POST-MEDIATION/DIALOGUE INTERVIEW SCHEDULE
Texas and Ohio VOM/Dialogue Programs in Crimes of Severe Violence

Offender Name:_______________________ Case Number:______________ Date:__________
Phone Number:______________________ Type of Offense:____________________________

As you are aware, the type of mediation session that you experienced is a very rare occurrence in cases involving severely violent crime. It would be helpful if you could reflect back on your experience of the crime, why you chose to meet the victim, if you felt adequately prepared for the meeting, how you experienced the actual mediation session, and how you now feel at this date.

1.  Could you tell me what actually happened when this crime occurred?

2.  Following your arrest, what was the initial impact of the crime upon your life? How did you feel about it during those initial days and weeks?

3.  How did you get involved with the victim offender mediation program?
4. What were the factors that contributed to your decision to meet with the victim of the crime you committed? Why is that?
   a. Benefits considered
   b. Risks considered
   c. Your expectations

5. Did you feel that you were adequately prepared for the eventual mediation session? Why is that?

6. What were the most helpful things in this preparation?

7. Was there anything else that you wished had occurred during this process of preparing for the mediation session?

8. What were you feeling during that period of time when you were waiting in your cell for the victim to arrive at the prison and prior to initiating the actual mediation session with the victim?
9. Tell me about the mediation session. Tell me about how you told the victim the impact of the crime on you and your family. What was that like for you?
   a. How was the meeting run?
   b. Who did most of the talking?
   c. Were there any surprises?
   d. How long was the meeting?
   e. Who was present?

10. When you listened to the victim's description of the impact of the crime upon their lives, how did you feel?

11. What were the most helpful things that the mediator did during the mediation session?

12. What were the least helpful things that the mediator did? What things did you wish the mediator would have done?

13. What were you feeling after the mediation session ended?
   a. Did your feelings toward the victim change after the mediation session?
      How?
   
   b. Do you think that the victim’s feelings toward you have changed?
      How?
14. When you now reflect back on the mediation session that occurred, how do you feel about it?
   
a. Any regrets?
   
b. Were your initial expectations met?
   
c. Effects on your general outlook on life?
   
d. Effects on your spiritual outlook on life?
   
e. Has your view of the offender changed? (If yes, describe former & present view)
   
f. How do you now see yourself as alike or different from the victim?

15. Are there any remaining issues or needs that you would like to see addressed related to your case?

16. What are the advantages that can come out of a mediation session between a victim and offender involved in a severely violent crime?

17. Are there any other comments you would like to make that we have not covered?

This concludes the main part of the interview. Thanks so much for taking the time to answer each question.

Would it be possible for you to respond to eight additional quick questions or would you prefer that I mail out a one page questionnaire to you?

IF OK TO DO IN PERSON OR ON PHONE:
18. Was this the first time that you were convicted of a crime? ___Y ___N  
   Comments:

19. Did you know the victim prior to this crime? ___Y ___N  
   Comments:

20. How would you rate your satisfaction with the manner in which you were prepared for the eventual mediation session?  
   a. Very satisfied  
   b. Somewhat satisfied  
   c. Somewhat dissatisfied  
   d. Very dissatisfied  
   Comments:

21. How would you rate the helpfulness of meeting the victim?  
   a. Very helpful  
   b. Somewhat helpful  
   c. Not at all helpful  
   Comments:

22. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with your involvement in the victim offender mediation and dialogue program?  
   a. Very satisfied  
   b. Somewhat satisfied  
   c. Somewhat dissatisfied  
   d. Very dissatisfied  
   Comments:
23. Has your overall outlook on life changed since meeting the victim?
   a. Yes
   b. No

23a. If Yes, in what way has your outlook on life been affected?
   a. Definitely more positive and at peace with the circumstances I am faced with.
   b. Somewhat more positive and able to cope with my life.
   c. Somewhat more negative and less able to cope with my life.
   d. Definitely more negative and angry about the circumstances I am faced with.
   e. Other ________________________________

   Comments:

24. To what extent did meeting the victim change your understanding of how the crime impacted others?
   a. A great deal
   b. Somewhat
   c. Not at all

   Comments:

25. Did the process of preparing to meet the victim and the actual meeting have any effect on your religious or spiritual life?
   a. Yes
   b. No

25a. If Yes, how did it affect you?
   a. Definitely enriched my religious/spiritual perspective
   b. Contributed somewhat to a deeper religious/spiritual perspective
   c. Contributed somewhat to a weakening of my religious/spiritual perspective
   d. Definitely weakened my religious/spiritual perspective

   Comments:

Thanks again for participating in this interview.