

# ILLINOIS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT - VICTIM INFORMATION

OFFICER'S NAME – STAR#	POLICE REPORT #	DATE:	TIME:
POLICE DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBER: 630-260-2161			

## Victim Information

Battery is a crime. Any person who hits, strangles, kicks, threatens, harasses or interferes with the personal liberty of another "family or household member" has broken the law. According to Illinois law "family or household members" are defined as persons who:

1. are related by blood or by present or prior marriage;
2. share or formerly shared a common dwelling;
3. have or allegedly have a child in common;
4. are of the opposite sex or of the same sex who have or have had a dating or engagement relationship;
5. share or allegedly share a blood relationship through a child.;
6. are disabled and battered by their personal assistants.

Law Enforcement Officers are to use all reasonable means to prevent further abuse, including:

1. arranging for or transporting the victims to a medical facility or shelter or place of safety and/or accompanying the victim back to the residence to get belongings;
2. arresting the abuser where appropriate and completing a police report on all bonafide incidents;
3. advising the victim of her/his right to an Order of Protection and the importance of preserving the evidence, such as damaged clothing and property, and photographs or injuries or damage.

## Orders of Protection

An Order of Protection is a court order available to "family or household members" prohibiting the abuser from certain activities or ordering the abuser to take certain actions. An Order of Protection may include, but is not limited to:

1. prohibiting an abuser from continued threats and abuse;
2. barring an abuser temporarily from the home and ordering the abuser to stay away from the victim's place of employment, school, etc.
3. ordering the abuser to pay child support, medical costs and legal expenses;
4. awarding child custody and prohibiting child abduction and requiring abuser to undergo counseling.

To obtain an Order of Protection you may do any of the following:

1. contact Family Shelter Service and ask for assistance (see Domestic Violence Services below);
2. begin the process online at [www.getaprotectionorder.org](http://www.getaprotectionorder.org);
3. go to the Circuit Clerk's Office and request the necessary paperwork;
4. ask your attorney to file a petition in civil court;
5. request an Order in conjunction with divorce proceedings; or
6. request an Order during the course of a criminal prosecution.

If an Order of Protection is violated the abuser has committed a Class A Misdemeanor and should be arrested. A second or subsequent offense is a Class 4 Felony. You may seek an Order of Protection on behalf of someone because of age, health or disability.

## Criminal Charges

If an arrest has not been made and you wish to seek criminal charges against your abuser, bring all relevant information, including the police report number and this form, to your state's attorney. It may be helpful to first contact Family Shelter Service so they can help you through the system.

When a person is charged with a criminal offense and the victim is a "family or household member", unless otherwise provided by the court, the abuser will be prohibited from contacting or communicating with the victim and from entering or remaining at the victim's residence for a minimum of 72 hours. If a defendant/abuser violates these restrictions, you should call the police immediately. The defendant can be charged with an additional offense, violation of a bail bond, which is a Class A Misdemeanor.

A VN 24-hour toll free hotline: 1-866-566-8439 website: [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com). A VN is an automated victim notification system which provides information about offender custody and case status and automatic notification (to those who register) of any change in status.

## Domestic Violence Services

Family Shelter Service:

**24 Hour Hotline: (630) 469-5650**

(Spanish services available)

([www.familyshelterservice.org](http://www.familyshelterservice.org))

Hamard Center: (630) 860-9122

**24 Hour Hotline: (866) 305-3933**

(South Asian, Middle Eastern & Bosnian)

([www.hamardcenter.org](http://www.hamardcenter.org))

## Other Resources

DuPage County Information & Referral: (630) 407-6500

([www.dupageco.org/humanservices](http://www.dupageco.org/humanservices))

DuPage County Legal Aid: (630) 653-6212

DuPage County State's Attorney's Office: (630) 407-8000

([www.co.dupage.il.us/statesattorney](http://www.co.dupage.il.us/statesattorney))

DuPage County Abuser Services Program: (630) 407-6400

([www.dupageco.org/psych](http://www.dupageco.org/psych))

DuPage County Senior Services: (800) 942-9412

([www.dupageco.org/seniorsvcs](http://www.dupageco.org/seniorsvcs))

**Elder Abuse 24 Hour Hotline: (866) 800-1409**