

# FAMILY VIOLENCE

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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### A CONRAD N. HILTON FOUNDATION PROJECT

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*The Model Code on Domestic and Family Violence (Model Code)* is the result of a three-year project, funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, which analyzed state legislation on family violence and developed a comprehensive model code to address family violence issues facing communities across the country. Since its publication in 1994, the *Model Code* has been distributed to and used by many organizations and individuals in the public arena who are seeking legislative and policy solutions to the problem of family violence.

The Hilton Foundation's interest and involvement in reducing and preventing family violence has not

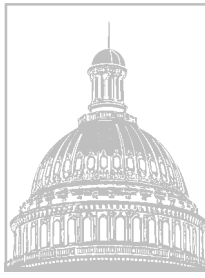
ended with the development of the *Model Code*. The Foundation continues to provide funding to ensure that professionals working in the area of family violence in every state are aware of the *Model Code*, to assist with implementation of the *Model Code*, to document legislative changes in states, and to provide annual updates of new state family violence legislation for those working in the fields of family violence and legislation.

This publication is the seventh annual update and addresses the year 2001 legislative changes made by the states in the area of family violence.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Hon. David B. Mitchell, Executive Director





## **FAMILY VIOLENCE**

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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### **Family Violence Database Available**

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Thanks to continued financial support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Family Violence Department of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (National Council) has been able to maintain and update its family violence statutes database. This database contains all domestic violence-related statutes from the 50 states, District of Columbia, and many U.S. Territories, and is updated as legislation is added, deleted, or amended in each jurisdiction's legislative sessions.

The database was developed in

conjunction with the *Model Code on Domestic and Family Violence*, and may be helpful for persons interested in researching a particular area of the law that addresses family violence. The Family Violence Department not only maintains the database but also has staff available to provide information on existing state statutes that deal with domestic-violence-related topics. Individuals can access the database directly through the department's website at [www.nationalcouncilfvd.org](http://www.nationalcouncilfvd.org), or can request information from staff members on existing state legislation.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges



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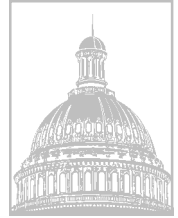
## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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by Meredith Hofford

In 2001, many states enacted a significant amount of comprehensive domestic violence legislation. This legislation created statutes to address a wide variety of issues and demonstrated a number of creative approaches to protecting non-offending family members and holding abusers accountable. Twelve states enhanced criminal sanctions for repeat domestic violence offenders and violators of protection orders. An unprecedented 19 states passed legislation that enacted all or parts of the full faith and credit legislation of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) I and II. Maryland and Michigan enacted statutes that clarify “qualifying protection orders” and authorize law enforcement to presume foreign protection orders to be valid, allowing a respondent to be arrested at the site of an incident. A number of states passed prevention-type measures that either develop collaborative domestic violence committees or councils or address the need to train professionals who have an impact on the victim and their families. Most notable was Tennessee, whose legislation now requires that law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians all receive training in domestic violence.

Arkansas, California, Florida, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia passed comprehensive domestic violence legislation this year. For example, Arkansas created a prohibition against mutual orders of protection, enhanced criminal penalties, extended the time in which law enforcement can make a warrantless arrest, and developed an extensive statute to address and prevent domestic violence in the workplace. Maine enhanced criminal penalties for repeat offenders or violators of protection orders, enacted several statutes that protect vital information of victims and their children, and removed the ability of insurance companies to use domestic violence as a criterion to refuse coverage for victims. In Michigan, law enforcement is authorized to make warrantless arrests on foreign protection orders, the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act now governs procedures for out-of-state custody decrees and disputes, and state and county agencies are authorized to establish inter-agency domestic violence fatality review teams.



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## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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The general trends, details of trends, and individual state accomplishments of the 2001 legislation appear in the charts and state summaries following the introduction.

### EXPANDED DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Fourteen states passed legislation that expanded the definition of domestic violence and offered relief to a new category of victims. Several states including Illinois, Louisiana, Oregon, South Carolina, and South Dakota added “cyberstalking” to the elements of what constitutes an act of domestic violence. In other states, such as California, Mississippi, and Rhode Island, domestic violence victims in “dating relationships” are afforded new protection, allowing their abusers to be criminally charged.

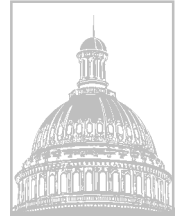
### UCCJEA

Seven states passed the Uniform Child Custody and Jurisdiction Enforcement Act (UCCJEA), bringing the total number of states that have enacted the replacement Act to 29. The UCCJEA protects victims and their children, while at the same time safeguarding the due process rights of all parties to a

custody action involving multiple jurisdictions. The new states are Georgia, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island, Virginia and Washington.

### FULL FAITH AND CREDIT

Although all states have enacted laws authorizing the issuance of civil or criminal protection orders, available enforcement tools vary from state to state. The full faith and credit provisions of VAWA I, and the revisions in VAWA II, help provide consistency in enforcement of protection orders across jurisdictional boundaries. To that end, nineteen states passed some type of full faith and credit legislation this year. Legislatures such as Georgia, Kansas, Nevada, and Pennsylvania enacted general legislation to provide that the terms of a foreign protection order must be enforced as if issued by the enforcing state. A number of states, including Nevada and Indiana, changed the law to provide that foreign protection orders no longer need to be registered in order to be enforced and that law enforcement shall presume



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## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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foreign orders to be valid, all of which helps streamline the enforcement process and ensures that protection of the victim is continued without interruption. Ten states passed measures to provide that a victim who files for a protection order shall not be charged any fees related to its filing or serving. To bolster victim and public safety further, six states, including California, Connecticut, and Texas, enacted statutes that specifically address firearms seizure and relinquishment in protection order cases.

### ENHANCED PENALTIES

Criminal sanctions are the most common mechanism used to enforce protection orders. Of the 12 states that passed enhanced penalty statutes, most continue to reserve felony treatment for repeat criminal offenders. However, a few states, such as Indiana and Maine, provide that a defendant who commits an offense in violation of a protection order will be charged with a felony.

### PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

More than 20 states enacted legislation recognizing that awareness and an understanding of the universal impact of domestic and family violence are crucial to creating effective interventions. For instance, Arizona enacted

legislation requiring the Statewide Domestic Violence Task Force to design a process to evaluate the systemic response to domestic violence and to suggest recommendations for making misdemeanor domestic violence offenses non-bailable in certain situations. Oregon established a Domestic Violence Advisory Committee that will be responsible for establishing a variety of standards in treating victims, maintaining their records, and evaluating batterer intervention programs. Missouri increased training requirements for law enforcement, now requiring 30 hours of family violence training per year. Texas created The Center for Relationship Violence Prevention and Intervention and enacted a law that requires the workforces in welfare agencies to receive at least four hours of family violence training.



### OTHER TRENDS AND ISSUES

- Eight states passed legislation addressing domestic violence and employment issues, specifically workplace violence and unemployment insurance. Minnesota law now provides that domestic violence

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## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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victims will not be disqualified from receiving unemployment if they leave employment or their jobs are terminated because of the effects of domestic violence on them or their children.

- New Mexico enhanced its protection order statutes by providing that an issuing court may order the respondent to reimburse the petitioner for expenses related to the occurrence of domestic violence.
- Colorado enacted legislation that requires petitions for divorce to include information about any protection orders in place.
- Indiana established an address confidentiality program for domestic violence victims, as did nine other states.
- West Virginia created statutes that establish and regulate children's centers for the monitoring of custodial responsibility in domestic violence cases.

### OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION

Once again we extend our deepest appreciation to the advocates and legislative councils in every state who contributed to this update by providing us with the latest information on domestic violence legislation in their states. Although we have made every

effort to ensure the accuracy of this document, we receive new information continuously. Please accept our apology for any errors or omissions. We would appreciate having these brought to our attention, along with any suggestions you may have for making the document more valuable to you.

The National Council's Family Violence Department extends its thanks to everyone who is working to end domestic and family violence.



## 2001 STATE LEGISLATION\*

STATE	Definitions	Criminal Penalties & Procedures	Civil Orders For Protection
Alabama	X		X
Alaska		X	
Arizona		X	X
Arkansas	X	X	X
California	X	X	X
Colorado		X	
Connecticut		X	
Delaware	X	X	
Dist. of Columbia			
Florida		X	
Georgia			X
Hawaii		X	X
Idaho			
Illinois	X	X	X
Indiana	X	X	X
Iowa			X
Kansas		X	X
Kentucky			
Louisiana	X	X	X
Maine		X	X
Maryland	X	X	X
Massachusetts		X	
Michigan	X	X	X
Minnesota			
Mississippi	X	X	X
Missouri		X	

\* This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2001 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.



Family & Children	Prevention & Treatment	Civil Procedures	Miscellaneous
	X		
X			X
X		X	X
X	X		X
X			
X	X		X
X			X
X	X		
			X
	X		
X			X
	X		
X		X	X
			X
X	X	X	X
			X
	X		

## 2001 STATE LEGISLATION\*

STATE	Definitions	Criminal Penalties & Procedures	Civil Orders For Protection
Montana		X	X
Nebraska			
Nevada		X	X
New Hampshire		X	
New Jersey	X	X	
New Mexico	X	X	X
New York	X	X	
North Carolina	X	X	
North Dakota		X	X
Ohio		X	
Oklahoma			X
Oregon	X	X	
Pennsylvania	X		X
Rhode Island	X	X	X
South Carolina	X		
South Dakota	X	X	
Tennessee	X	X	X
Texas	X	X	X
Utah		X	
Vermont			
Virginia	X	X	X
Washington			X
West Virginia		X	
Wisconsin			
Wyoming		X	

\* This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2001 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.



Family & Children	Prevention & Treatment	Civil Procedures	Miscellaneous
X	X		X
		X	X
			X
X		X	X
X			
			X
			X
	X		
	X		X
X	X		X
	X		
	X		
X	X	X	X
X	X		
X			X

## 2001 LEGISLATIVE TRENDS\*

STATE	Address Confidentiality	Firearm Relinquishment in Protection Orders	Workplace Violence	UCCJEA
Alabama				
Alaska				
Arizona				
Arkansas			X	
California		X		
Colorado				
Connecticut	X	X		
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida				
Georgia				X
Hawaii				
Idaho				
Illinois	X			
Indiana	X		X	
Iowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky			X	
Louisiana				
Maine	X			
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan	X			X
Minnesota				
Mississippi				

\* This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2001 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.



Full Faith & Credit Protection Orders	Domestic Violence Victims' Qualification for Unemployment Insurance	Required Domestic Violence Training For Professionals	Enhanced Criminal Penalties	Expanded Definition of Domestic Violence
X				X
X			X	
		X	X	X
X		X	X	
		X	X	X
X				
		X		
X			X	X
X				
X				
X				X
			X	X
X				
	X			
X			X	X
	X			
X			X	X

## 2001 LEGISLATIVE TRENDS\*

STATE	Address Confidentiality	Firearm Relinquishment in Protection Orders	Workplace Violence	UCCJEA
Missouri				
Montana				
Nebraska				
Nevada	X		X	
New Hampshire		X		
New Jersey	X			
New Mexico	X			X
New York				X
North Carolina	X			
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island		X	X	X
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas		X		
Utah				
Vermont	X			
Virginia		X		X
Washington	X			X
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				

\* This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2001 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.



Full Faith & Credit Protection Orders	Domestic Violence Victims' Qualification for Unemployment Insurance	Required Domestic Violence Training For Professionals	Enhanced Criminal Penalties	Expanded Definition of Domestic Violence
		X		
X	X		X	X
X			X	
			X	X
			X	X
			X	
	X			
X				
		X		
X		X	X	X
		X		
			X	

# ALABAMA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, with different starting times depending on the year. The Alabama constitution limits sessions to 30 legislative days within 105 calendar days.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§§ 30-5-2 et seq., pertaining to the Protection from Abuse Act (the “Act”), is amended as follows:

- the definition of “abuse” is expanded to include arson, causing physical harm to a family member, causing a family member to engage in sexual activity by force or threat of force, and placing a family member in fear of physical harm.
- the definition of “family or household members” is expanded to cover a spouse or former spouse, including those by common-law marriage, a parent or child, a person with whom the plaintiff has a child in common, or a present or former household member.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§§ 30-5-2 et seq., pertaining to the Protection from Abuse Act (the “Act”), is amended as follows:

- § 30-5-3 is amended to authorize circuit courts to invest district court judges with the authority to exercise jurisdiction over proceedings relating to protection from abuse and allows protection orders to be sought as a condition of release in a criminal action at the request of either the prosecuting attorney or the victim.
- § 30-5-4 is amended to provide that all courts, including municipal, will have jurisdiction over criminal violations and proceedings under the Act.
- § 30-5-5 is amended to require that, in any circumstance in which a court determines that multiple parties to an action are entitled to protection orders, such orders shall be entered separately.



# ALABAMA

- § 30-5-5 is amended to prohibit the charging of fees for filing and service of process upon initiation of a proceeding under this act. However, the court may assess court costs against a defendant or against a plaintiff whom the court determines has filed an action in bad faith or frivolously.
- § 30-5-6 is amended to require that courts must rule on the issuance of a temporary order within 72 hours of the filing of an action or request for such an order.
- § 30-5-7 is amended to permit courts to order temporary possession and use of an automobile or essential personal effects, regardless of ownership, in protection order hearings. Possession is to be obtained with an escort provided by the appropriate law enforcement officer, to ensure the safety of the plaintiff and children.
- § 30-5-8 is amended to provide that a protection order will have permanent duration unless otherwise ordered by the court in a subsequent order.

# ALASKA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in May. There is a statutorily imposed 120-calendar day limit on a regular legislative session.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 12.55.023(b) is amended to authorize a victim advocate to submit a statement or make an unsworn oral presentation to a sentencing court on behalf of a domestic violence victim of a felony or a class A misdemeanor when the victim does not offer a statement, testimony, or an oral presentation.



# ARIZONA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in April.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 13-3601 is amended to increase the penalties for a felony offense of domestic violence against a pregnant victim. The amendment extends the scope of the crime of domestic violence to include stepparents and grandparents and informs defendants that a third conviction for domestic violence is a felony.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 12-284 is amended to eliminate fees for the filing of an order of protection, a harassment injunction, or an appeal. The order shall expire after one year, as measured from the time of service rather than the time of issuance. The amendment requires the sheriff to register the order.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 13-3601 is amended to require the Statewide Domestic Violence Task Force to create a plan to:

- evaluate the systemic response to domestic violence by statewide public hearings; focus groups conducted in rural, urban, and tribal areas; best practices collection; and standardized data collection; and
- address recommendations making misdemeanor domestic violence offenses non-bailable in certain cases.

# ARKANSAS



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially. The session starts the second Monday in January of odd numbered years and normally lasts until March. Special sessions are sometimes held in even numbered years.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

Act 1707 is created to enhance penalties for offenses committed in the presence of a child. “Child” is defined as a person under 16 years of age. “In the presence of a child” means in the physical presence of a child or knowing or having reason to know that a child is present and may see or hear an act of assault, battery, domestic battery, or assault on a family member or household member.\*

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

Act 1707 is created to enhance penalties for offenses committed in the presence of a child to an additional term of imprisonment of not less than one year and not more than 10 years in felony offenses only. The law requires the prosecutor to give written notice that the defendant is subject to the enhanced penalty. The enhanced portion shall be consecutive to any other sentence imposed. Any person convicted under this section shall be ineligible for early release on parole for the enhanced portion of the sentence.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

Act 1437 is created to prohibit mutual orders of protection. Separate orders of protection restraining each opposing party may be granted only in cases where each party:

- has properly filed and served petitions for protection orders; and
- has committed domestic abuse as defined in § 9-15-103; and
- poses a risk of violence to the other party; and
- has otherwise satisfied all prerequisites for the type of order and remedies sought.

§ 5-14-103 is amended to provide no-contact orders for victims of rape. The law permits the court to issue a permanent no-contact order when a defendant pleads guilty or nolo contendere, or when all of the defendant's appeals have been exhausted and the defendant remains convicted.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 9-13-101 and 9-15-215 are amended to create a rebuttable presumption that it is not in the best interest of a child to be placed in the custody of an abusive parent in cases in which there is a finding, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the parent has engaged in a pattern of domestic abuse.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 12-12-507(b) is amended to add domestic abuse advocates to the list of professionals required to report suspected child maltreatment to the child abuse hotline.

§ 16-81-113 is amended to increase to 12 the number of hours within which a law enforcement officer may make a warrantless arrest in domestic abuse cases that involve physical injury, as defined in § 5-1-102, even if the acts committed did not occur in the presence of law enforcement officers.

Act 1084 is created to prevent workplace violence. Under this new law, an employer, an employee, or an invitee may seek a temporary restraining order, a preliminary injunction, or an injunction under Rule 65 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure against an individual who has threatened violence at the workplace. The injunction or restraining order prohibits further unlawful acts by the individual at the worksite or at any place in which work is being performed on behalf of the employer. Under the new law, the court can order relief prohibiting the defendant from engaging in the following acts with

# ARKANSAS



regard to the employer's worksite, operations, employees, or invitees:

- visiting, assaulting, molesting or otherwise interfering with an employer's operation;
- stalking;
- harassment;
- abusing or causing injury to person or property;
- telephone contact; and
- such other necessary relief as deemed appropriate.

These remedies are available in addition to already established criminal remedies.

Act 1452 is created to require all new law enforcement as of September 1, 2001, to complete training in domestic violence and child abuse. The law requires all new law enforcement officers to complete 20 hours of domestic violence training in the following topics:

- the dynamics of domestic abuse;
- the Domestic Abuse Act of 1991;
- domestic abuse victim interview techniques;
- supportive services available; and
- pro-arrest guidelines, drawbacks of dual arrest, and practices to promote the safety of officers.

\* Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing laws rather than enacting new legislation that may be more beneficial to prosecutors and law enforcement than the child witnesses they are seeking to protect. Further, the ramifications of such legislation for victims and their children remain uncertain.



# CALIFORNIA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. Technically, the biennial session starts the first Monday in December of even-numbered years and adjourns sine die on midnight, November 30th of the next even-numbered year.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 6210 is created to expand the definition of persons who may obtain a protective order to include persons in a “dating relationship.” “Dating relationship” is defined as frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affection or sexual involvement independent of financial considerations.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 1473.5 is created to allow a writ of habeas corpus to be prosecuted on the basis that evidence related to battered women’s syndrome was not introduced at a trial relating to the prisoner’s incarceration and that, had it been introduced, it may have undermined the confidence of the conviction. This section is limited to judgments of conviction entered before January 1, 1992 and is in effect only until January 1, 2005.

§ 213.5 is amended to require the district attorney or prosecuting attorney to conduct a civil and criminal record and case search on the defendant, for consideration in those criminal proceedings in which conditions of bond are set, the defendant could be released, etc.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 6380.2 of the Family Code is amended to create a specification that criminal restraining or protection orders take precedence over other civil orders involving the same persons. For example, civil orders involving custody and visitation are

# CALIFORNIA



prohibited from containing language that would violate a “no contact” provision of a criminal order. The Judicial Council of California is required to establish protocols for local courts that require coordination of all orders involving the same persons. The protocol is to include the establishment of information-sharing procedures between courts to protect the safety of the parties and to enhance the ability of law enforcement to enforce orders.

§ 6380.4 is amended to require that modifications, extensions, or terminations of an order protecting a victim shall be transmitted to the law enforcement agency that entered the order in the Domestic Violence Restraining Order System; the agency is to update the registry within one business day.

§ 6383 is amended to require the Judicial Council of California to modify the criminal and civil court protection order forms to be consistent with §§ 6380 and 6383 on or before January 1, 2003.

§ 6300 is amended and § 6306 is added to the Family Code to require the court, prior to a protection order hearing, to search records and databases to determine whether the proposed subject of the order has any specified prior criminal convictions or outstanding warrants, is on parole or probation, or was the subject of other protection or restraining orders. It also requires the court to consider any information retrieved by such search in determining whether to issue the order, and to notify any appropriate agencies revealed by the search as needing notice.

§ 6380 and §§ 6400 et seq. are created to enact the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act (the “Act”) that authorizes the enforcement of a valid foreign protection order under certain conditions.\*

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§ 4320 is amended to include any criminal conviction for an act of domestic violence, committed by one spouse against the other within five years prior to the divorce filing, as a circumstance creating a rebuttable presumption against an award of temporary or permanent spousal support to the abusive spouse. As a condition for rebutting this presumption, the Act allows the court to consider a convicted spouse's history as a victim of domestic violence.

## **CIVIL PROCEDURES:**

§§ 13960-13965.5 are amended to expand the definition of "derivative victims" to include grandparents or grandchildren of a victim among persons who qualify for reimbursement under the Victim of Crimes Act. The amendment provides that a victim may seek reimbursement for outpatient mental health expenses and need not be an adult to qualify for relocation expenses.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 12010 of the Penal Code is amended to add Article 1.5 relating to firearms seizure. Article 1.5 requires the Judicial Council of California to provide the following on protection orders:

- notice that the respondent is prohibited from owning, possessing, purchasing, or receiving firearms while the protection order is in effect;
- notice that the respondent is to relinquish all firearms to the local law enforcement agency within a specified amount of time; and
- the expiration date for relinquishment of firearms.

Article 1.5 further mandates the Judicial Council of California to require the respondent to file proof of surrender of firearms with the court and authorizes them to develop a standardized form to be attached to protection orders to achieve this goal.

# CALIFORNIA



Article 1.5 also requires the California Attorney General to study and report findings and recommendations to the legislature delineating how persons who legally acquire firearms and subsequently fall within a class of persons prohibited from their possession shall dispose of them to avoid criminal liability.

§ 13730 of the Penal Code is amended to require law enforcement officers responding to a domestic violence call to note in their reports whether they found it necessary to inquire about the presence of firearms and whether that inquiry disclosed the presence of firearms or other deadly weapons, and to confiscate such firearms or weapons.

\*Although provisions exist within the Act that are consistent with federal law and allow for effective enforcement of protection orders, adopting the Act in its entirety places conditions on enforcement of foreign orders that could endanger the lives of battered women and children and places a heavy burden on law enforcement to determine validity pursuant to various conditions.

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. The sessions are limited to 120 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 18-6-801.65 is expanded to allow the admission of evidence of acts of domestic violence committed by the defendant against persons other than the victim named in the information.

§ 18-1-105 is created to enhance penalties for offenses committed against pregnant women where the defendant knew the victim was pregnant and the underlying factual basis includes an act of domestic violence, as defined in § 18-6-800.3 (1).

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§ 14-10-107.8 (1) is created to require that petitions for divorce disclose any emergency, temporary, permanent, or mandatory restraining orders issued in the last two years.

§ 14-10-107.8(2) is created to require the court to inform parties about domestic violence services and potential financial resources available to them and their children.

§ 14-10-129 is amended to change the standard that courts apply in determining whether a child of divorced parents will be permitted to move out of state when a request for relocation is made. The amendment requires the court to base decisions in such cases on the “best interest of the child” rather than the standard established by case law. (§ 14-10-124 provides that evidence of spouse abuse is one factor to be considered against the offending party in determining what is in the child’s best interest.)

# COLORADO

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 18-6-802.5 is created to provide a sliding fee scale for costs of batterer intervention treatment.

§ 26-2-708 is created to require the Colorado State Department to provide county staff ongoing domestic violence training and appropriate materials and to assist counties in developing local resources to provide support services to past and present domestic violence victims.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 18-6-803.6 is amended to provide that when a police officer responds to an alleged offense involving domestic violence or other domestic disputes, the incident report shall include information about whether children may have seen or heard the alleged offense.



# CONNECTICUT

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. In odd-numbered years, sessions start in January and normally end in June. In even-numbered years, sessions start in February and normally end in May.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 54-251 is amended to give crime victims greater access to the criminal justice system by, in part:

- requiring the Office of Victim Services and the Department of Correction to notify crime victims when an inmate requests a sentence reduction or review, or early release;
- permitting all victims, instead of just victims of class A, B, and C felonies and certain other specified crimes, to appear and make a statement before the court, Board of Pardons, or Board of Parole; and
- requiring, rather than allowing, courts to impose financial restitution as a part of the sentence for offenders convicted of a crime involving injury to another person or damage to or loss of property.

§§ 29-28 et seq. are expanded to tighten the controls over the possession of firearms in family violence situations by:

- creating a single gun permit system that bars a local official from issuing a temporary permit to anyone who is a convicted felon or is otherwise prohibited from possessing a weapon under state or federal law (prior law provided for denial only to persons believed to be convicted felons);
- eliminating the commissioner's discretion to issue a permit before getting the FBI response from the background check (National Crime Information Center);
- requiring restraining order applications to provide a space for applicants to indicate whether the person subject to the order has a gun permit or possesses any guns;

# CONNECTICUT

- creating an exception in current confidentiality law by requiring local family violence intervention unit officers to tell the court if a family violence victim has indicated that the offender has weapons; and
- requiring state law enforcement agencies to update their protocols to ensure that persons ineligible to buy or possess firearms are turning in their weapons and/or being denied permits.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§ 01-186 creates a provision that prohibits the court from disclosing a child's address in proceedings under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act when a party alleges that the health, safety, or liberty of a parent or child would be jeopardized by disclosing the child's address.



# DELAWARE

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in June.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 11-60 is expanded to include as offensive touching the striking of a person with saliva or other bodily fluids.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 11-1313 is amended to extend the law prohibiting interference with emergency communications to single-party lines, whereas the prior law prohibited interference only on party telephone lines.

# FLORIDA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in March. Sessions normally last for 60 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 741.283 is created to require a minimum term of imprisonment for domestic violence that intentionally causes bodily harm. The statute requires a person adjudicated guilty of a crime of domestic violence to serve a minimum of five days in the county jail as part of the sentence imposed, unless the court sentences such person to a non-suspended period of incarceration in a state correctional facility.

§ 784.03 is amended to provide that a person shall be charged with felony battery if the offense committed was a second or subsequent conviction for any type of battery offense.

§ 948.03 subsection (12) is created to require the court to order a person convicted of an offense of domestic violence to attend and successfully complete a batterers intervention program, unless the court determines that such person does not qualify for intervention pursuant to statute. The batterer intervention program must be certified pursuant to § 741.32, and the offender must pay the cost of the program.

§ 741.281 is amended to require the court to impose the condition of attending and successfully completing a batterer intervention program on any defendant placed on probation, unless the court determines that a defendant does not qualify pursuant to statute.

§ 944.605 is amended to require the Department of Corrections to notify “requesting persons” within 30 days after an inmate has been approved for community release. “Requesting persons” can include the defendant’s victim, the victim’s personal representative, or the state’s attorney.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§ 39.301 is amended to require that staff who conduct child protective investigations must receive training on how and when to use the state's injunction process to remove a domestic violence perpetrator from the home, as an intervention to protect the child.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 938.08 is amended to require the court to increase fines related to any offense of domestic violence or assault, and to require that a portion of the increase be used to train law enforcement personnel in combating domestic violence.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 626.9541 is amended to prohibit disability, property and casualty, and automobile insurers from specified discriminatory acts related to insurance coverage based upon an applicant's status as a domestic violence victim.

# GEORGIA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and lasting 40 legislative days, normally ending in mid-March.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 15-6-77 is amended to prohibit the assessment of fees or costs in connection with the filing, issuance, registration, or service of a protection order or petition for protection against domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

§§ 19-13-50-56 are created to enact the “Family Violence and Stalking Protective Order Registry Act.” These statutes provide for the creation of a centralized Protective Order Registry for statewide protection orders with 24-hour, seven-day-a-week access. The Act also provides for entry of foreign orders and for electronic transmittal and maintenance of orders.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 19-9-40 through 104 are amended repealing the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act and enacting the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The UCCJEA governs procedures for enforcement of out-of-state custody decrees and resolution of child custody disputes when one or both parents reside outside Georgia.



# HAWAII

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in April.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 710 (1) and (2) are created to provide that interference with the reporting of an emergency or crime, including interference with a 911 call, is a misdemeanor.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 586-9 is amended to provide that the court may dismiss, without a hearing, an application to modify the terms of an existing protection order if the application, on its face, is not supported by facts sufficient to establish a significant change in circumstances of the parties.

§ 586-5.5 is amended to eliminate the maximum term of three years that a protection order may be extended and to provide that the court may extend an order for a period it deems appropriate.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 801D-4 is amended to authorize the defendant's probation officer, upon written request of the victim or the victim's guardian, to notify the victim when:

- the defendant violates any term or condition of probation; or
- the probation officer has any information relating to the safety and welfare of the victim.

# IDAHO



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in March.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 32-1401, 1405 are created to provide for the establishment of a coordinated family services plan, whereby the court shall manage diverse cases involving the same family members, and to implement, evaluate, and administer funding for the plan.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 19-5109 is amended to provide that one component of minimum law enforcement basic training shall be a course in the investigation and collection of evidence in cases involving an allegation of sexual assault or battery.



# ILLINOIS

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in May.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 720-5/12-7.5 is created to define the term “harass” in the context of “cyberstalking” as engagement in a knowing and willful course of conduct, directed at a specific person, which alarms, torments, or terrorizes that person.

§ 725-5/112A-3 is amended to add caregivers (as defined in § 12-21 of the Criminal Code of 1961) to the definition of “family or household members” as used in the Domestic Violence Act.

§ 740-45/2 is amended to add or modify the following definitions in the Crime Victims Compensation Act:

- “survivor” is created and defined as immediate family including a parent, step-father, step-mother, child, brother, sister, or spouse;
- “crime of violence” is amended to include stalking among the violent crimes that qualify;
- “victim” is amended to delete the age qualification (under 18) for a person who witnesses a violent crime and to eliminate the requirement that the crime witnessed be perpetrated or attempted against a relative;
- “pecuniary loss” is expanded to provide compensation for relocation expenses, property lost as evidence, costs associated with temporary lodging, replacement costs for locks or windows, crime scene clean-up, and travel and transportation costs for survivors of homicide victims to secure bodies of the deceased victims for burial necessary as a result of the crime.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 720-5/12-7.5 creates the felony offense of cyberstalking, defined as knowingly and without legal justification, on at least two separate occasions, harassing another person through the use of electronic communication:

- and at any time transmitting a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, restraint, and directing the threat toward that person or family member of that person;
- or placing that person or a family member of that person in reasonable apprehension of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint.

§ 725-5/112A-22 is amended to provide that law enforcement may serve protection orders on respondents with a short form notification and to set forth the information required on the form.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 750-60/203 is amended to provide for the following:

- addresses of schools or day-cares where a child protected by a protection order is enrolled will remain confidential if release of that information poses a risk to the petitioner or child;
- at the request of the petitioner, the clerk of the issuing judge shall send written notice of the order, along with a certified copy of the order, to the school or day-care where the child is enrolled (this requirement extends to transfers of the child to different institutions);
- after receiving a copy of the order, the institution is prohibited from providing the respondent access to the child's records or releasing any information from those records; and
- at the petitioner's request, the institution from which a child is transferring is authorized to send a copy of the order to the institution to which the child is transferring.



# INDIANA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, for one day in November, then convenes in January. Sessions normally end by April 29th in odd-numbered years and by March 14th in even-numbered years.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 5-2-5-1 is amended to include definitions of “foreign protection order” and “Indiana order” for use in the protection order code. “Foreign protection order” means a protection order issued by a tribunal of another state or Indian tribe, regardless of whether the protection order was issued in an independent proceeding or as part of another criminal or civil proceeding.

§§ 34-6-2-18 et seq. are created to provide definitions for various terms related to enforcement of foreign protection orders. Definitions added include, in part: “foreign protection order,” “Indian tribe,” “mutual foreign protection order,” “protection order,” “protected individual,” “tribunal,” and “law enforcement.”

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 35-38-2-7.1 is amended to include, in the elements considered by the court in sentencing, whether the person committed the offense in the presence or within the hearing of a person who is under 18 years of age and not the victim of the offense. \*

§ 35-45-10-5 is amended to provide that a defendant who commits the offense of stalking, in violation of the conditions of an order of protection, pretrial release, or probation, will be charged with a Class C felony rather than a Class D felony.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 5-2-5-12 is amended to require that law enforcement enter information contained in foreign protection orders, and in orders issued by Indiana, into the Indiana data and communication system to facilitate enforcement of those orders.

§ 5-2-9-6.3 is created to require the county clerk to accept a foreign protection order for filing and to outline the requirements concerning what information shall be entered into the Indiana data system.

§ 33-19-4.5 is created to prohibit the clerk of court charging fees to a petitioner seeking a dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking protection order. The court may collect costs from a party against whom a protection order is sought.

§ 34-26-2-1 is amended to provide that an employer of a person may petition any court of record for a protection order on behalf of that person.

§ 34-26-2.5 is created to provide procedures for enforcement of foreign protection orders.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 5-26.5 is created to establish an address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence.

§ 34-26-2-8 is amended to provide that a petitioner in a protection order proceeding may complete an address confidentiality form. The form used shall be uniform statewide.

\* Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing laws rather than enacting new legislation that may be more beneficial to prosecutors and law enforcement than to the child witnesses they are seeking to protect. Further, the ramifications of such legislation for victims and their children remain uncertain.



# IOWA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in April or May.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§§ 236.3 and 236.19 are amended to eliminate court costs and filing and service fees for plaintiffs seeking relief from domestic abuse.

§ 709.19 is created to provide for the following:

- no-contact orders may be issued against persons who are arrested for the crime of sexual abuse;
- no-contact orders may be issued to protect the alleged victim, persons residing with the victim, and the victim's immediate family;
- an order requiring the defendant to have no contact with the alleged victim's children shall prevail over any existing order which may be in conflict with the no-contact order; and
- the order shall state that a defendant who violates its no-contact terms shall be arrested immediately.

# KANSAS



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. Sessions start in January and normally last for 125 to 145 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 12-4301 is amended to provide that every bond for a person charged with a “person offense” shall include a condition of release prohibiting that person from having contact with the victim for at least 72 hours, unless a judge makes a specific finding otherwise.

§ 22-2802 is amended to provide that a magistrate may place a person charged with an offense, but who is being conditionally released, under the supervision of a court services officer responsible for monitoring that person’s compliance with the pre-trial release conditions.

§ 60-3108 is amended to create the crime of domestic battery, defined as the intentional or reckless causing of bodily harm by one family or household member to another; or as physical contact with a family or household member in a rude, insulting, or angry manner.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 22-2802-3 is created to provide that foreign protection orders be entitled to full faith and credit and to set forth procedures for the enforcement of such orders.

§ 60-3112 is created to provide standards for entering protection orders into the National Criminal Information Center Protection Order File.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 21-3440 is amended to authorize the court to order a defendant convicted of domestic battery to pay a domestic violence special program fee.



# KENTUCKY

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Starting in January and normally ending no later than April 15 in even-numbered years. Meets for 10 days in January of odd-numbered years and reconvenes in February for no more than 30 working days.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§ 403.213 is amended to provide that, if the court has jurisdiction over a child custody matter pursuant to the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act, it may no longer modify a prior custody decree unless, after a hearing, it determines that a modification of custody is in the best interest of the child as set forth in § 403.270(2). Under the new law, the best interest of the child includes whether domestic violence and abuse exist and have affected the child.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

Executive and Administrative Orders were created to implement a “zero tolerance policy” for domestic violence and sexual assault in the workplace. The orders create policies and trainings that have the following three key components:

- zero tolerance for all acts of violence;
- the creation of a sensitive and safe environment for victims; and
- increased domestic violence education for all employees.

# LOUISIANA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. The annual session, for odd-numbered years, starts the last Monday in March and usually lasts until June. In even-numbered years, the session begins the last Monday in April and is limited to specific fiscal topics.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 46:2132 is amended to add an adult foster child to the definition of “household members” as it relates to domestic abuse and protection orders.

§ 14:40.2 is amended to expand the definition of the crime of stalking to include willful, malicious, and repeated following or harassing of another person that would cause a reasonable person to feel alarmed or to suffer emotional distress. Stalking includes, but is not limited to, the willful, malicious, and repeated uninvited presence of the perpetrator at another person’s home, workplace, school, or any place which would cause a reasonable person to be alarmed, or to suffer emotional distress as a result of verbal or behaviorally implied threats of death, bodily injury, sexual assault, or kidnapping.

§ 14:40.2 is amended to broaden the definition of “harassing” to include such repeated patterns of verbal communications or nonverbal behavior without invitation such as:

- making telephone calls;
- transmitting electronic mail;
- sending messages via a third party; or
- sending letters or pictures.

§ 46:2151 is created to define a “dating partner” as any person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a

relationship is to be determined based on consideration of the following factors:

- the length of the relationship;
- the type of the relationship; and
- the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 15:574.4 is amended to provide for victim or victim family notification of a perpetrator's date of release from prison. Any such person requesting notification must complete a victim notice and registration form or otherwise provide contact information and request of notice.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 46:3603.1 is amended to provide that a complainant seeking protection from domestic abuse, stalking, or sexual assault shall not be required to pay court costs or costs of service for the issuance of a temporary restraining order or protection order.

§ 46:2151 is created to provide that a victim of a dating partner shall be eligible to receive all services, benefits, and other forms of assistance provided under the Protection from Family Violence Act.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 14:403.6 is created to require any state or local law enforcement officer, government employee, or contractor who investigates abuse and neglect of adults or children, and who becomes aware of evidence of neglect or abuse of an animal, to report the abuse to local law enforcement or to the animal welfare authority.

# MAINE



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. The annual session starts in December following the November election in an even-numbered year and normally ends in June of the odd-numbered year. The next session starts in January of the even-numbered year and ends in April of that year.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

17-A § 207 is enacted to create a new definition of assault and to make the crime a Class C felony when the actor and the victim are family or household members and the actor has two prior convictions for assault against a family or household member.

19-A § 4011 is enacted to create the offense of reckless assault, defined as either conduct which violates a protection order and is reckless and creates a substantial risk of death or serious bodily injury, or the assault of the person named in a protection order. The offense is a Class C felony.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

5 § 4652 and 19-A § 4003 are amended to require that protection from harassment and protection from abuse proceedings may be referred to a referee only if all the parties agree and the court provides the equivalent of court security for these proceedings.

3.5 § 4655 amends the elements required in a protection order to include ordering the defendant to refrain from having any direct or indirect contact with the plaintiff.

1.5 § 4651 is amended to expand the definition of what constitutes a violation under the protection from abuse and protection from harassment laws to include not only “single acts” but “a course of conduct” as well.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

4.5 § 4656 is added to provide that if a party alleges in an affidavit or a pleading under oath that the health, safety, or liberty of a party or child would be jeopardized by disclosure of identifying information, such information must be sealed by the clerk and not disclosed to the other party or to the public, unless the court orders the disclosure to be made after a hearing in which the court takes into consideration the health, safety, or liberty of the party or child and determines that the disclosure is in the interest of justice.

19 § 4001 and § 4006 are amended to replace the term “child custody” with the term “parental rights and responsibilities” in protection order and parental rights statutes.

## **CIVIL PROCEDURES:**

18-1 § 701 is amended to give the probate court judge discretion in name-change cases. If the applicant shows that he or she is or was a victim of spousal domestic abuse, the judge may change the applicant’s name without providing notice to the spouse.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

24-A § 2159-B is amended to remove the exception that an underwriting or rating criterion can be applied to a victim of domestic abuse when providing insurance coverage.

# MARYLAND



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in April.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 4-508.1 is amended to include in the definition of “Order for Protection” those orders issued:

- for the purpose of preventing violence, threatening acts, or harassment against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to another person; and
- by a civil or criminal court in response to a complaint, petition, or motion filed by or on behalf of a person seeking protection.

Such an order is obtained either by filing an independent action or as a pendente lite order in another proceeding, but does not include a support or child custody order.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 3-815, § 5-201, and § 11-203 are amended to provide that, if a victim has requested reasonable protections for safety, the court shall consider, as a condition of releasing the defendant, provisions regarding no contact with the alleged victim or the alleged victim’s premises or place of employment. The statute also applies to juveniles who have committed an offense of stalking or battery.

§ 5-202 is amended to provide that the court may not authorize the pre-trial release of a defendant charged with violating a foreign protection order.

§ 2-204 is created to provide that a police officer may arrest a person suspected of spousal battery when evidence of physical

injury exists and the officer believes that, unless the person is apprehended immediately, the person may:

- flee the jurisdiction; or
- cause physical injury or property damage to another; or
- tamper with, dispose of, or destroy evidence.

The statute allows for warrantless arrests only when the incident was reported to police within 48 hours.

§ 2-204 also states that a police officer who has probable cause to believe that mutual battery occurred and arrest is necessary shall consider whether one of the parties acted in self-defense when determining whether to arrest the party whom the officer believes to be the primary aggressor.

§ 2-205 is created to provide that a police officer without a warrant may arrest a person if there exists:

- probable cause to believe the person has engaged in stalking;
- credible evidence of the offense; and
- a reasonable belief that the alleged stalking victim is in danger of imminent bodily harm.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 7A(a) and § 5-610.1 are amended to provide civil immunity to law enforcement officers who enforce foreign domestic violence protection orders in good faith and in a reasonable manner.

# MASSACHUSETTS



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. Technically, the biennial session starts the first Wednesday in January of odd-numbered years and ends December 31st of the following even-numbered year.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§§ 127-133E are amended to allow victims of violent crimes to testify at parole hearings.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 151A is amended to provide that an employee who establishes that he or she was discharged because of circumstances resulting from domestic violence, including the need to address the physical, psychological, and legal effects of domestic violence, will not be disqualified from eligibility for unemployment insurance.



# MICHIGAN

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and lasting all year.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 764.15c is amended to include “violations of protection orders issued in foreign jurisdictions” in the definition of “domestic violence incident,” and to add “dating relationships” to the class of persons covered by the law.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 780.582a is amended to provide that a person arrested for assault or aggravated assault in a domestic relationship shall not be released automatically after 20 hours of detention. Now, the defendant shall have an interim bond set, one of the conditions of which may be that when released the defendant shall not have or attempt to have contact of any kind with the victim, pending formal arraignment.

§§ 750.81-750.81a are amended to add dating relationships to the class of relationships that trigger domestic violence assault laws and qualify for a warrantless arrest. This amendment also permits charging and sentencing enhancements based on prior convictions of assault crimes committed against domestic or former domestic partners in other states.

§§ 28.241-248 are amended to require the Department of State Police to maintain fingerprinting and criminal history records on persons convicted of criminal contempt of court for violating the terms of a Michigan protection order or a foreign protection order, and to provide guidelines for fingerprinting procedure. Civil contempt of protection orders does not qualify under this amendment.

§ 764.15b is amended to authorize police officers to make warrantless arrests when an individual has violated a valid foreign protection order.



§ 769 is amended to include a violation of a protection order in the list of offenses that may require a convicted person to reimburse the expenses arising from emergency response and prosecution.

§ 769.16a is amended to require the Clerk of Court to notify the Department of State Police of the disposition of criminal contempt charges for protection order violations.

§ 770.9a is amended to include aggravated stalking in the list of assaultive crimes for which post-conviction bail is restricted.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 600.2529 is amended to provide that no fee may be charged to commence an action to enforce a foreign protection order, or to dismiss such an action.

§ 600.2950 is amended to include “dating relationship” in the protection order statutes. The amendment adopts the federal full faith and credit requirement that a Michigan protection order must be enforced by another state, an Indian tribe, or U.S. territory, provided jurisdictional and due process standards are met. Protection orders are required to include statements to this effect. The amendment provides that Michigan courts shall enforce valid foreign protection orders. Mutual orders under this amendment shall be strictly construed and enforced only if a separate written pleading exists that contains specific court findings.

§ 600.2950a is amended to require the court to state immediately and in writing the specific reasons for issuing a non-domestic stalking protection order. Current law requires a judge to record reasons only when refusing to issue such a protection order.

§§ 712A.1, 712A.2, and 712.14 are amended to give authority to the family division of the circuit court to enforce foreign protection orders issued against a person under age 18. The amendment also gives law enforcement officers the authority to take minors into custody, with or without a court order, for violations of such orders.

§ 776.22 is amended to expand police policies to include a protocol for enforcing valid protection orders issued in foreign jurisdictions.

§ 28.422b is amended to provide that the firearms restriction on protection orders not be sent to the Department of State Police until the respondent has been served or has received notice of the protection order.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 600.651-600.673 are amended to repeal the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act and adopt the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The UCCJEA governs procedures for enforcement of out-of-state custody decrees and resolution of child custody disputes when one or both parents reside outside Michigan.

§ 552.519 is amended to require the State Friend of the Court Bureau to provide domestic violence training to the Friend of the Court, domestic relations mediators, and employees of the Friend of the Court Office.

## **CIVIL PROCEDURES:**

§ 600.2972 is amended to require that courts shall consider the safety of domestic violence victims when ruling on motions to seal court records in civil or criminal cases. The courts shall not deny the sealing of records when the victim shows “good cause.”



**PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 764.15c is amended to require the Department of State Police to develop a standard domestic violence incident report form by June 1, 2002. The form developed must be used statewide by law enforcement officers responding to domestic violence incidents.

§ 400.1511 is enacted to create the Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board and to authorize the state and counties to establish inter-agency domestic violence fatality review teams.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 28.257 is amended to facilitate the collection of accurate and reliable statistics on incidents of domestic violence in Michigan by requiring the Department of State Police to report the number of domestic violence crimes and other domestic violence statistics as it deems necessary.



# MINNESOTA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. In odd-numbered years, the session starts in January and normally ends in May. In even-numbered years, the session starts in January or February and ends in March or April.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 268.095 is amended to provide relief to domestic violence victims who leave their jobs because of the effects of domestic abuse on them or their children. Under the amendment, victims will qualify for unemployment benefits when evidence of the domestic abuse is shown by one or more of the following:

- a court order for protection or other documentation of equitable relief issued by a court;
- a police record documenting the abuse;
- documentation of a domestic abuse conviction against the perpetrator;
- medical documentation of domestic abuse; or
- documentation or certification of the domestic abuse provided by a social worker, member of the clergy, shelter worker, or other professional who has assisted the applicant in dealing with the abuse.

# MISSISSIPPI



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in April.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 93-21-3(d) is created to define “dating relationship” as a social relationship of a romantic and intimate nature, and to include this as a recognized relationship under the state’s criminal domestic violence laws.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 97-29-45 is amended to increase the penalties for threatening or harassing phone calls.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 93-21-17 is amended to extend the duration of any protection order or approved consent agreement from one year to a fixed term of three years.

§ 93-21-7 is amended to allow the waiver of filing fees in domestic abuse cases and to authorize the court to assess all costs to the person guilty of abuse. A judge may assess costs to the petitioner if the allegations of abuse are determined to be false.



# MISSOURI

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in May.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 650.300 is created to establish an office for victims of crime and to authorize creation of a statewide automated crime victim notification system.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§§ 90.040-590.050 are amended to provide that peace officers shall attend at least 30 hours of domestic violence training per year. The training shall include instruction, specific to domestic and family violence, regarding:

- report writing;
- physical abuse, sexual abuse, child fatalities, and child neglect;
- interviewing children and alleged perpetrators;
- the nature, extent, and cause of domestic and family violence;
- the safety of victims, other family and household members, and investigating officers;
- the legal rights, remedies, and services available to victims and their children; and
- the effects of cultural, racial, and gender bias in law enforcement.

# MONTANA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in January in odd-numbered years and normally ending in April.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 46-9-108 is amended to add to the list of victims whom the court is required to notify if the accused person is admitted to bail:

- victims of partner or family member assaults; and
- individuals who have obtained protection orders that are subsequently violated.

§ 46-9-302 is amended to add the violation of an order of protection to the list of offenses that require an appearance before the judge before bail can be ordered and the defendant released.

§ 46-18-236 is amended to increase from \$10 to \$25 the charge that each convicted criminal must pay for victim advocate programs.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 40-15-102 is amended to provide that victims of sexual assault, incest, stalking, and family members of victims of deliberate homicide are eligible to file a petition for an order of protection against the offender, regardless of the petitioner's relationship to the offender.

§ 40-15-204 is amended to waive the fees for service of an order of protection, regardless of whether the protection order is served inside or outside the issuing court's jurisdiction.

§§ 40-4-125 and 4-15-303 are amended to incorporate the adoption of the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.\*

§ 45-5-206 is amended to provide that, when sentencing a defendant convicted of partner or family member assault, a judge shall consider whether the offense was committed within the sight or hearing of a minor.\*\*

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§ 3-1-523 is amended to provide that family law orders and judgments in contempt cases cannot be appealed except when the ancillary order affects the substantial rights of the parties involved.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§§ 45-5-206 9(4) (a)-(c) are amended to enhance the penalty for a conviction of assault on a partner or family member. The offender is required to complete a minimum of 40 hours, up from 20, of qualified counseling directed to the violent conduct, in addition to counseling for other issues indicated by the assessment done at the time of sentencing.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 39-51-1 is created to allow an individual who leaves work or is discharged because of circumstances resulting from domestic violence to receive unemployment benefits. The amendment also provides the following:

- the unemployment benefits may not be charged to the employer's account;
- the benefit cap is 10 weeks per calendar year; and
- the Department of Labor and Industry is required to report to the legislature on unemployment benefits applied for and granted because of domestic violence claims.

# MONTANA



The effective date of § 39-51-1 is July 1, 2001, and the termination date is July 1, 2003.

\*Although provisions exist within the Act that are consistent with federal law and allow for effective enforcement of protection orders, adopting the Act in its entirety places conditions on enforcement of foreign orders that could endanger the lives of battered women and children and place a heavy burden on law enforcement to determine validity pursuant to various conditions.

\*\*Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing laws rather than enacting new legislation that may be more beneficial to prosecutors and law enforcement than to the child witnesses they are seeking to protect. Further, the ramifications of such legislation for victims and their children remain uncertain.



# NEVADA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in February of odd-numbered years and lasting 120 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 200.485 is amended to specify that a defendant convicted of domestic violence battery within seven years before or after a newly charged principal offense will be considered a repeat offender for the purposes of determining penalties. The amendment also authorizes the court to refer to a protective services agency any child in need of counseling as a result of domestic violence, and requires the batterer to pay the costs of such counseling.

§ 48.061 is amended to expand the circumstances under which expert testimony concerning the effects of domestic violence and evidence of domestic violence are admissible in a criminal proceeding.

§ 200.581 is amended to provide that harassment, stalking, or aggravated stalking shall be deemed to have been committed at the place where the conduct occurred or where the victim was located when the victim received the threat.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 200 is expanded to defer all costs and official fees for any person who petitions the court for a stalking, aggravated stalking, or harassment order for protection.

§§ 33.050, 3 et seq. are amended to prohibit the clerk of the court from charging fees to applicants for certified copies of temporary or permanent orders of protection.

§ 33 is created to provide that full faith and credit shall be given to foreign orders of protection.

§ 33.020 is created to require courts in jurisdictions with populations in excess of 47,000 to be available 24 hours a day to hear petitions for temporary orders of protection against domestic violence. The amendment also requires a temporary or extended order to provide notice that a person arrested for violating the order will not be admitted to bail sooner than 12 hours after the arrest if the arresting officer determines that the protection order violation is accompanied by a direct or indirect threat of harm.

§§ 33.2-19 are created to authorize employers to obtain temporary and extended orders for protection against harassment in the workplace to protect employers, employees, and other persons at the workplace from harassment by other individuals.

## **CIVIL PROCEDURES:**

§ 217.400 is amended to include victims of sexual assault with domestic violence victims who are authorized to obtain a fictitious address from the Secretary of State.

§ 217.200 is amended to remove certain limitations on the amount of compensation that may be provided for the loss of earnings, support, and funeral expenses of certain victims of crime.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 19.031 is amended to provide a fee-based program for providing civil legal services to victims of domestic violence.



# NEW HAMPSHIRE

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and lasting for 45 legislative days or until July 1st, whichever comes first.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 173-B:5 is created to provide that if the Department of Safety conducts a criminal records check for a potential buyer or transferee of a firearm and finds that the applicant is prohibited from possessing a firearm pursuant to a protection order, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall immediately notify the petitioner that the defendant/respondent has attempted to purchase or obtain a firearm in violation of the order.

§ 173-B:13 is created to provide that a petitioner entitled to protection under a foreign protection order may file and register the order with the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Administrative Office will enter the order in the state database so that the Department of Safety has access to the order when conducting a records check of firearm purchases or transfer approvals. Such filing shall not be a precondition to arrest or enforcement of a foreign protection order.

§ 173-B:9 is amended to increase from six to 12 hours after the offense the time period during which a law enforcement officer may conduct a warrantless arrest of a person whom the officer has probable cause to believe has violated a provision of the stalking statute or a provision of a restraining order in a domestic case.

# NEW JERSEY



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally lasting the entire year.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§§ 2C:33-4 are amended to expand the definition of harassment to include communication by electronic means. “Electronic communication device” includes, but is not limited to, a telephone, cellular phone, computer, video recorder, fax machine, or pager.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§§ 2C:25-29 are amended to require that the court take into consideration the nature and degree of injury suffered by the victim when assessing a civil penalty for defendants found guilty of an act of domestic violence.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§§ 19:31-3.2 are amended to allow victims of domestic violence or stalking crimes to register to vote without disclosing a street address.



# NEW MEXICO

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and lasting until late March in odd-numbered years and until late February in even-numbered years.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 30-3-15 is amended to define “battery against a household member” as the unlawful, intentional touching or application of force to a household member when done in a rude, insolent, or angry manner.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 30-3-15 is amended to increase the penalty for the offense of battery against a household member to a criminal misdemeanor.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 40-13-5 is enhanced to provide that when issuing protection orders in domestic abuse cases, the court may:

- order the respondent to reimburse the petitioner for expenses reasonably related to the occurrence of the domestic abuse, including medical expenses, counseling expenses, the expense of seeking temporary shelter, expenses for the replacement or repair of damaged property, and the expense of lost wages; and
- order the respondent to participate, at the respondent’s expense, in an appropriate professional counseling program.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 101-405 are created to adopt the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The UCCJEA governs procedures for enforcement of out-of-state custody decrees and for resolution of child custody disputes when one or both parents reside outside New Mexico.

# NEW MEXICO



## **CIVIL PROCEDURES:**

§ 40-8-2 is amended to provide that if the court finds that publication of an applicant's name change will jeopardize the applicant's personal safety, the court shall not require publication. The court shall order all records regarding the application to be sealed.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 31-22-14 is amended to increase the amount of the crime victim reparation award from \$20,000 to \$50,000 for extraordinary pecuniary losses that may include loss of wages and job training. The amendment also grants to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault a waiver from the requirement to report the crime(s) within 30 days in order to qualify for reparations under this Act. These victims now have 180 days from the time of the incident to make a report to police.



# NEW YORK

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. The session lasts all year, but the majority of work is done by July.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 240.30 is enhanced to include in the definition of “aggravated harassment in the second degree” communication with a person by mechanical or electronic means, or by any other means, anonymous or otherwise, in a manner likely to cause annoyance or alarm.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 530.12 is amended to provide that when a temporary protection order is sought, the court shall state on the record its reasons for issuing or not issuing the order.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 75 et seq. are repealed and the section is created to adopt the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The UCCJEA governs procedures for enforcement of out-of-state custody decrees and for resolution of child custody disputes when one or both parents reside outside New York.

# NORTH CAROLINA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in July.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 14-277.3(c) is created to define “harassment” as knowing conduct (including written or printed communication or transmission, telephone or cellular or other wireless communication) that annoys, torments, terrorizes, or terrifies a specific person and serves no legitimate purpose.

§ 50B-1(a) is amended to enhance the definition of domestic violence to include injury or continued harassment sufficient to inflict substantial emotional distress.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 14-277.3 is amended to modify the elements of the crime of stalking and harassment to include conduct that:

- places a victim in reasonable fear either for his or her own safety or for the safety of his or her immediate family or close personal associates; or
- causes a victim to suffer substantial emotional distress by placing him or her in fear of death, bodily injury, or continued harassment.

This amendment also reclassifies the offense of stalking for a repeat offender from a Class I felony to a Class F felony.

§ 50B-4.1 is amended to provide that a person who commits a felony that is also a violation under a valid protection order shall be guilty of a felony one class higher than the principal felony.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 163-82.10 is amended to allow a voter’s address to remain confidential when the voter presents a copy of a domestic abuse protection order to the county board of elections. Petitioners



# NORTH CAROLINA

with domestic abuse protection orders and family members residing with such petitioners may request that their addresses remain confidential for the duration of the protection order.

§ 8-53.6 is amended to extend privileged communication protection in domestic actions to licensed psychological associates, licensed clinical social workers, and licensed marriage and family therapists.

§ 8-53.12 is created to establish a qualified testimonial privilege for communications with agents of rape crisis centers and domestic violence programs. Communications remain privileged unless a district or superior court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that a good faith, specific and reasonable basis exists to release the records, which are subject to various conditions and protections even after their release.

# NORTH DAKOTA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in January of odd-numbered years and normally lasting until April.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 12.1-17-01 is amended to provide that a defendant qualifies for a Class A misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense of simple assault when the victim is a family or household member and the defendant has a prior conviction for simple assault involving the commission of domestic violence. A new subsection is created to provide that a sentence for an offense against a family or household member must include an order to complete a domestic violence offender treatment program, unless the court makes written findings for the record explaining why such a sentence would be inappropriate.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 14-07.1-02 is created to provide that upon application by an individual residing within the state, a court may issue a domestic violence protection order or an ex parte temporary protection order under this chapter, even though the actions constituting domestic violence occurred exclusively outside this state. In these cases, the respondent is subject to the personal jurisdiction of this state upon entry therein.

§ 12.1-31.2-01 is amended to provide that a temporary protection order, before now good for only 30 days, remains in effect until the court issues a permanent restraining order and it is served on the respondent.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 43-17-41(3) is created to provide that when a health care provider makes a report of physical injury resulting from domestic violence or sexual assault, the injured individual must be provided with information regarding a domestic violence or sexual assault organization or other victim assistance program.



# OHIO

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. Sessions generally end in July in odd-numbered years and in June in even-numbered years.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§§ 2919.25 et seq. are amended to include the rape of a family or household member in certain domestic violence-related provisions.

# OKLAHOMA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in February and ending no later than May.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§§ 60.1-2 are amended to add victims of rape to those persons who may apply for an order of protection.

§ 60.3 is amended to provide that relief specifically requested by the victim, but not otherwise authorized by the statute, may be included in the protection order.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 1601 is created to establish the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, which will have a variety of enumerated powers and duties, including coordination and integration of state and local efforts to address fatal domestic violence and the creation of a body of information to prevent domestic violence deaths.



# OREGON

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in January of odd-numbered years and normally ending in June or July.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§§ 163.730 and 166.065 are amended to add “cyberstalking” to the definitions of “stalking” and “harassment.”

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 40.355 is amended to provide that evidence that a defendant has been convicted of committing one or more crimes against a family or household member may be admitted for purposes of attacking the credibility of the defendant.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 634.1 is created to establish a Domestic Violence Advisory Committee, which will be responsible for adopting rules that establish:

- standards for contacts between the defendant and the victim;
- standards for the dissemination of otherwise confidential medical, mental health, and treatment records;
- requirements that the defendant’s batterer intervention program must report to the defendant’s local supervisory authority any criminal assaults, threats to harm the victim, or substantial violation of the program’s rules; and
- standards for batterer intervention programs that are most likely to end domestic violence and increase victims’ safety.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 657.176 is amended to provide that a domestic violence victim may not be disqualified from receiving unemployment benefits and will be considered “laid off” for purposes of benefit qualification if he or she missed work because of the domestic violence.

# PENNSYLVANIA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally meeting all year. Technically, the General Assembly meets for a two-year session starting in January of odd-numbered years and ending in November of even-numbered years.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 6102(a) is amended to define “certified copy,” as it pertains to protection orders, as a paper copy of the original order of the issuing court endorsed by the appropriate clerk of that court or an electronic copy of the original order of the issuing court endorsed with a digital signature of the judge or appropriate clerk of that court. A raised seal on the copy of the order of the issuing court shall not be required.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 6104 is created to provide that courts shall give foreign protection orders full faith and credit in their jurisdictions. This new section sets forth certain provisions to enable both the courts and law enforcement officers to enforce protection orders.



# RHODE ISLAND

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in late summer or early fall.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 12-29-2 is amended to extend the definition of “family or household member” to include persons who have been in a dating relationship within the past year rather than within the past six months.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 9-1-2.1 is created to provide that a victim who suffers harm from the offense of stalking may recover damages in a civil action against the offender.

§§ 11-52-4.2 and 4.3 are created to provide that cyberstalking is a criminal offense and that any person subject to a protection order who engages in cyberstalking will be guilty of a felony.

§§ 12-29-4, 12-1-12 and 12-1-12.1 are amended to provide that any individual charged with a crime involving domestic violence, for which the plea was not guilty, guilty, or nolo contendere, must wait a period of three years from the date of filing before the records associated with the charge can be expunged, sealed, or destroyed.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 11-47-5 is amended to add that a person who is the subject of a restraining order is prohibited from carrying, owning, transporting, or possessing any firearm.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 15-14 et seq. are created to repeal the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act and replace it with the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The UCCJEA

# RHODE ISLAND



governs procedures for enforcement of out-of-state custody decrees and resolution of child custody disputes when one or both parents reside outside Rhode Island.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 42-108.1-2-5 is amended to provide that, in order to receive accreditation from the state, a law enforcement agency must have standards that address the handling of domestic violence cases.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§§ 28-52-1 et seq. are created to provide that employers, employees, or invitees may petition the court for an order of protection on their own behalf or on behalf of a victim of violence and harassment who is present at the workplace.



# SOUTH CAROLINA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and generally ending in June.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 16-3-1700 is amended to include written and electronic contact with the victim in the definition of “harassment” and “stalking.”

# SOUTH DAKOTA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in mid-March in odd-numbered years and in late February in even-numbered years.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 22-19A-1 is amended to include electronic stalking in the definition of “stalking.”

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 23A-3-2.1 is amended to extend to 24 hours the period of time within which a warrantless arrest upon probable cause may occur in a domestic violence case.



# TENNESSEE

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January for approximately 45 legislative days and ending in May.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 39-17-308(a)(1) is amended to expand the definition of “stalking” to include electronic communication (cyberstalking).

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 36-3-615 is amended to require the arresting officer to inform the victim of domestic violence that the offender may be eligible for bail release.

§ 36-3-619(c) is amended to delete the requirement that a law enforcement officer determine whether the victim is a primary aggressor.

§ 40-11-150 is amended to provide that a domestic violence offender found to be a threat to the alleged victim shall not be released on bail within 12 hours of the domestic violence arrest.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 36-3-601(3)(E) is amended to provide that an appeal from a final ruling on an order of protection shall be filed within 10 days and shall be heard de novo.

§ 36-3-604(a) is amended to provide that the office of the clerk of court shall provide protection order forms and assist a petitioner in filling out the forms and filing the petition. Any legally sufficient petition will be accepted and filed, and all petitions filed pro se shall be liberally construed in favor of the petitioner.

# TENNESSEE



§ 36-3-604(b) is amended to provide that the administrative office of the courts, in consultation with the domestic violence council, shall develop a “Petition for Orders of Protection” form, an “Amended Order of Protection” form, an “Ex Parte Order of Protection” form, and such other forms as are found necessary and advisable. To the extent possible, the forms shall be uniform with those promulgated by surrounding states so that Tennessee forms may be afforded full faith and credit.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 38-8-112 is amended to require that law enforcement personnel receive domestic violence training.

§ 4-24-111 is amended to require that firefighters receive domestic violence training.

§ 68-140-523 is amended to require that emergency medical services personnel receive domestic violence training.



# TEXAS

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in January in odd-numbered years and ending in May.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 71.0021(a) is created to define “dating violence” as either:

- an act by one party against another when they share or shared a dating relationship and the act results in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault; or
- a threat that reasonably places such a party in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault. The statute excepts self-defensive measures.

§§ 71.0021(b), (c) are created to define “dating relationship” as a relationship between individuals who have or have had a continuing relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. A casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context does not constitute a dating relationship.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 42.07 is amended to add electronic communication to the definition of stalking, to expand the scope of protection against threats to all members of the household, and to increase penalties for a first stalking conviction from a Class A misdemeanor to a third degree felony.

§§ 71.0021, 71.004, 82.002, and 83.001 are amended to include elements of and penalties for the crime of dating violence and to provide that victims of dating violence may petition the court for a protection order.

§ 56.32(a)(9) is amended to authorize compensation for relocation and housing rental expenses for domestic violence and sexual assault victims who have been assaulted in their residences.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 86.0011 is created to require that a law enforcement agency must enter an original or modified protection order into the statewide law enforcement information system by no later than the 10th day after it is received.

§§ 88 et seq. are created to adopt the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act that authorizes the enforcement of a valid foreign protection order under certain conditions.\*

§§ 25.07 et seq. are amended to provide that a person subject to a valid protection order or convicted of a misdemeanor involving a member of his or her family or household is prohibited from possessing a firearm.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 1701.253 is amended to require that law enforcement officers receive training in preventing dual arrest whenever possible and in conducting a thorough investigation to determine which person is the predominant aggressor, when allegations of family violence from two or more opposing persons are received arising from the same incident.

§ 87.107 is created to establish The Center for Relationship Violence Prevention and Intervention. The Center may:

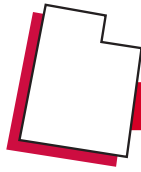
- provide services to victims and perpetrators;
- serve as a shelter for victims;
- conduct, coordinate, collect, and evaluate research in the area of relationship violence;
- provide a setting for educational programs and training;
- serve as a state and national resource for information on relationship violence;
- develop programs, policies, and strategies to address relationship violence and related social problems; and

- create partnerships, collaborative efforts, outreach, public service, or technical assistance programs to assist public and private agencies.

§ 31.0322 is amended to provide that the workforces in family welfare agencies receive at least four hours of family violence training.

\*Although provisions exist within the Act that are consistent with federal law and allow for effective enforcement of protection orders, adopting the Act in its entirety places conditions on enforcement of foreign orders that could endanger the lives of battered women and children and places a heavy burden on law enforcement to determine validity pursuant to various conditions.

# UTAH



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in February. Sessions are limited to 45 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§§ 77-3a-101-103 are created to provide that a victim of stalking may petition for a civil stalking injunction and to set forth procedures for obtaining the petition, service of process, and enforcement.



# VERMONT

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially. However, the state constitution permits sessions to be divided, which the General Assembly does regularly, resulting in annual sessions that start in January in odd-numbered years and on a date set by the General Assembly in even-numbered years. Both sessions normally end in April.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 1151 is amended to revise the applicant language in the victim address confidentiality program to include victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The amendment also provides that law enforcement officers may access information in the program, but only for specified legitimate reasons within the scope of their duties.



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. Sessions run for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 45 days in odd-numbered years.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 18.2-60.3 is amended to include in the definition of stalking crimes those cases in which the defendant “knows or reasonably should know” that his or her actions place another person in reasonable fear.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 18.2-61 is amended to remove the provision that marital rape cannot occur unless spouses were living apart or there was bodily injury caused by force or violence.

§ 18.2-308.1:4 is amended to provide that any person with a concealed handgun permit shall be prohibited from carrying any concealed firearm, and shall surrender his permit to the court entering the order, for the duration of any protection order.

§ 19.2-11.01 is amended to include domestic violence victims as persons who may participate in the witness protection program.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 16.1-253 is amended to require that law enforcement agencies enter information on protection orders into the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN) immediately upon receipt.

§ 19.2-152.8 is amended to authorize electronic registration of stalking and other orders of protection by the clerk of the court with the state criminal information network system (VCIN).

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 305 et seq. are created to enact the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The UCCJEA governs enforcement of out-of-state custody decrees and procedures for resolutions of child custody disputes when one or both parents reside outside Virginia.

## **CIVIL PROCEDURES:**

§ 8.01-42.3 is created to provide that a victim may maintain a civil action against an individual who is alleged to have engaged in criminal stalking, whether or not the individual has been charged or convicted of the alleged violation. The civil action may be for compensatory or punitive damages.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§ 2.2-515.1 is created to provide that the Attorney General shall establish a Statewide Facilitator for Victims of Domestic Violence, within the Office of the Attorney General, who will assist agencies in implementing domestic violence programs and report to the legislature on the status of such programs.

§ 9.1-102 is amended to require the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish training and standards and publish a model policy for law enforcement personnel in the handling of domestic violence cases. Under current law this duty addresses only family abuse.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 38.2-508 is amended to prohibit life and health insurers from discriminating against domestic violence victims.

# WASHINGTON



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in late April in odd-numbered years and in mid-March in even-numbered years.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 1.14.080 is amended to provide the minimum requirements for an ex parte anti-harassment protection order and to provide that a permanent order made at a hearing where the defendant failed to appear need not be served on the defendant if it is materially the same as the temporary order served on the defendant.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 26.27 et seq. are created to enact the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The UCCJEA governs enforcement of out-of-state custody decrees and procedures for resolution of child custody disputes when one or both parents reside outside Washington.

## **PREVENTION & TREATMENT:**

§§ 40.24.010,.030, and .080 are amended to provide that victims of stalking may apply for address confidentiality.



# WEST VIRGINIA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in March. In the first year of a governor's four-year term, the session normally ends in April.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 48-27-601 is amended to require that law enforcement agencies open an official investigation when a person is reported missing if:

- the missing person had earlier been awarded a protection order; or
- the missing person was otherwise protected by the provisions of a domestic violence protection order; or
- the person making the missing person report submits an affidavit that the missing person had previously been threatened or abused by another person.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN:**

§§ 48-26-1001 et seq. are created to establish children's centers for the monitoring of custodial responsibility. The legislature found that increasing numbers of children in divorce cases are exposed to violence in the home and that, in these cases, the custodial exchange and/or visitation needs to occur in a safe place.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 48-2A-3 is amended to exempt domestic violence shelters from local zoning rules.

# WYOMING



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. Sessions start in February and run for 20 calendar days in even-numbered years. In odd-numbered years, sessions start in January and run for 40 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 7-13-1105 is amended to authorize a sentencing court to order intensive probation supervision for criminal domestic violence offenses.



## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Alabama Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
P.O. Box 4762  
Montgomery, Alabama 36101  
Phone: (334) 832-4842  
Hotline: (800) 650-6522  
Fax: (334) 832-4803  
Email: [acadv@acadv.org](mailto:acadv@acadv.org)  
Website: [www.acadv.org](http://www.acadv.org)

Alaska Network on Domestic  
Violence and Sexual Assault  
130 Seward St., Suite 209  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Phone: (907) 586-3650  
Fax: (907) 463-4493  
Email: [info@andvsa.org](mailto:info@andvsa.org)  
Website: [www.andvsa.org](http://www.andvsa.org)

Arizona Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
100 West Camelback Rd., Suite 109  
Phoenix, Arizona 85103  
Phone: (602) 279-2900  
Crisis Line: (800) 782-6400  
Fax: (602) 279-2980  
Email: [acadv@goodnet.com](mailto:acadv@goodnet.com)  
Website: [www.azacadv.org](http://www.azacadv.org)

Arkansas Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
1 Sheriff Ln., Suite C  
N. Little Rock, Arkansas 72114  
Phone: (501) 812-0571  
Fax: (501) 371-0450  
Email: [acadv@www.cji.net](mailto:acadv@www.cji.net)  
Website: [www.law-enforcement.org/  
acadv](http://www.law-enforcement.org/acadv)

California Alliance Against  
Domestic Violence  
926 J St., Suite 1000  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 444-7163  
Hotline: (800) 524-4765  
Fax: (916) 444-7165  
Email: [caadv@cwo.com](mailto:caadv@cwo.com)  
Website: [www.caadv.org](http://www.caadv.org)

Colorado Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
P.O. Box 18902  
Denver, Colorado 80218  
Phone: (303) 831-9632  
Hotline: (888) 778-7091  
Fax: (303) 832-7067  
Email: [ccadv@ccadv.org](mailto:ccadv@ccadv.org)  
Website: [www.ccadv.org](http://www.ccadv.org)

Connecticut Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
106 Pitkin St.  
E. Hartford, Connecticut 06108  
Phone: (860) 282-7899  
Hotline: (888) 774-2900  
Fax: (860) 249-1408  
Email: [info@ctcadv.org](mailto:info@ctcadv.org)  
Website: [www.ctcadv.org](http://www.ctcadv.org)

Delaware Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
100 West 10th St., Suite 703  
Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
Phone: (302) 658-2958  
Fax: (302) 658-5049  
Email: [dcadv@dcadv.org](mailto:dcadv@dcadv.org)  
Website: [www.dcadv.org](http://www.dcadv.org)

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

District of Columbia Coalition  
Against Domestic Violence  
1718 P St., NW, Suite T-6  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 299-1181  
Fax: (202) 299-1193  
Email: dccadv@aol.com  
Website: www.dccadv.org

Florida Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
425 Office Plaza Dr.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
Phone: (850) 425-2749  
Hotline: (800) 500-1119  
Fax: (850) 425-3091  
Email:  
hannah\_katherine@fcadv.org  
Website: www.fcadv.org

Georgia Coalition on  
Family Violence, Inc.  
244 Washington St., SW, Suite 300  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Phone: (404) 657-3412  
Hotline: (800) 334-2836  
Fax: (404) 651-6449  
Email: gcfv@hotmail.com  
Website: www.georgiacourts.org/  
familyviolence

Hawaii State Coalition  
Against Domestic Violence  
98-939 Moanalua Rd.  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701  
Phone: (808) 486-5072  
Fax: (808) 486-5169

Hawaii State Committee on  
Family Violence  
2500 Pali Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
Phone: (808) 595-3900

Idaho Coalition Against  
Sexual and Domestic Violence  
815 Park Blvd., #140  
Boise, Idaho 83712  
Phone: (208) 384-0419  
Hotline: (888) 293-6118  
Fax: (208) 331-0687  
Email: domvio@mindspring.com

Illinois Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
801 South 11th St.  
Springfield, Illinois 62703  
Phone: (217) 789-2830  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
TTY: (217) 241-0376  
Fax: (217) 789-1939  
Email: ilocadv@ilcadv.org  
Website: www.ilcadv.org

Indiana Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
1915 W. 18th St.  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202  
Phone: (317) 917-3685  
Hotline: (800) 538-3393  
Fax: (317) 917-3695  
Email: hclare@violencesource.org  
Website: www.violencesource.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Iowa Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
2603 Bell Ave., Suite 100  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321  
Phone: (515) 244-8028  
Hotline: (800) 942-0333  
TTY: (800) 942-0333  
Email: [info@icadv.org](mailto:info@icadv.org)  
Website: [www.icadv.org](http://www.icadv.org)

Kansas Coalition Against  
Sexual and Domestic Violence  
220 SW 33rd St., Suite 100  
Topeka, Kansas 66611  
Phone: (785) 232-9784  
Hotline: (888) 363-2287  
Fax: (785) 266-1874  
Email: [kcsdv@coalition.org](mailto:kcsdv@coalition.org)  
Website: [www.kcsdv.org](http://www.kcsdv.org)

Kentucky Domestic Violence  
Association  
P.O. Box 356  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602  
Phone: (502) 695-2444  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
TDD: (800) 787-3224  
Fax: (502) 695-2488  
Email: [kdvasac@aol.com](mailto:kdvasac@aol.com)  
Website: [www.kdva.org](http://www.kdva.org)

Louisiana Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
P.O. Box 77308  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70879  
Phone: (225) 752-1296  
Hotline: (888) 411-1333  
Fax: (225) 751-8927  
Email: [info@lcadv.org](mailto:info@lcadv.org)  
Website: [www.lcadv.org](http://www.lcadv.org)

Maine Coalition to End  
Domestic Violence  
170 Park St.  
Bangor, Maine 04401  
Phone: (207) 941-1194  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
Fax: (297) 941-2327  
Email: [mcedv@agate.net](mailto:mcedv@agate.net)  
Website: [www.mcedv.org](http://www.mcedv.org)

Maryland Network Against  
Domestic Violence  
6911 Laurel Bowie Rd., Suite 309  
Bowie, Maryland 20715  
Phone: (301) 352-4574  
Hotline: (800) MD-HELPS  
Fax: (301) 809-0422  
Email: [mnadv@aol.com](mailto:mnadv@aol.com)  
Website: [www.mnadv.org](http://www.mnadv.org)

Massachusetts Coalition Against  
Sexual Assault and Domestic  
Violence  
14 Beacon St., Suite 507  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108  
Phone: (617) 248-0922  
Phone: (508) 721-9710  
Fax: (617) 248-0902  
Fax: (508) 721-9710  
Website: [www.janedoe.org](http://www.janedoe.org)

Michigan Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
3893 Okemos Rd., Suite B-2  
Okemos, Michigan 48864  
Phone: (517) 347-7000  
TTY: (517) 381-8470  
Fax: (517) 347-1377  
Email: [general@mcadsv.org](mailto:general@mcadsv.org)  
Website: [www.mcadsv.org](http://www.mcadsv.org)

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Minnesota Coalition for  
Battered Women  
1821 University Ave. West,  
Suite S-112  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104  
Phone/TDD: (651) 646-6177  
Crisis Line: (651) 646-0994  
Fax: (651) 646-1527  
Email: [mcbw@mcbw.org](mailto:mcbw@mcbw.org)  
Website: [www.mcbw.org](http://www.mcbw.org)

Mississippi Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
P.O. Box 4703  
Jackson, Mississippi 39296  
Phone: (601) 981-9196  
Hotline: (800) 898-3234  
Email: [dvabuse@bellsouth.net](mailto:dvabuse@bellsouth.net)  
Website: [www.mcadv.org](http://www.mcadv.org)

Missouri Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
415 E. McCarty  
Jefferson, City, Missouri 65101  
Phone: (573) 634-4161  
Fax: (573) 636-3728  
Email: [mcadv@sockets.net](mailto:mcadv@sockets.net)  
Website:  
<http://mova.missouri.org/members/mcadv.htm>

Montana Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
P.O. Box 633  
Helena, Montana 59624  
Phone: (406) 443-7794  
Hotline: (800) 655-7867  
Fax: (406) 443-7818  
Email: [mcadsv@mt.net](mailto:mcadsv@mt.net)  
Website: [www.mcadsv.com](http://www.mcadsv.com)

Nebraska Domestic Violence and  
Sexual Assault Coalition  
825 M St., Suite 404  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
Phone: (402) 476-6256  
Hotline: (800) 476-6283  
Fax: (402) 476-6806  
Email: [info@ndvsac.org](mailto:info@ndvsac.org)  
Website: [www.ndvsac.org](http://www.ndvsac.org)

Nevada Network Against  
Domestic Violence  
100 Grove St., Suite 315  
Reno, Nevada 89509  
Phone: (775) 828-1115  
Phone: (775) 358-1171  
Website: [ag.state.nv.us/  
agpubs/domestic.htm](http://ag.state.nv.us/agpubs/domestic.htm)

New Hampshire Coalition Against  
Domestic and Sexual Violence  
P.O. Box 353  
Concord, New Hampshire 33023  
Phone: (603) 224-8893  
Hotline: (800) 852-3388  
Fax: (603) 228-6096  
Email: [heath@nhcadsv.org](mailto:heath@nhcadsv.org)  
Website: [www.nhcadsv.org](http://www.nhcadsv.org)

New Jersey Coalition For  
Battered Women  
1670 Whitehorse-Hamilton  
Square Rd.  
Trenton, New Jersey 08690  
Phone: (609) 584-8107  
Hotline: (800) 572-7233  
TTY: (609) 584-0027  
Fax: (609) 584-9750  
Email: [info@njcbw.org](mailto:info@njcbw.org)  
Website: [www.njcbw.org](http://www.njcbw.org)

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

New Mexico Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
114 Oak NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106  
Phone: (505) 246-9240  
Hotline: (800) 773-3645  
Fax: (505) 246-9434  
Email: gnesm@nmcadv.org  
Website: www.nmcadv.org

New York State Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
79 Central Ave.  
Albany, New York 12206  
Phone: (518) 432-4864  
Hotline: (800) 942-6906 (English)  
Hotline: (800) 942-6908 (Spanish)  
Fax: (518) 463-3155  
Email: info@nyscadv.org  
Website: www.nyscadv.org

North Carolina Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
115 Market St., Suite 400  
Durham, North Carolina 27701  
Phone: (919) 956-9124  
Hotline: (888) 232-9124  
Fax: (919) 682-1449  
Email: gkling@nccadv.org  
Website: www.nccadv.org

North Dakota Council on  
Abused Women's Services  
418 East Rosser Ave., Suite 320  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501  
Phone: (701) 255-6240  
Toll-Free: (888) 255-6240  
Fax: (701) 255-1904  
Email: ndcaws@ndcaws.org

Ohio Domestic Violence Network  
4041 North High St., Suite 400  
Columbus, Ohio 43214  
Phone: (614) 784-0023  
Hotline: (800) 934-9840  
TTY: (614) 784-0628  
Fax: (614) 784-0033  
Email: todvn@ee.net  
Website: www.ohiodvnetwork.org

Action Ohio Coalition for  
Battered Women  
36 W. Gay St., Suite 311  
P.O. Box 15673  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: (614) 221-1255  
Fax: (614) 221-6357  
Email: actionoh@ee.net

Oklahoma Coalition on Domestic  
Violence and Sexual Assault  
2525 NW Expressway, Suite 101  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112  
Phone: (405) 848-1815  
Hotline: (800) 522-7233  
Fax: (405) 848-3469  
Email: ocdvsa@hotmail.com  
Website: www.ocadvsa.org

Oregon Coalition Against  
Domestic and Sexual Violence  
659 Cottage NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
Phone: (503) 365-9644  
Fax: (503) 566-7870  
Email: ocadsa@teleport.com  
Website: www.ocadsa.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Pennsylvania Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence

6400 Flank Dr., Suite 1300  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112

Main Office

PA Only: (800) 932-4632

National: (800) 537-2238

TTY: (800) 553-2508

Fax: (717) 671-8149

Legal Office

PA Only: (888) 23-LEGAL

National: (800) 903-0111 ext. 2

Fax: (717) 671-5542

Email: [operations@pacdv.org](mailto:operations@pacdv.org)

Website: [www.pcadv.org](http://www.pcadv.org)

Comision Para Los Asuntos  
De La Mujer Puerto Rico  
P.O. Box 11382 Fernancez Juncos Stn.  
Santurce, Puerto Rico 00910  
Phone: (787) 722-2907

Rhode Island Council Against  
Domestic Violence

422 Post Rd., Suite 202

Warwick, Rhode Island 02888

Phone: (401) 467-9940

Helpline: (800) 494-8100

Fax: (401) 467-9943

Email: [ricadv@ricadv.org](mailto:ricadv@ricadv.org)

Website: [www.ricadv.org](http://www.ricadv.org)

South Carolina Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence and Sexual  
Assault

1320 Richland St.

P.O. Box 7776

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Phone: (803) 256-2900

Toll Free: (800) 260-9293

Fax: (803) 256-1030

Email: [webmaster@sccadvasa.org](mailto:webmaster@sccadvasa.org)

Website: [www.sccadvasa.org](http://www.sccadvasa.org)

South Dakota Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence and Sexual  
Assault

3220 South Highway 281

Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401

Phone: (605) 945-0869

Hotline: (800) 430-7233

Fax: (605) 945-0870

Email: [sdcadv@aol.com](mailto:sdcadv@aol.com)

Tennessee Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence and Sexual  
Violence

P.O. Box 120972

Nashville, Tennessee 37212

Phone: (615) 386-9406

Toll Free: (800) 356-6767

Fax: (615) 383-2967

Email: [tcadsv@bellsouth.net](mailto:tcadsv@bellsouth.net)

Website: [www.tcadsv.citysearch.com](http://www.tcadsv.citysearch.com)

Texas Council on Family Violence

P.O. Box 161810

Austin, Texas 78716

Phone: (512) 794-1133

Hotline: (800) 799-7233

TTY: (800) 787-3224

Fax: (512) 794-1199

Website: [www.tcfv.org](http://www.tcfv.org)

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Utah Domestic Violence  
Advisory Council  
120 North 200 West, #319  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84103  
Phone: (801) 538-4078  
Hotline: (800) 897-5465  
Fax: (801) 538-4016  
Email: [jbelle@hsadmini.state.ut.us](mailto:jbelle@hsadmini.state.ut.us)  
Website: [www.udvac.state.ut.us](http://www.udvac.state.ut.us)

Vermont Network Against Domestic  
Violence and Sexual Assault  
P.O. Box 405  
Montpelier, Vermont 05601  
Phone: (802) 223-1302  
Hotline: (800) 228-7395  
Fax: (802) 223-6943  
Email: [vtnetwork@vtnetwork.org](mailto:vtnetwork@vtnetwork.org)  
Website: [www.vtnetwork.org](http://www.vtnetwork.org)

Virginians Against Domestic  
Violence  
2850 Sandy Bay Rd., Suite 101  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185  
Phone: (757) 221-0990  
Hotline: (800) 838-8238  
Fax: (757) 229-1553  
Email: [vadv@tni.net](mailto:vadv@tni.net)  
Website: [www.vadv.org](http://www.vadv.org)

Washington State Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
Lacey Office  
8645 Martin Way NE, Suite 103  
Lacey, Washington 98516  
Phone: (360) 407-0756  
TTY: (360) 407-0760  
Fax: (360) 407-0761  
Email: [wscadv@wscadv.org](mailto:wscadv@wscadv.org)  
Website: [www.wscadv.org](http://www.wscadv.org)

Seattle Office  
1402 3rd Ave., Suite 406  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
Phone: (206) 389-2515  
TTY: (206) 389-2900  
Fax: (206) 389-2520  
Email: [wscadv@wscadv.org](mailto:wscadv@wscadv.org)  
Website: [www.wscadv.org](http://www.wscadv.org)

West Virginia Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
Elk Office Center  
4710 Chimney Dr., Suite A  
Charleston, West Virginia 25302  
Phone: (304) 965-3552  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
Fax: (304) 965-3572  
Email: [sjulian@wvcadv.org](mailto:sjulian@wvcadv.org)  
Website: [www.wvcadv.org](http://www.wvcadv.org)

Wisconsin Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
307 S. Patterson, Suite 1  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
300 3rd Street  
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403  
Phone: (608) 255-0539  
Fax: (608) 255-3560  
Email: [wcadv@inxpress.net](mailto:wcadv@inxpress.net)

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

Wyoming Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence and Sexual  
Assault  
409 South 4th St.  
P.O. Box 236  
Laramie, Wyoming 82073  
Phone: (307) 755-5481  
Toll Free: (800) 990-3877  
Legal Project: (307) 755-0992  
Fax: (307) 755-5482  
Email: [wcadvsa@vcn.com](mailto:wcadvsa@vcn.com)  
Website: [www.wcadvsa.vcn.com](http://www.wcadvsa.vcn.com)

Women's Resource Center,  
Virgin Islands  
Phone: (809) 776-3966 (Spanish)

Women's Coalition of St. Croix,  
Virgin Islands  
7 East St.  
P.O. Box 222734  
Christiansted, Virgin Islands 00822  
Phone: (340) 773-9272  
Fax: (340) 773-9062  
Email: [wscstx@worldnet.att.net](mailto:wscstx@worldnet.att.net)  
Website: [www.wcstx.com](http://www.wcstx.com)

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Alabama Legislative Reference  
Service  
State House, Room 613  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130  
Phone: (334) 242-7560  
Fax: (334) 242-4358  
Website: [www.legislature.state.al.us](http://www.legislature.state.al.us)

Alaska Legislative  
Information Office  
Division of Administrative Services  
Legislative Affairs Agency  
129 Sixth St.  
State Capitol, Room 3  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Phone: (907) 465-4648  
Fax: (907) 465-2864  
Website: [www.legis.state.ak.us](http://www.legis.state.ak.us)

Arizona House Information Desk  
First Floor, House Wing  
State Capitol  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Phone: (602) 542-4221  
Website: [www.azleg.state.az.us](http://www.azleg.state.az.us)

Arizona Senate Information Desk  
First Floor, Senate Wing  
State Capitol  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Phone: (602) 542-3559  
Website: [www.azleg.state.az.us](http://www.azleg.state.az.us)

Arkansas Bureau of  
Legislative Research  
Legislative Council  
State Capitol, Room 315  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201  
Phone: (501) 682-1937  
Fax: (501) 682-1936  
Website: [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us)

California Office of the Chief Clerk  
of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3196  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 319-2856  
Website: [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

California Office of the  
Secretary of the Senate  
State Capitol, Room 3044  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 445-4251  
Website: [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Colorado Legislative Council  
State Capitol, Room 029  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone: (303) 866-3521  
Fax: (303) 866-3855  
Website: [www.state.co.us](http://www.state.co.us)

Connecticut Law and Legislative  
Reference Unit  
State Library, Room L212  
231 Capitol Ave.  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
Phone: (860) 566-4601  
Fax: (860) 566-3322  
Website: [www.cga.state.ct.us](http://www.cga.state.ct.us)

Delaware Division of Research,  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Hall, Ground Floor  
411 Legislative Ave.  
P. O. Box 1401  
Dover, Delaware 19903  
Phone: (302) 744-4114  
Fax: (302) 739-3895  
Website: [www.state.de.us](http://www.state.de.us)

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

District of Columbia Office of the Secretary, Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 5  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Phone: (202) 724-8080  
Fax: (202) 347-3070  
Website:  
[www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us](http://www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us)

Florida Division of Library and Information Services, Legislative Library Services  
State Capitol, Room 701  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
Phone: (850) 488-2812  
Fax: (850) 488-9879  
Website: [www.leg.state.fl.us](http://www.leg.state.fl.us)

Georgia Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 309  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Phone: (404) 656-5015  
Website: [www.state.ga.us/legis](http://www.state.ga.us/legis)

Georgia Office of the Secretary of the Senate  
State Capitol, Room 353  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Phone: (404) 656-5040  
Website: [www.state.ga.us/legis](http://www.state.ga.us/legis)

Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania St.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Phone: (808) 587-0666  
Fax: (808) 587-0681  
Website: [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov)

Idaho Legislative Reference Library  
Legislative Services Office  
State Capitol, Lower Level  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720  
Phone: (208) 334-4822  
Fax: (208) 334-2125  
Website: [www.state.id.us/legislat](http://www.state.id.us/legislat)

Illinois Legislative Research Unit  
222 S. College, Suite 301  
Springfield, Illinois 62704  
Phone: (217) 782-6851  
Fax: (217) 785-7572  
Website: [www.legis.state.il.us](http://www.legis.state.il.us)

Indiana Office of Legislative Information  
State House, Room 230  
200 West Washington  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
(Mailing address use Room 301)  
Phone: (317) 232-9856  
Website: [www.in.gov/legislative](http://www.in.gov/legislative)

Iowa Legislative Information Office  
State Capitol, Room 16  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Phone: (515) 281-5129  
Website: [www.legis.state.ia.us](http://www.legis.state.ia.us)

Kansas Division of Legislative Administrative Services  
State House, Room 511-S  
300 S. W. Tenth Ave.  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
Phone: (785) 296-2391  
Fax: (785) 296-1153  
Website: [www.accesskansas.org](http://www.accesskansas.org)

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Kentucky Legislative  
Research Commission  
State Capitol, Room 300  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
Phone: (502) 564-8100  
Fax: (502) 223-5094  
Website: [www.lrc.state.ky.us](http://www.lrc.state.ky.us)

Louisiana State Library  
Louisiana Room  
701 North Fourth St.  
P.O. Box 131  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821  
Phone: (225) 342-4914  
Fax: (225) 342-2791  
Website: [www.legis.state.la.us](http://www.legis.state.la.us)

Maine Law and Legislative  
Reference Library  
State House, Room 202  
43 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Phone: (207) 287-1600  
Fax: (207) 287-6467  
Website: [www.state.me.us/legis](http://www.state.me.us/legis)

Maryland Department of  
Legislative Services  
Information Desk, Library Division  
Legislative Services Building,  
Basement  
90 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
Phone: (410) 946-5400  
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