

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACTS

- Battered victims are the victims of violence; they do not provoke or deserve such treatment.
- Domestic violence occurs among all sectors of society. It happens to people of all racial, economic and religious groups.
- Any child who grows up in an abusive home suffers physically, psychologically, emotionally, and socially.
- Reports indicate that alcohol and/or substance abuse magnify the existing emotions of an individual. The use of alcohol or drugs may be contributing factors in the act of domestic violence, but are not the cause of violence.
- With adequate support services and counseling, abused victims can lead new lives.

If you are the victim of a domestic violence crime, please call the Victim/Witness Unit of the Lake County State's Attorney's Office at:

(847) 377-3000

CRISIS HOTLINES / INFORMATION

- A Safe Place Hotline (847) 249-4450
- Catholic Charities (847) 782-4000
- Lake County Health Dept. (847) 377-8000
- National Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-7233
- IL Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline (877) 863-6338
- Fleet & Family Support Center Naval Station (847) 688-3603
- Lake County Children's Advocacy Center (847) 377-3155
- Elder Abuse Hotline (866) 800-1409
- National Suicide Prevention (800) 273-8255
- National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline (866) 331-9474
TTY (866) 331-8453
- Automated Victim Notification (866) 566-8439
TTY (847) 502-2423

LEGAL ADVOCACY

- Order of Protection Assistance D100 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (847) 360-6471
- Lake County Bar Assn. (847) 244-3140
- Prairie State Legal Services (847) 662-6925
- Lake County State Attorney's Office (847) 377-3000

CHILD ABUSE / SEXUAL ABUSE

- Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center (847) 872-7799
- IL Child Abuse Hotline (800) 252-2873



Free services for victims of domestic abuse

shelter • support groups • legal advocacy
children's services • individual counseling

2710 17th Street, Suite 100
Zion, IL 60099

847-249-4450 Help Line
847-249-6557 TTY
800-600-SAFE

www.asafeplaceforhelp.org

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*If you are
being abused
at home...
you are not
alone.*

**Lake County
State's Attorney's Office
(847) 377-3000**

www.lakecountyil.gov/statesattorney/violence

IF YOU LIVE WITH AN ABUSIVE PARTNER...

- Stay away from areas like the bathroom, kitchen, bedroom or anywhere weapons might be available during an argument.
- When possible, remove, hide, or lock up any firearms in the household.
- Identify a safe exit from the home e.g. door, windows, elevators and stairwell.
- Always have a packed bag ready.
- Discuss the situation with your neighbors. Ask them to call the police if they hear a disturbance.
- Find a code word to use with friends, children, and neighbors, when you need the police.
- Decide on a place to stay if you leave the environment, even if you don't think you need to.
- **Always** remember: **you don't deserve to be hit or threatened.**

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO LEAVE...

- Open a bank account in your own name.
- Leave money, extra keys, copies of documents and extra clothes with someone you trust so you can leave quickly.
- Determine who your resources are if you need shelter or money.
- Have change on hand for any emergency calls that need to be made.
- Remember you and your children's safety comes first.

ONCE YOU ARE OUT OF THE BATTERER'S ENVIRONMENT...

- Change locks on your doors.
- Discuss safety plans with your children.
- Inform children's school about who has permission to pick them up.
- Inform neighbors that if they see your abuser to call the police. Show neighbors a photo. Tell them about your Order of Protection.

- Keep your Order of Protection with you at all times.
- Call the police if you are concerned for your safety.
- Make photo copies of your Order of Protection and give it to the children's school, your employer, your neighbors, and your local police department.
- Screen your telephone calls at home and work.
- Whenever possible have someone escort you to your car or walk out of an area with other people.
- If communication is necessary between you and your partner, meet in public places or decide on a third party to contact and relay messages.
- Always keep yourself informed on the dynamics of domestic violence and talk freely and openly with people who can provide you with support.
- IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911.

WHAT YOU NEED TO TAKE WHEN YOU LEAVE...

IDENTIFICATION

- driver's license / military ID
- birth certificate
- social security numbers
- passports
- insurance documents

FINANCIAL

- money and credit cards
- bank and check books
- savings bonds
- food stamps

LEGAL PAPERS

- copy of your Order of Protection
- car registration / insurance papers
- copy of lease
- medical and school records
- separation / custody papers
- power of attorney / will

OTHER

- medications / prescriptions
- keys to home and car
- address book / telephone cards
- clothes