**MDPH SDV Definition of a “Session” for One-on-One (i.e., Individual-Level) Services**

The MDPH definition of a service session is not tied to a session length. Our *definition of a service session* is "an occasion on which a service is provided," therefore a session may be short (e.g., 10 minutes) or quite long (e.g., 5 hours).

***When reporting sessions***:

* please do **not** record the same session **under more than one contract per client**.
* please do **not** record the same session **under more than one service category per client**.

It is permissible *to record a continuous service provision period under more than one category of service and/or SDV contract*. However, parsing a continuous service period among service types and/or among contracts *is allowable only if there are substantive and reasonably distinct differences between the services* provided and/or the expertise of the staff providing the services.

**EXAMPLES of Documenting a Continuous Service Occasion in More Than One Service Category/Under More Than One Service Model**

***Example 1***: If a client were to arrive for a scheduled Individual Support Session for DV and 15-20 minutes into the support session the discussion turned to what restraining orders are and are not, the advantages and disadvantages, an exploration with the client of the pros and cons of obtaining one for themselves, the availability of your agency's DV staff to accompany the client to obtain one, and then an actual accompaniment of the client to obtain a restraining order, you would report this (mostly continuous) period of service provision as a single session each of two service types. The first 15-20 minutes would still be counted as an Individual Support for DV session (since that was the focus of this part of your time with the client), and the remaining time would be counted as a Civil Matter Legal Advocacy session.

***Example 2***: If a client were to arrive for a scheduled Individual Support Session for DV and 15-20 minutes into the support session the client revealed that she is also the victim of a sexual assault and needs service around this experience as well, and if the agency also has trained RCC counselors under a Comprehensive RCC contract, one of whom provided the client an Individual Support Session for SV on the same day during the same visit to your agency, then the visit would be counted as one session each of Individual Support Session for DV under your agency's GCBDV contract and Individual Support Session for SV under your Comprehensive RCC contract.