

# **Sample Cross-Examination Questions**

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## **Sample Questions for the Complainant**

- What happened?
- What was the date, time and duration of the incident or behavior?
- How many times did this happen?
- Where did it happen?
- How did it happen?
- Did anyone else see it happen? Who? What did they say? What did they do?
- Was there physical contact? Describe it. Demonstrate it.
- What did you do in response to the incident or behavior?
- What did you say in response to the incident or behavior?
- How did the respondent react to your response?
- Did you report this to anyone? To whom? When? What they say and/or do?
- Did you tell anyone about the incident or behavior? Who? What did they say and/or do?
- Do you know whether the respondent has been involved in any other incidents?
- Do you know why the incident or behavior occurred?
- Do you know anyone else who may have witnessed this incident?
- Is there anything else you want to tell me that I haven't asked you?

## **Sample Questions for Witnesses**

- What did you witness?
- What was the date, time and duration of the incident or behavior you witnessed?
- Where did it happen?
- Who was involved?
- What did each person do and say?
- Did anyone else see it happen? Who?
- What did you do after witnessing the incident or behavior?
- Did you say anything to the parties involved in response to what you witnessed?
- How did the complainant and the respondent react to your response?
- Did you report this to anyone? To whom? When? What they say and/or do?

- Did you tell anyone about the incident or behavior? Who?
- Do you know why the incident or behavior occurred?
- Do you know anyone else who witnessed this incident?
- Is there anything else you want to tell me that I haven't asked you?

### **Sample Questions for the Respondent**

- What happened?

If the respondent denies that the incident occurred, ask:

- Is there any reason anyone would invent or lie about the incident?
- Where were you when the alleged incident occurred?
- Do you have any witnesses who can corroborate your whereabouts at the time of the incident?

If the respondent doesn't deny that the incident occurred, ask:

- When and where did this happen?
- What were the circumstances leading up to the incident?
- Who else was involved?
- What is your connection to the complainant?
- Are you aware of any other complaints by this person?
- Recount the dialogue that occurred in order of what was said.
- What did the complainant do or say?
- Is there any evidence to support your account of what happened?
- Is there anyone else we should talk to who had knowledge of the incident or the circumstances surrounding it?
- Have you talked to anyone about the incident? Who? What did you tell them?