

**For additional information contact**

**State of New Mexico**

**Bernalillo County**

**Metropolitan Court**

**Domestic Violence Solutions,  
Treatment, and Education  
Program**

**P.O. Box 133**

**Albuquerque, NM 87103**

**(505) 841-8251**

State of New Mexico

Bernalillo County  
Metropolitan Court

**Domestic Violence  
Solutions, Treatment,  
and Education  
Program (DVSTEP)**



**A PROGRAM OF INTENSIVE  
JUDICIAL INTERVENTION,  
VICTIM AND FAMILY SERVICES,  
TREATMENT, SUPERVISION,  
AND MONITORING**

# Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court

DVSTEP is designed to end the cycle of domestic violence. As an alternative to jail, this program addresses issues at the core of domestic violence and offers participants the guidance and tools necessary to stop future violent behavior.

## Who's Eligible?

- ❖ Must have pled or found guilty of battery, assault, or a similar charge involving a household member as defined by state statute
- ❖ Have a criminal history of domestic violence or related charges, convictions or behavior and be willing to receive help
- ❖ Must be screened and assessed for eligibility by a licensed court professional and have no other pending charges
- ❖ Must agree to all program requirements, including remaining drug and alcohol free and completing required counseling and treatment
- ❖ Must be referred by assigned Judge after all parties have agreed to a defendant's participation in the program and must then be approved by the Program Judge.

## How Does it Work?

- ❖ Once accepted, the program is a minimum of one year in length; participation beyond one year depends on participant's progress
- ❖ Participants will work the Program's four phases; report for intensive supervision and monitoring by an assigned court probation officer, meet face-to-face monthly with the Program Judge to discuss progress and possible set-backs,

- ❖ Complete domestic violence counseling, any additional recommended treatment, attain and maintain employment or enroll in school.
- ❖ Services are offered to victims and children
- ❖ Parenting classes are offered if applicable
- ❖ Participants are held accountable for complying with all aspects of the program. Non-compliance with program are addressed immediately and may result in sanctions, up to and including incarceration, or termination from the program
- ❖ Subsequent charges of a violent nature will result in termination from the program

## Results

- ❖ Participants are able to get needed treatment and counseling while remaining out of custody
- ❖ A graduate's change of re-offending is greatly reduced
- ❖ Participants may earn a deferred sentence as determined by the program judge
- ❖ Victims and children are offered educational and counseling services and community resources
- ❖ Healthier relationships are built and the cycle of domestic and family violence is decreased
- ❖ Community safety is increased