

The Clarke Decision: Study Overview

2020 Biennial Report on Victimization & Victim Services in Idaho

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16 Total Policing Agency Interviews

6 Total Independent Victim Service Agency Interviews

Immediate Reaction to the Clarke Decision

82%

of agencies expressed immediate concern for victim safety.

77%

of agencies reported feeling shocked & confused

"Huge step backwards"

55%

of agencies reported an immediate worry about how to respond to domestic violence calls

"Everyone was in panic mode"

Only **3** participating agencies reported having prior knowledge of the impending decision

36.4%

of agencies reported a perceived Increase in Warrant Use

"Made us they think they forgot about the victims"

36.4%

of agencies reported a perceived Increase in Felony Arrests

40.9%
of agencies reported a perceived Increase in Citation Use

On average, policing agencies reported an additional **45-90 minutes** at DV incidents attempting to obtain a warrant.

Victim Responses

- Confused
- Frustrated
- Lack of cooperation

"Why were they arrested before, but not now?"



"Why is no one helping?"

83.3%

of victim service agencies reported a perceived decrease in arrests for misdemeanor domestic violence

Suspect Responses

- Impatient
- Emboldened
- Surprised at not being arrested



"Just take me to jail"

All victim service agencies reported changes to how they provide services to victims

63%

of victim service agencies reported increased time explaining to victims the police response

"Victims are not getting information from officers"

89%

of victim services agencies reported difficulty in contacting or accessing victims to offer services due to safety concerns for the victim if the offender is still present

75%

of victim service agencies reported an increase in civil protection order assistance

"Where is the validity of the [civil] protection order now?"

The same two researchers conducted all interviews and used a standard series of open-ended questions. Responses were captured via note-taking and not recorded.