Funding Subcommittee Meeting 12/20/23

Discussion with guest speaker Representative Pamela Herndon

- NM House Bill 27 (HB27)
 - NM House Committee discussing updates to the Extreme Risk Firearm Protective Order (ERFPO) process on 1/23/24 @ 1:30pm
 - ERFPO updates would include:
 - Allowing law enforcement and medical professionals to be reporting parties
 - A significant reduction in the window of time that respondents have to surrender their firearms after receiving the ERFPO
 - Formalizing a 24/7 on-call judge who officers could contact for an ERFPO at any time
 - Minor clarifications on details of the original bill
 - Rep. Herndon and many DV/SA service providers strongly support this legislation
- United States v. Rahimi -- US Supreme Court decision
 - Can the US government prohibit the restrained party on a domestic violence order of protection to have a firearm, or is that a violation of the restrained party's Second Amendment rights?
 - Oral arguments took place on November 15, 2023; the Supreme Court's opinion will be issued any day now
 - Rep. Herndon recommends that that Policy and Funding Subcommittee, if not the DVSA Commission as a whole, be prepared to issue a statement for either outcome
 - Rep. Herndon would like to reconvene with the Policy and Funding Subcommittee once the decision is finalized, so we can discuss next steps

Funding requests to City Council for FY2025

- Isez and Ellen have been compiling data to inform the DVSA Commission's recommendation for funding for local DVSA service providers
- Those present for the call discussed their most significant gaps in services:
 - Increasing the number of staff at each agency, at basically every level
 - Staff retention
 - Prioritizing hiring additional case managers
 - Improving financial aid and other direct services for clients
 - Offsetting the upcoming federal cuts to VOCA funding
- Agencies will send Isez and Ellen a "wishlist" of priorities and estimated costs by January 2nd, 2024