## 5. <u>The scope of outreach efforts by the department to victims of domestic violence in cases where a</u> perpetrator violates an order of protection issued by a court of competent jurisdiction;

As outlined in Section 6, the Department strives to assist victims of domestic violence, even in cases where the offender has breached a protection order. The Domestic Violence Prevention Officers (DVPO) prioritize victims who have experienced violence or protection order violations, and offer various services such as counseling, shelter referrals, and court assistance.

## 6. Any other interventions by the department that relate to domestic violence.

The NYPD employs DVPOs, who are police officers/detectives with specialized training in supporting victims of domestic violence. DVPOs have a wide range of responsibilities, but one of their primary objectives is to work with victims on their own terms, offering support and assistance as needed.

DVPOs visit victims of domestic violence in their homes to assess their physical and emotional well-being, determine whether the perpetrator has had contact with the victim, assist in developing personal safety plans, provide access to counseling services and shelter referrals, and help with court referrals. They offer a range of services aimed at supporting victims of domestic violence and improving their overall well-being.

DVPOs also engage in significant community outreach efforts to inform individuals about available services, even if police intervention is not necessary. This includes information about safety planning, advice and services for people who are being stalked, and resources for teens experiencing partner violence. In addition, DVPOs encourage individuals to report domestic violence and to bring this crime to light.

The NYPD also operates the High Propensity and Child at Risk Program, which places individuals who have violated orders of protection, been involved in multiple domestic violence incidents, or committed particularly violent acts under close supervision. Victims enrolled in this program are visited by a DVPO at least twice within a 28-day period to ensure their safety and well-being.

In addition to DVPOs, the NYPD facilitates the Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP). The Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, in collaboration with Safe Horizon, manages the CVAP. The program employs victim advocates from Safe Horizon, the nation's largest victim services agency, who work closely with personnel in every precinct and police service area. CVAP advocates receive specialized training in domestic violence and victimization and are responsible for mitigating the trauma associated with crime, particularly in cases of domestic violence. They assist victims in navigating the criminal justice system, provide emotional support and referrals for services, help prevent repeat victimization, and connect victims with community-based organizations that can offer specialized care. CVAP advocates also help victims obtain vital services such as safe, affordable housing and emergency NYCHA transfers.

The NYPD has recently revamped its U-visa program and is actively collaborating with undocumented victims of domestic violence to provide them with certifications for U-visas. This allows victims to obtain legal status in the United States and provides them with critical protection against deportation.