# WISCONSIN CRIME VICTIMS COUNCIL MEETING JULY 17, 2020



### AGENDA



Establish Quorum

**Introduction of Council Members** 

Marsy's Law Implementation Project



# MI IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT

Objectives: To provide recommendations to the AG for legislative and policy issues to be addressed as a result of the new constitutional provisions.

Guiding Principles: To promote the meaningful implementation of victims' rights. To do so through engagement with our partners in the field with implementation duties under ML and Chapter 950.



# MI IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT

Systems stakeholder input (ongoing):

Where are the friction points for those with statutory and constitutional implementation duties? What do stakeholders see as challenges to implementation?



# MI IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT

Examine how the new language relates to current statutory rights.

Make recommendations to implement policies, statutory clarifications and statutory enhancements consistent with the new constitutional language.



How does ML interact with:

Chapter 950

Additional related statutes

Decisions by the CVRB

Case Law

# ML IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT

# STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSIONS

Due to the pandemic, stakeholder feedback is being collected through surveys and targeted outreach/conversations/webinars.

COUNTY VICTIM WITNESS COORDINATORS (DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE BASED)
N=74

# Experience in their field

- 58% ten or more years
- 68% more than 5 years

# Familiarity with ML.

97% have read the language and are either familiar or very familiar with ML



#### COUNTY VICTIM WITNESS COORDINATORS

Marsy's Law applies to my agency and will require new and/or updated policies and procedures.

98.51%

Marsy's Law applies to my agency and will not require that we do anything differently.

1.49%

Marsy's Law doesn't apply to my agency

0.00%



Law Enforcement/Prosecutors

N = 201

# Experience in their field.

- 80% ten or more years
- 88% more than 5 years

# Familiarity with ML

98% have read the language and are either familiar or very familiar with ML



Law Enforcement and Prosecutors Responses 107 of 201

Marsy's Law applies to my agency and will require new and/or updated policies and procedures.

84%

Marsy's Law applies to my agency and will not require that we do anything differently.

16%

Marsy's Law doesn't apply to my agency

0.00%



"Marsy's Law contains many provisions that I would describe more as concepts than anything else. The right to privacy is one example...We ultimately have to come up with our own interpretations, which frequently contradict conclusions by defense attorneys and judges, and are left to argue about what the concept of privacy really means. And if we are wrong, we are subject to sanction by the Crime Victims Rights Board. That is not an ideal situation."

-District Attorney



### WORDS/PHRASES UNCLEAR IN ML

31% of victim witness respondents and 16% of law enforcement/prosecutor respondents feel there are unclear words/phrases in ML that make implementation difficult. The most cited examples are below:

#### **MOST COMMON RESPONSES**

**PRIVACY** 

**PROCEEDING** 

REASONABLE PROTECTION

**FULL RESTITUTION** 

TIMELY

OTHER DISCOVERY

TO BE HEARD

ASSISTANCE (RESTITUTION)



#### a) To be treated with dignity, respect, Courtesy, sensitivity and fairness.

- b) To privacy
- c) To **proceedings** free from unreasonable delay.
- d) To **timely** disposition of the case, free from unreasonable delay.
- e) Upon request, to attend all proceedings involving the case.
- f) To reasonable protection from the accused throughout the criminal and juvenile justice process.
- g) Upon request, to reasonable and timely notification of proceedings.
- h) Upon request, to confer with the attorney for the government.
- i) Upon request, to be heard in any proceeding during which a right of the victim is implicated, including release, plea, sentencing, disposition, parole, revocation, expungement, or pardon.



#### j) To have information pertaining to the economic, physical, and psychological effect upon the victim of the offense submitted to the authority with jurisdiction over the case and to have that information considered by that authority.

- k) Upon request, to **timely** notice of any release or escape of the accused or death of the accused if the accused is in custody or on supervision at the time of death.
- 1) To refuse an interview, deposition, or **Other discovery request** made by the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused.
- m) To **full restitution** from any person who has been ordered to pay restitution to the victim and to be provided with **assistance** collecting restitution.



### WORDS/PHRASES UNCLEAR

- n) To compensation as provided by law.
- o) Upon request, to **reasonable and timely** information about the status of the investigation and the outcome of the case.
- p) To **timely** notice about all rights under this section and all other rights, privileges, or protections of the victim provided by law, including how such rights, privileges, or protections are enforced.



# MOST COMMONIX MENTIONED PERCEIVED CONFLICTS DUE TO ML

19% of victim witness respondents and 13% of law enforcement/prosecutor respondents feel ML conflicts with other duties of their office. The most cited examples are below:

ML Concept	Perceived conflict with
Privacy	Public Records Obligations
Privacy	Public/Individual Safety
Privacy	BWC/Squad Cam Policies
Right to Attend	Statutory Court Sequestration
"Full" Restitution	Juvenile code 938.34(5)
Refusing "Other Discovery"	Pros. Obligation to Provide It
Right to be Heard	Avoiding "Unreasonable Delay"
Release Notices to Victim	Protection of Accused



- Treatment of Victim Information
- Redaction
- Public Records Obligations
- Privacy vs. Anonymity vs. Confidentiality
- Restitution
- Treatment of Early "Proceedings"

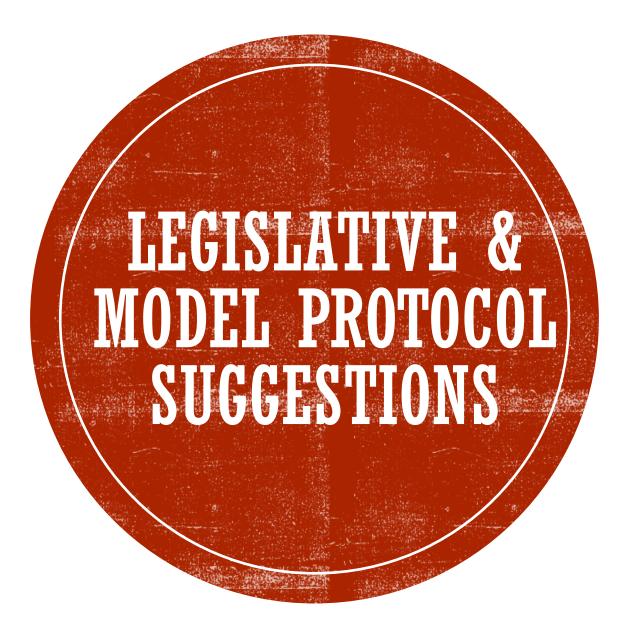
- Timing/Responsibility
- Application to the Juvenile System
- Request for Best Practice Recommendations from DOJ
- Request for Best Practice Recommendations from CVRB
- Enforcement Questions
- Victim Status/Definition/Eligibility



## RECURRING ISSUES IN RESPONSES



Very specific practice questions from all disciplines.



Confidentiality for Certain Documents

Guidance for the Judiciary about Adjournments

Model Consent Form for Sharing Victim Information

Uniform ML Pamphlet

LE Model Policies & State Standards



#### Survey Question:

"The Crime Victims Council (CVC) is seeking input from system professionals with constitutional and statutory duties to victims of crime, in order to develop recommendations for the implementation of Marsy's Law. If you would like to be part of these conversations and are willing to share your perspective please provide your name, title and preferred contact information..."

Over 50 professionals from law enforcement, district attorney's offices, victim witness offices and the judiciary have volunteered to be part of the Council project moving forward.



## OD DISCUSSION: NEXT STEPS

- P Create workgroups aligned with the steps in the justice process in order to capture transitions and multiple discipline/agency interactions with victims.
- Key stakeholder issues (privacy, restitution, definitions, etc.) will have an elevated focus for analysis by each group.
- Workgroups will receive organized stakeholder feedback relevant to their focus.
- DOJ staff will provide communication and consistency across workgroups to foster collaboration on issues that impact all workgroups.
- Incorporate a *customer experience* model of analysis in tandem with agency-focused discussions of technical implementation issues.

### WORKGROUP STRUCTURE & STRATEGY

(As decided at 7/17/20 Meeting)



#### Phase l Workgroup

Victimization through decision on charging/petition

Phase 2 Workgroup

Actual issuance of charge/petition through sentencing/adjudication

Phase 3 Workgroup

Post-Conviction/Post-Adjudication

MULTIDISCIPLINARY WORKGROUPS



### Crime Victims Council ML Implementation Project Work Plan

(As decided at 7/17/20 Meeting)

### ML Implementation Workgroups

- Meet through October
- Include non-CVC members
- Legislative recommendations to the AG mid-4th Quarter

### Reactivate CVC Committees on Privacy and Restitution

 Bring back these CVC committees as standing committees for ongoing work related to privacy and restitution.

### Continue Coordination with DOJ

 Collaborate to contribute to victims' rights advocacy and best practice recommendations for practitioners.



# MEXT STEPS

- Continue to collect and synthesize stakeholder feedback.
- Workgroup creation and offer participation to those who indicated interest.
- Workgroup meetings will initially be scheduled for every three weeks August-October.
- Next full CVC meeting likely in November.