

**What the law currently says is necessary for a client to complete a program in compliance**

WAC 388-60-0255 states that to be closed in compliance a client has to be in compliance with all the requirements for twelve consecutive months.

Specifically, it states

- (1) The minimum treatment period is the time required for the participant to fulfill all conditions of treatment set by the treatment program. Satisfactory completion of treatment is not based solely on a perpetrator participating in the treatment program for a certain period of time or attending a certain number of sessions.
- (2) The program must require participants to attend treatment and satisfy all treatment program requirements for at least twelve consecutive months.

Thus mere attendance is not sufficient, nor is being in compliance at the very end. It has to be compliance for twelve ***continuous*** months.

Now as to the issue of what compliance consists of. WAC 388-60-0045 states

- (1) A domestic violence perpetrator treatment program must focus treatment primarily on ending the participant's physical, sexual, and psychological abuse.
- (2) The program must hold the participant accountable for:
  - (a) The abuse that occurred; and
  - (b) Changing the participant's violent and abusive behaviors.
- (3) The program must base all treatment on strategies and philosophies that do not blame the victim or imply that the victim shares any responsibility for the abuse which occurred.

Thus if a person denies responsibility for what happens or continues to try to blame the victim for the abuse that has occurred, that is not compliance and their time, up until then, cannot be counted as compliance toward completion of the twelve month minimum period.

Let me repeat that: a client cannot be closed in compliance until they have twelve continuous months of not denying responsibility for what they did and not blaming the victim and must, during that time, demonstrate changing their behavior. That is what the law already says.

WAC 388-60-0055 adds some emphasis on this point by stating

The primary goal of a domestic violence perpetrator treatment program must be to increase the victim's safety by:

- (1) Facilitating change in the participant's abusive behavior; and
- (2) Holding the participant accountable for changing the participant's patterns of behaviors, thinking, and beliefs.

Thus, to be in compliance with the law, the client must change their beliefs, behaviors and thinking regarding the violence.

Thus the law already says that the participant has to **demonstrate the change.**

This is not debatable since this is what the law already says. Minimum standards. Already. Gold Standards would be higher.

I propose that a section WAC 388-60-0255 (3) be added for emphasis and clarification.

WAC 388-60-0255

*(3)A participant cannot be closed in compliance until the program can document twelve continuous months of compliance with all laws, all legal conditions both criminal and civil, no blaming of victims or circumstances, no denial of responsibility and a demonstrated, documented change in behavior.*



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### Washington State Department of Revenue State Business Records Database Detail

<b>TAX REGISTRATION NO:</b> 601936574 <b>UBI:</b> 601936574 <b>ENTITY NAME:</b> DOUG BARTHOLOMEW & ASSOCIATES INC <b>BUSINESS NAME:</b>	<b>ACCOUNT OPENED:</b> 07/01/1999 <b>ACCOUNT CLOSED:</b> OPEN
<b>MAILING ADDRESS:</b> 13606 NE 20TH ST # 200 BELLEVUE, WA 98005-2011	<b>BUSINESS LOCATION:</b> 1750 112TH AVE NE STE B218 BELLEVUE, WA 98004-3770
<b>ENTITY TYPE:</b> CORPORATION  <b>NAICS CODE:</b> 624190 <b>NAICS DEFINITION:</b> OTHER INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY SERVICES	<b>RESELLER PERMIT NO:</b> N/A <b>PERMIT EFFECTIVE:</b> N/A <b>PERMIT EXPIRES:</b> N/A

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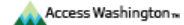
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