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

Victim 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 offender, 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. 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? Did you initiate contact with the program or did someone contact you?
4. What were the factors that contributed to your decision to meet with the offender? What were the potential benefits and risks that you considered?
   
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 arrived at the prison and prior to initiating the actual mediation session with the offender?
9. Tell me about the mediation session. Tell me about how you expressed to the offender 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 offender's description of the entire criminal event, how did it affect you?

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?
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)

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 victimized by a crime? ___Y___N
   Comments:

19. Did you know the offender 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 offender?
   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 offender?
   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 offender help with your healing process, your ability to move on with your life?
   a. A great deal
   b. Somewhat
   c. Not at all
   Comments:

25. Did the process of preparing to meet the offender 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.