

Domestic Violence Handbook

Pursuing Justice. Restoring Hope.

The mission of the Legal Aid Society is to pursue justice for people in poverty. This booklet is provided to you as a source of information about domestic violence and legal proceedings in Jefferson County Family Court involving domestic violence. This information is not tailored to your individual circumstances and is not legal advice tailored to your particular case. However, reading this booklet and using it as a reference may assist you in understanding the process for obtaining Emergency Protective Orders and Domestic Violence Orders in Jefferson County, Kentucky.

What is an EPO and how can I apply for one?

You may have been told by a police officer, a family member, a prosecutor, a social worker, or someone else who cares about your safety to go to the courthouse and apply for an EPO. An EPO is an Emergency Protective Order that is issued by a judge and can require someone to have no contact with you and to not commit any further domestic violence against you. An EPO is not a permanent order. An EPO is the temporary order that a court will issue to protect you until a full hearing can be held to determine whether a long-term order (up to three years) should be entered. The long-term order is called a DVO. You can apply for an EPO and a DVO at the courthouse 24 hours a day. Beginning in August 2009 the locations to apply for an EPO/DVO will be centralized into one central Domestic Violence Intake Center which will be located the Hall of Justice. Until then, you can apply at the EPO Clerk's Office which is located in the Judicial Center on the first floor from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. From 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m., you can apply at Criminal Traffic Desk which is located on the first floor of the Hall of Justice. If you are also filing criminal charges, you can file your criminal charges and your petition for an EPO/DVO at the same time at the Domestic Violence Intake Center which is located in the Hall of Justice on the first floor. If you have gone to the Center for Women and Families for services, the Center's personnel can assist you in filing for an EPO/DVO there. If you are homebound and have special needs which prevent you from coming to the

courthouse to apply for protection, you should contact the EPO Clerk's Office at (502) 595-4697 to request information on receiving assistance.

What is the process for getting an EPO and a DVO?

This handbook will provide you with information on the steps that a case goes through as it is processed by the courts. The next sections discuss, in detail, how the case is filed, what is needed to file a case and how the court decides when to issue an EPO and a DVO. The terms EPO and DVO can get confusing and are often used interchangeably. The important thing to remember is that the EPO is the first order that stays in effect until the hearing is held at court and the DVO is the order that the judge issues after a hearing is held and is the order that can protect you for up to three years. Both are valid orders of protection and can be immediately enforced by the police and the courts. Violation of either order (EPO or DVO) is a crime and carries a maximum punishment of 365 days in jail. The process for filing for an EPO and a DVO is the same. You do not have to file paperwork two different times. The application process for both is done at the same time when you initially apply.

The difference between EPOs/DVOs and criminal charges

EPOs and DVOs are civil orders which are issued for the purpose of providing a victim of domestic violence with protection. EPOs and DVOs are not criminal charges. To prosecute someone for committing a crime against you, you can report the crime to a police officer. A police officer may assist you by filing criminal charges on your behalf. If the police officer cannot assist you in filing criminal charges, you can personally file a criminal complaint at the Domestic Violence Intake Center at the Hall of Justice. Sometimes, people refer to this as taking out a "warrant" on someone. A prosecutor will review your complaint and make a decision as to whether the person should be prosecuted and whether formal charges will be filed. If formal charges are filed, a summons may be issued for the person to appear in court in reference to the criminal charge, or a warrant may be issued for the person's arrest. Once formal charges are filed and the person is brought to court, you will need to cooperate with the prosecuting attorney and appear at court dates as he or she requests in order to complete the prosecution process. Both the County

Attorney's Office and the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office have specialized domestic violence units and their attorneys and advocates are specially trained to handle cases involving domestic violence.

**How to apply for an Emergency Protective Order (EPO)
and a Domestic Violence Order (DVO)**

Filing

A petition must be filed with the court to request that an EPO and a DVO be entered. You can file a petition at the locations noted above. All the forms you need to file for the order are available at the courthouse. You do not need to fill out any paperwork prior to coming to the courthouse. However, it is helpful to have the abuser's name, date of birth and address available when you come to apply.

Who may file for an EPO and DVO in Kentucky?

If you have experienced domestic violence and you are a KY resident or you have fled to KY to escape domestic violence, you may file a petition for an Emergency Protective Order and a Domestic Violence Order. The violence must have taken place between family members or members of an unmarried couple. A family member is a spouse, former spouse, parent, child, stepchild, or any other person related by blood or marriage in the second degree. A member of an unmarried couple includes persons who have a child together, any children of that couple, or members of an unmarried couple who currently live or have lived together. Same sex and opposite sex couples are eligible for Domestic Violence Orders so long as the relationship meets the qualifications just noted.

Information to include in your petition

In deciding whether to issue an Emergency Protective Order, which will protect you until your case gets to court, the judge will review the information you note in your petition. Your petition should include information regarding recent violence and past violence. One of the best predictors of future violence is past violence. Accordingly, be sure to include information about prior assaults and threats so the judge can view the current situation in the proper context. Include all information that will assist the judge in properly assessing the dangerousness of the situation. You should include whether children were present when the assault occurred so that the

judge is aware of the danger to the children. You should also include any violence that has been committed against the children by the respondent so the judge can properly assess the danger level to the children as well.

Review of petition by the Judge

Once you file your petition, the clerk will take your petition to a judge for review. If the judge believes that there is an immediate danger, he or she will enter an Emergency Protective Order (EPO) to provide you protection until your hearing date. If the judge does not believe that the danger is immediate, he or she will still issue a summons and schedule your case for a hearing. In either event (EPO or summons), your case will be scheduled for a hearing. The law does not allow your petition to be denied without your first being afforded a hearing. The clerk will advise you of the date and time of your hearing regardless of whether an EPO is issued.

What happens if the EPO is denied and I am issued a summons?

A judge may issue a summons rather than an EPO. You will still have a hearing date and should still show up for court on the date for which the summons is issued. The fact that the judge issued a summons, and not an EPO, does not mean that you automatically will lose your DVO hearing. The judge, at your DVO hearing, will listen to your case and decide whether or not to issue a Domestic Violence Order. You are not required to have an EPO in order to qualify for a DVO. Being issued a summons merely means that an EPO will not be in place during the time between your filing of the case and the date of the hearing.

What will happen if the Judge grants me an EPO?

If the court issues an EPO, the court may:

- Order the abuser to have no contact with you,
- Order the abuser not to commit further acts of domestic violence,
- Order the abuser not to dispose of or damage property you own together,
- Order the abuser to vacate any residence he or she shares with you,
- Order the abuser to surrender his/her firearms to the Sheriff's Office,
- Grant you temporary custody of the children, and/or

- Enter other orders the court determines are appropriate to prevent further acts of domestic violence.

How long will an EPO last?

An EPO is a temporary order that lasts only until your hearing date. It is not meant to be a permanent order. An EPO is provided so that you can have protection until there is time for the court to have a full hearing. An EPO, by law, can never be effective for more than 14 days. Prior to the expiration of the EPO, there will be a hearing. At the hearing, the court will determine if a Domestic Violence Order (DVO) should be issued. The Domestic Violence Order can last for up to three years. You MUST appear at the hearing to get the DVO. If you do not appear in court, the judge may dismiss your case, in which event you will not have an order of protection and your abuser may be allowed to have contact with you. If you are unable to appear in court due to emergency circumstances, you should notify the court ASAP. If you have an attorney, you should notify your attorney so he/she may ask for a continuance and advise the court as to the reason for your absence. If you do not appear in court and you do not advise anyone of the emergency that has caused you to fail to appear, you risk having your case dismissed.

Serving the respondent with the EPO or Summons

The person against whom you file the petition is called the respondent. A Jefferson County Sheriff will serve your EPO or Summons upon the respondent. If you know that the respondent may be armed or is otherwise believed to present a danger, please advise the clerk of this so this information may be relayed to the sheriff's office so as to protect the officers and others that may be present when the respondent is served. If the respondent is still not served by the day of your DVO hearing, you can request that the court reissue your EPO or Summons and schedule another hearing date. The sheriff's office will again attempt to serve the respondent. You can register with the VINE Program (502) 564-5061 to be notified when the respondent is served.

Your safety is important!

Experience tells us that the time during which a victim leaves his/her abuser can be very dangerous. In addition to filing for protection with the courts, you should contact the Center for Women and Families to discuss your

safety issues and develop a safety plan. You should keep a copy of your EPO on your person and give copies to your employer, your school and/or a trusted family member. If you know of a police officer that regularly patrols your area, you may want to tell her or him what has happened so the officer can be on the look out for suspicious behavior. You may want to go to your local police substation to let them know what is going on as well. You may wish to stay with a friend or family member at a location unknown to the abuser until some time has passed. You may wish to seek immediate shelter at the Center for Women and Families. You can take your children with you to the Center for Women and Families. Do not stay in a dangerous place because you are worried that your children cannot go with you. The Center for Women and Families has the resources and knowledge to work with you and your children. The key is to be safe.

Photos of injuries and medical records

If you file a criminal complaint at the same time you file for your EPO and DVO, personnel at the Domestic Violence Intake Center may take photos of your injuries. If photos are not taken of you at the courthouse, you should have a friend or family member take photos of your injuries. If you have to get medical treatment for your injuries, ask your doctor for a copy of your medical record of the treatment. If you have an attorney, tell your attorney, before the hearing, whether photos were taken and whether you received medical treatment so he or she can take the necessary steps to produce these pieces of evidence for your hearing. If you are representing yourself, bring the photos and the medical records with you to court.

At Your DVO Hearing

Hearing

Both you and the respondent have the right to have a full hearing before a Domestic Violence Order is issued. You will need to appear in court. A sheriff will be in the courtroom to ensure you are safe. The judge will place both you and the respondent under oath and ask you both to affirm that you will tell the truth and nothing but the truth. It is important that you are truthful in your testimony. Committing perjury is a crime. Perjury is illegal and harms you, the respondent and the validity of the justice system as a whole. Once all parties are under oath, the judge will read your petition (the document you

filed with the clerk setting out the facts of your case) aloud and ask you whether the statements in it are true. The judge may also ask you to elaborate on the statements you made in the petition. If something was left out that will assist the court in determining whether domestic violence occurred, be sure to tell the judge. If you have witnesses to the violence, tell the judge this as well so the judge can call the witnesses into the courtroom at the appropriate time. The respondent will be asked if he or she has anything to say about your testimony and will be given the opportunity to respond to your statements. The respondent will also be given the opportunity to present testimony and witnesses. If you, or the respondent, have an attorney, the attorney will be given the opportunity to ask questions of you and the respondent.

Restraining Orders

Sometimes victims of domestic violence will be encouraged to agree to the entry of a restraining order in exchange for the dismissal of the EPO/DVO case prior to the hearing. A restraining order issued in another case (paternity, divorce, etc.) is not a Domestic Violence Order. If you agree to the entry of a restraining order and dismiss your DVO case, the judge will sign the restraining order in the other case that you have with the respondent and order you and the respondent to abide by the terms to which you have agreed (no contact, no unlawful contact, etc.). If your abuser violates the restraining order you will have to file a motion with the court and appear in court to request that the court hold him or her in contempt. The motion will need to be filed in the case in which the restraining order is entered. If you have a DVO and your abuser appears on your property in violation of the DVO, you can call 911 and the police can come and arrest your abuser immediately. This is not the case with a restraining order. Do not be misled into believing that a restraining order is the same thing as a DVO. EPOs and DVOs are entered into an electronic record system, LINK, which the police can access on the street 24 hours a day. Restraining orders are not. Before you agree to dismiss your EPO/DVO case you should consider your safety carefully and make a decision that will best protect you. If you are unsure whether you should agree to dismiss your case, you should consult an attorney for legal advice. You can also consult with victims advocates from the Center for Women and Families or Adult Protective Services for safety information and advice on making a safety plan.

Evidence

Your testimony and the respondent's testimony are forms of evidence. The court will consider testimony as evidence in deciding whether to issue a DVO. The court may also consider relevant non-testimonial evidence such as recordings of threats, pictures of injuries, medical records related to treatment for injuries suffered as a result of domestic violence, text messages or other relevant evidence. If photos were taken of your injuries you will need to bring these to court. Photos are not forwarded to the court automatically - you need to request photos from the person who took the photos so that they may be entered as evidence in your DVO case. If photos were taken by a police officer you should call the police officer and request that he or she bring them to court. You have the right to subpoena evidence for your hearing. If you have an attorney, your attorney can subpoena the photos. If photos were taken at the Domestic Violence Intake Center, you can contact the Center and request that they provide you with copies of the photos for your hearing. The important thing to remember is that if you have evidence, it is your responsibility to take steps to bring it to the court's attention. If you are represented by an attorney through Legal Aid's Family Law Unit or through Legal Aid's Domestic Violence Advocacy Program you will work with your attorney to secure evidence and your attorney will assist you in gathering these items for your hearing.

Witnesses

Most DVO hearings involve two witnesses - the petitioner (the person who filed the case) and the respondent. The court may also hear from other witnesses who have relevant evidence to contribute. If you have additional witnesses you will need to bring them to court with you for the hearing. If you have an attorney, please advise your attorney that you have witnesses so he or she may subpoena your witnesses for court.

Standard of Proof

In order to issue a Domestic Violence Order, the judge must find by a preponderance of the evidence that domestic violence has occurred and is likely to occur again. The term, "preponderance of the evidence" is often defined as meaning that it is "more likely than not" that what you allege occurred.

What is domestic violence?

There are many definitions of domestic violence. For purposes of Kentucky Law, in reference to domestic violence hearings, domestic violence is violence that takes place between family members that includes physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse or assault.

The Court's ruling

After the court hears and views all the evidence, the judge will state on the record whether or not a Domestic Violence Order (DVO) will be issued. If a DVO is issued, the Court will advise the parties of the contents of the DVO and will ask that you wait outside the courtroom while the paperwork is completed. The clerk of the court or the court support worker will bring you your copy of the Domestic Violence Order. If you have any questions about the order, the court support worker is a good person to ask and you can ask questions of him or her at this time.

Orders Issued in a Domestic Violence Order**The Court may:**

- Order the abuser not to contact or communicate with you,
- Order the abuser not to commit further acts of domestic violence,
- Order the abuser not to dispose of or damage property you own together,
- Order the abuser to vacate any residence he or she shares with you,
- Issue temporary custody orders regarding children,
- Issue temporary child support orders,
- Order the abuser to attend Domestic Violence Offender Treatment (DVOT) or other helpful treatment,
- Order the abuser not to possess any firearms while the DVO is in effect, and/or
- Enter other orders the court determines are appropriate to prevent further acts of domestic violence.

Firearms

Persons who have Domestic Violence Orders entered against them are not permitted to possess firearms during the

period of time the order is in effect. The abuser will be ordered to surrender the firearms to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. If you know or suspect that the respondent has firearms, you should tell the judge so the judge can make arrangements for those firearms to be surrendered.

How long will the DVO last?

A DVO will last for the time stated in the order. The maximum amount of time a DVO can last is three years. Upon expiration, the DVO may be renewed for an additional period of up to 3 years. However, you must file a motion to request this prior to the expiration date of the DVO. It is good to file the motion to extend the DVO at least one month in advance. There is no limit on the number of times you may renew a DVO.

Reporting Violations

If your abuser violates your protective order (EPO or DVO) you should call the police. An officer who has probable cause to believe a violation of a protective order has occurred can arrest the abuser without a warrant. The officer does not have to view the violation in order to make an arrest. The officer does have to have probable cause to believe that the violation occurred. If your abuser has violated the protective order and the police do not file charges or make an arrest, you may file a complaint against him/her in the Domestic Violence Intake Center, which is located on the first floor of the Hall of Justice (600 W. Jefferson St.). A prosecutor will review your case and determine whether or not to file charges. Violation of an EPO or DVO is a crime and is punishable as a Class A Misdemeanor. If found guilty of violating an EPO or a DVO, the violator can face up to 365 days in jail.

If your abuser has violated other terms of your DVO, such as failure to pay child support, destruction of property, failure to abide by your parenting schedule which was entered in your DVO case, you can file a motion with the Family Court Clerk to hold him or her in contempt. You will be given a motion to fill out at the clerk's office and you will be given a court date at which you must appear to address the motion. The Court will determine whether the order has been violated and whether contempt sanctions are appropriate.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I have a DVO from another state?

If you have a DVO from another state you should file it with the clerk's office in the county in which you reside. Upon filing, you will be asked to sign an affidavit indicating your belief that the out-of-state DVO is valid and current. An affidavit is a written statement made under oath.

How do I renew my DVO and extend the expiration date?

You have the right to file a motion with the court to extend your DVO past the original expiration date. The motion must be filed and heard by the court prior to the date your DVO is scheduled to expire. You may file the motion at the courthouse.

What legal resources are available to me if I have experienced domestic violence?

Dial 911 in an emergency. After the emergency, if you have experienced domestic violence, you may seek safety assistance from the courts. First, you may protect yourself from further abuse by filing for an Emergency Protective Order (EPO) and a Domestic Violence Order (DVO). Second, you may also want to file a criminal complaint with your local prosecuting attorney. Finally, you may call the Legal Aid Society at 584-1254 and request assistance with your DVO hearing and with a divorce if you are married to the person who committed violence against you. You can also apply for representation at your DVO hearing at the same time you file your petition for an EPO/DVO.

Representation through the new Domestic Violence Advocacy Program (DVAP) is available for certain courts and the clerk can provide you with an application. The DVAP is a pilot program and due to limited resources is not available in all courts at this time. If it is not available for the court in which your case is filed, you can still call Legal Aid (584-1254) for assistance with your DVO hearing and someone from the Family Law Unit at Legal Aid may be available to assist you at your hearing.

What is a criminal complaint?

Criminal complaints are *criminal* remedies that can be used in cases of domestic violence. If there is probable cause for a criminal complaint, either an arrest warrant or a criminal summons may be issued against your abuser. You may file a criminal complaint in the Domestic Violence Intake

Center, which is located on the first floor of the Hall of Justice (600 W. Jefferson St.). No attorney fee is required to make a criminal complaint.

What is an EPO and a DVO?

EPO stands for Emergency Protective Order. DVO stands for Domestic Violence Order. EPOs and DVOs are *civil restraining orders* that are issued by the court. Sometimes these orders are referred to as *no contact orders, restraining orders, protective orders and no unlawful contact orders*. An EPO is the temporary order that is issued pending the hearing date. A DVO is the order which is issued following a hearing in front of a judge. EPOs expire on the date of the hearing. DVOs can last as long as three years.

What if I have experienced dating violence, but am ineligible for a DVO?

Dating violence is not okay. If you have experienced dating violence, but are ineligible for a DVO or an EPO, there are still solutions. You should consider filing a criminal complaint at the Hall of Justice (600 W. Jefferson St.). It is a crime to assault someone regardless of your relationship, or lack thereof. You may also wish to consult with an attorney about any other options that may be available to you.

What if I no longer live with the abuser?

Your right to file for a protective order is not affected by your choice to leave your residence in order to avoid domestic violence.

When and where may I file a criminal complaint?

You may file a criminal complaint against your abuser at the Domestic Violence Intake Center, which is located on the first floor of the Hall of Justice (600 W. Jefferson St.).

What if my child has been abused?

If your child has been abused you should report the abuse to the police and/or Child Protective Services (CPS). To report abuse to CPS, call their hotline at (502) 595-4550. CPS may advise you to file for a DVO on behalf of your child or CPS may file an emergency action in family court on behalf of your children if they believe that to be necessary.

Domestic Violence Resources

Emergency Shelter

If you need emergency shelter due to domestic violence, you should contact the Center for Women and Families at 581-7222.

Counseling and Emotional Support

Domestic violence is harmful and stressful. We encourage you to call the Center for Women and Families (581-7200) and/or Metro United Way (dial 211 on any phone) for information on resources to help you address the difficulties associated with domestic violence. The Center for Women and Families provides many free services including individual counseling and group sessions. Please use these free resources.

VINE

If you are a victim of domestic violence and your abuser is incarcerated, you can contact VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) to register to be notified when your abuser is released. You can register at (800) 511-1670 or at www.vinelink.com. You can also register with VINE to be notified when he or she is served with your petition for a DVO.

Child Protective Services

Domestic violence affects children. Even if your children are not physically abused by your abuser, your children can suffer mental, emotional, psychological and negative physical health as a result domestic violence. Research indicates that children who are raised in homes where domestic violence is present are at greater risk to suffer from a variety of immediate and long-term physical and psychological problems. Exposing children to domestic violence is child abuse. Failure to protect your children from exposure to abuse can result in an allegation of child abuse and/or neglect. Child Protective Service workers (CPS) are often involved in domestic violence cases to ensure that the children are protected. The court and CPS will want to ensure that the victim does not return to the abuser and consequently expose the children to the violence again. If you want to leave to protect yourself and your children, but don't know how, call or go to the Center for Women and Families so they can help you develop a safety plan.

Other Community Resources

Child Abuse

CACU (Crimes Against Children Unit)

435 S. Third Street
574-2465

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)

514 West Liberty Street, #139
595-4911

Child Protective Services

908 W. Broadway
L & N Building
595-4550

YMCA Safe Place

2400 Crittenden Dr.
625-5233 (24-hour Crisis Hotline)

Child Care

Children's Choice Learning Center

204 E. Jacob St.
585-9856

Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C)

1215 S. 3rd St.
636-1358 or (877) 316-3552

Department of Social Services Child Care Help

1-800-421-1903

Family and Children's Place

2303 River Rd., Suite 200
893-3900

Wayside Christian Mission Crisis Child Care Center

584-3711

YMCA Child Care Services

637-1575

Clothing

Clothe-a-Child

Clothes Closet

2124 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd.

Monday - Thursday from 10:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

772-1225

(Need referral from school, church, or social service agency)

St. Vincent de Paul

1029 S. Preston St.

583-8158

9am-4:30pm, Monday-Saturday

248 E. Market St.

583-8158

9am-4:30pm Monday-Saturday

2217 Hikes Ln.

473-8856

9am-7pm Monday-Saturday

651 Eastern Blvd.

Clarksville, IN

(812) 288-1165

9am-6pm Monday-Friday and 10am-6pm Saturday

Golden Arrow (infants)

626 S. Shelby St.

589-3537

Domestic Violence

Adult Protective Services

908 W. Broadway

L & N Building

595-4803 or 1-800-752-6200 (hotline)

The Center for Women and Families

Main Campus

927 S. 2nd St.

CRISIS HOTLINE (502) 581-7222 24 hours

Southern Indiana Campus

(812) 944-6743 24 hours

West Louisville Campus

(502) 775-6408

Corydon, Indiana Office
(812) 734-0280

Marengo Office
(812) 365-2338

Kentucky Outreach Services
(502) 538-0212

Scottsburg Office
(812) 752-7996

Shelbyville Office
(502) 633-7800

Domestic Violence Intake Center

1st Floor
Hall of Justice
600 W. Jefferson St.
595-0853

Metro United Way

211 (24 hours)

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-SAFE

VINE

Victim Information and Notification Everyday
1-800-511-1670

Education

Jefferson County Family Resource and Youth Services Centers

485-3703

Jefferson County Public Schools

485-3624

Kentuckiana College Access Center

584-8090

The Louisville Scholar House (Project Women)

584-8090

The Women's Center at U of L

852-8976

The Women's Center at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary

895-3411

Financial Assistance/Benefits

Jefferson County Attorney Child Support Division

315 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
574-8300

Salvation Army

Center of Hope
625-1170

Social Security Administration

601 W. Broadway
582-6690, 582-5517 (TTY)

2500 W. Broadway
775-5709, 582-5527 (TTY)

10503 Timberwood Cir.
425-8629, 426-3079 (TTY)

TANF/KTAP

908 W. Broadway
L & N Building
595-4238

Food

Cabbage Patch Settlement House

1413 S. 6th St.
634-0811

Dare to Care, Inc. Food Bank

5803 Fern Valley Rd.
966-3821

Food Stamps

908 W. Broadway
L & N Building
595-4238; 1-800-931-9112

Lord's Kitchen

2732 S. 5th St.
634-1665

St. Vincent de Paul

1015-C S. Preston St.
301-8686

WIC (pregnant women/infants)
574-6530

Health Care

Planned Parenthood
1025 S. 2nd St.
584-2473

Phoenix Health Center (homeless)
712 E. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
568-6972

Passport
305 W. Broadway # 3
585-7900

K-CHIP
1-877-524-4718

Well-Child Exams
574-6660

Homeless Shelters

The Center for Women and Families
Main Campus
927 S. 2nd St.
581-7200 24 hours

The Healing Place
1020 W. Market St.
585-4848

St. Vincent de Paul
1015-C S. Preston St.
301-8697

St. John Center (men)
700 E. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
568-6758

Volunteers of America
636-0771

Wayside Christian Mission

822 E. Market St.
584-3711

YMCA Safe Place (youth)
2400 Crittenden Dr.
635-5233

Housing

Louisville Metro Housing Authority
420 S. 8th St.
569-3400

Section Eight
420 S. 8th St.
569-6076

The Housing Partnership Inc.
333 Guthrie St.
585-5451

Immigrant/Refugee

Americana Community Center
4801 Southside Dr.
366-7813

Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services
2911 S. 4th St.
637-9786

Kentucky Refugee Ministries
969 Cherokee Rd. # B
479-9180

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
601 W. Broadway
582-6953

Job Training and Information

Job Corp
1-800-733-JOBS

Kentuckiana Works/Jefferson Education Center
213-4520

The Louisville Urban League

561-6830

NIA Center

574-3700

Louisville Work/Kairos Program

583-8317

Legal Services

American Civil Liberties Union

581-1181

Domestic Violence Intake Center

1st Floor, Room 1150

Jefferson Hall of Justice

600 W. Jefferson St.

595-0853

Jefferson County Attorney's Office

Jefferson Hall of Justice

600 W. Jefferson St.

574-6336

Legal Aid Society

416 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd., Suite 300

584-1254

**Kentucky Lawyer Referral Service (free referral & free 30
minute consultation)**

583-1801

Mental Health

Bridges Center

456-5451

Caritas Peace Center

451-1333

Crisis and Information Line

589-4313

NAMI Louisville

245-5287

Seven Counties Services

589-1100

Substance Abuse

Alcoholics Anonymous

582-1849

Crisis and Information Line

589-4313

The Healing Place

584-6606

Jefferson Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center (JADAC)

583-3951

Volunteers of America's Freedom House

634-0082

St. Jude Women's Recovery Center

589-6024

Youth and Family Services

Big Brothers/Big Sister of Kentuckiana

587-0494

Boy Scouts of America

361-2464

Louisville Youth Group (GLBTQ)

454-0229

YMCA Safe Place

635-5233

Domestic Violence Advocacy Program

The Domestic Violence Advocacy Program (DVAP) was launched by the Legal Aid Society on June 1, 2009. The mission of the DVAP is to provide legal representation to victims of domestic violence at Domestic Violence Order proceedings in Jefferson Family Courts so as to assist victims in taking a stand against violence and to protect them from future abuse. The DVAP matches volunteer attorneys who provide their services free of charge with victims of domestic violence who have applied for Domestic Violence Orders in Jefferson Family Court. The DVAP is a pilot program which will initially be available to litigants in Family Court Three and Family Court Six. As resources increase and additional attorneys volunteer, the DVAP hopes to expand into other Jefferson Family Courts.

Clients of the DVAP must be financially eligible and must be a victim of domestic violence. To apply for representation through this program, an applicant must complete an application at the time of filing for a DVO. Applications are available at the Family Court Clerk's Office in the Jefferson County Judicial Center (700 W. Jefferson Street) and at the Domestic Violence Intake Center which is located in the Hall of Justice (600 W.

Jefferson Street). The DVAP has limited resources and cannot provide services to all persons who apply. Applicants will be notified if their case is accepted for representation.

This project was developed through the collaborative efforts of the Legal Aid Society, the Mary Byron Foundation, the Center for Women and Families, the Louisville Bar Association, the Louisville Bar Association Family Law Section, the Pro Bono Consortium, Stites & Harbison, the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, Metro Government Office for Women, the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Jefferson County, and the Mortality Review Committee. Verizon Wireless, in partnership with Legal Aid Society, has provided generous financial support for the development and implementation of this project.

The Domestic Violence Advocacy Program could not exist without the support of the members of the bar who generously donate their time and talent to this program. As of the printing of this handbook, the following firms have contributed substantial legal resources to the program:

Boehl Stopher & Graves
Dinsmore & Shohl
Dodd & Dodd Attorneys
Frost Brown Todd
Goldberg Simpson
Greenebaum Doll & McDonald
Lynch, Cox, Gilman & Mahan
Morgan & Pottinger
Phillips Parker Orberon & Moore
Stites & Harbison
Stoll Keenon Ogden
Weber & Rose
Woodward, Hobson & Fulton
Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs

Pursuing Justice. Restoring Hope.

The mission of the Legal Aid Society is to pursue justice for people in poverty. It is an honor to serve you as a

client. We hope that you find your experience at the Legal Aid Society to be a positive one. If at any time, you have concerns or need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at (502) 584-1254. Thank you for choosing the Legal Aid Society to help you in your moment of need.