

"You Can Hold People Accountable While Still Being
Compassionate and Kind"

TRAUMA-INFORMED ENVIRONMENTS

PROXIMITY TO JUDGE:

- Move Tables Close To Judge
- Come Up To Bench To Speak

EASY TO FOLLOW PROCESS:

- Client Escorts Or Ambassadors
- Electronic Case Board

SIGNAGE:

- Remove "No" & "Don't" Signs
- Display Inspirational Messaging

COMFORTABLE WAITING AREA:

- Books/Toys, Soft Music, Small Rooms, Low Ceilings, Cushions

ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE:

- Therapy Dogs
- Colorful Walls & Artwork

TRAUMA-INFORMED INTERACTIONS

TRAUMA-INFORMED TRAINING:

- Judge, Attorney, Deputy, GAL
- Secondary Traumatic Stress

CULTURE OF HEALING:

- Eye Contact, Smile, Enthusiasm
- Friendly Greetings & Connect

APPROACHABILITY:

- Sit With Pro Se & Children
- Leave Robe On The Bench

TRANSPARENCY:

- Explain Process & Terminology
- Engage With Questions

RECOGNIZE COPING BEHAVIOR:

- Use People-First Alternatives
- Avoid Stigmatizing Language

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TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE PRACTICES

UNIVERSAL TRAUMA SCREENING:

- ACEs Or Trauma Questionnaire
- Recognize Trauma Reactions

RESOURCE REFERRALS:

- Trauma-Based Therapy
- Community Resources

MANDATE SAFETY PLAN:

- Trauma-Based Coping Strategies
- Early Bonding & Attachment

AVOID INTIMIDATION:

- Limit Shackles (if possible)
- Prohibit Non-Verbal Intimidation

CONSIDER ONLINE HEARINGS:

- Eliminates Certain Barriers
- Creates Calm Environments

USE DE-ESCALATING METHODS:

- Listen Without Judgment
- Acknowledge Feelings
- Don't React Aggressively
- Use Sensitive Language
- Ask Questions Calmly
- Provide Positive Reinforcement
- Arrange For Safe Space To Calm

ENCOURAGE MOTIVATION:

- Inspirational Photos, Write Notes
- Foster Positive Relationships

INCARCERATION ALTERNATIVES:

- Community Rehab Programs
- Diversion & Mentor Programs

COMMUNICATE EXPECTATIONS:

- Explain Traumatic Procedures Before They Happen (ex: getting handcuffed & remanded)