

Domestic Violence

(Updated January 2024)

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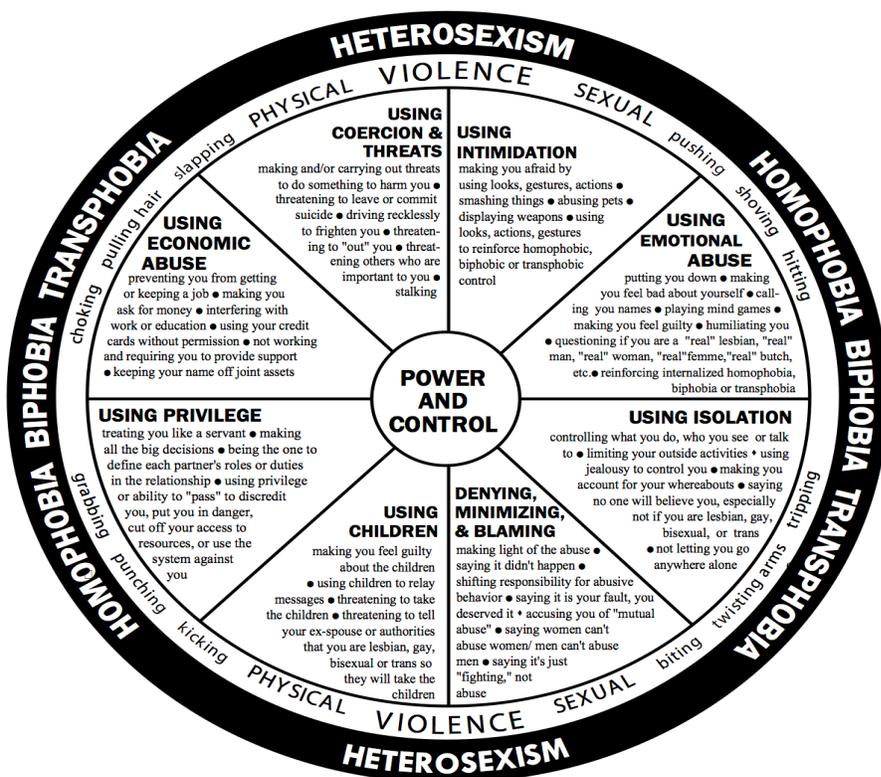
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What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence is a **pattern of coercive, controlling behavior** that can include **physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse or financial abuse** (using money and financial tools to exert control).



Who should I contact in an emergency?

If you are in immediate danger, call or text **9-1-1**. The [D.C. Victim Hotline](#) is available via call, text, or web chat 24 hours a day. They can be reached at **1-844-4HELPDC** (1-844-443-5732).

Civil Protection Orders

What is a Civil Protection Order?

A Civil Protection Order is what the District of Columbia calls a “restraining order” or a “stay away order” in cases involving domestic violence. A domestic violence survivor can request a Civil Protection Order for their own protection or on behalf of their children through the D.C. Superior Court.

What is the difference between a *Civil Protection Order* and a *Temporary Protection Order*?

A **Temporary Protection Order** can be requested and put in place the same day a domestic violence survivor files a Petition for a Civil Protection Order and a hearing is held without the abuser present. A Temporary Protection Order will be granted in the case of an emergency, when a judge finds that the survivor is facing *immediate danger*. The Temporary Protection Order provides much of the same relief as a Civil Protection Order for the period of time between the filing of the Civil Protection Order petition and a hearing. Typically, a Temporary Protection Order lasts for fourteen days.

A **Civil Protection Order** is entered at a hearing after both parties have been served with the required paperwork and had the opportunity to appear in court. A Civil Protection Order will be in effect up to two years from the date it is entered by the Court.

For more information on how to obtain a Temporary Protection Order, jump ahead to the below section on **Temporary Protection Orders**.

Who can file for a Civil Protection Order?

A person filing for a Civil Protection Order must have a certain type of **relationship** to the person they are filing against, unless they are a

survivor of sexual assault or human trafficking. The required relationships include:

- Blood relatives;
- Current and former romantic/dating/sexual partners;
- People who share a child in common; and
- People who have shared a residence within the past year and maintained a close relationship.

Survivors of sexual assault and human trafficking can file for a Civil Protection Order even if they do not have a prior relationship with the abuser.

A person filing for a Civil Protection order must also allege that the person they are filing against has committed a **crime** against them. This crime could be assault, threats to do bodily harm, sexual assault, stalking, destruction of property, theft, or parental kidnapping, among others.

What does a Civil Protection Order do?

A Civil Protection Order provides important protections for domestic violence survivors against their abusers. These protections include:

- Requiring an abuser not to assault, threaten, harass, or stalk a survivor;
- Requiring an abuser to stay away from a survivor;
- Requiring an abuser to stay away from a survivor's home, workplace, vehicle, children, and/or children's school;
- Requiring an abuser to not contact a survivor in writing, by telephone, by social media, or in any other manner, including contact through a third party;
- Granting custody of children in common and arranging safe visitation;

- Requiring an abuser to reimburse a survivor for expenses related to the domestic violence; and
- Requiring an abuser to attend classes through the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA).

How can I file for a Civil Protection Order?

You are able to file in person at either of the two the Domestic Violence Intake Centers operated by the D.C. Superior Court. The Domestic Violence Intake Centers are open Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. They are located at:

- 1) Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court, 500 Indiana Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.
- 2) Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional Building at 2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE, Washington, DC 20020.

You also have the option to file online, without going to the D.C. Superior Court. In order to file a [Petition for a Civil Protection Order](#), you should go to www.probono.net/dccourts. You can complete and submit the forms electronically through that website or download and email the forms to DVD@dcsc.gov. If you have any questions or concerns, you should contact the Clerk's Office by telephone at **(202) 879-0157** or by email at DVD@dcsc.gov.

[D.C. SAFE](#) advocates help survivors with drafting and filing Petitions for Civil Protection Orders. They also connect survivors to resources like social services, legal services, and basic needs supports. To get connected to D.C. SAFE, you can go to the Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., or you can call or text the [D.C. Victim Hotline](#) at **1-844-4HELPDC** (1-844-443-5732) 24 hours a day.

Temporary Protection Orders

How can I get a Temporary Protection Order?

If you are filing for a Civil Protection Order and you want to request a Temporary Protection Order, you should be sure to check the following box on the second page of your Petition:

16. The Respondent's actions place the safety or welfare of myself and/or a family member in immediate danger and I request that the court grant me an emergency Temporary Protection Order today.

You are able to file in person at either of the two the Domestic Violence Intake Centers operated by the D.C. Superior Court. The Domestic Violence Intake Centers are open Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. They are located at:

- 1) Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court, 500 Indiana Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.
- 2) Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional Building at 2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE, Washington, DC 20020.

You also have the option to file online, without going to the D.C. Superior Court. In order to file a [Petition for a Civil Protection Order](#), you should go to www.probono.net/dccourts. You can complete and submit the forms electronically through that website or download and email the forms to DVD@dcsc.gov. If you have any questions or concerns, you should contact the Clerk's Office by telephone at **(202) 879-0157** or by email at DVD@dcsc.gov.

What if I need a Temporary Protection Order after business hours?

If you need a Temporary Protection Order outside of normal business hours, you can request an Emergency Temporary Protection Order (ETPO). The ETPO process is available 24 hours a day.

To access the ETPO process, you can: (1) call or text 9-1-1; (2) call or text the [D.C. Victim Hotline](#) at **1-844-4HELPDC** (1-844-443-5732); or (3) go to the Seventh District Police Station to see if you qualify.

How long will my Temporary Protection Order last?

[Temporary Protection Orders are usually issued for a period of 14 days.](#)

Scheduling and Other Concerns

When do I go to Court for my Civil Protection Order?

You should receive a Notice of Hearing and Order to Appear when you file your case. That Notice will include the date and time for your hearing.

If you have a question about a court date, you can contact the Domestic Violence Division Clerk's Office. The Clerk's Office is available by phone **(202) 879-0157** and email (DVD@dcsc.gov), Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm.

What will happen on the day of my hearing if Court is virtual?

Your hearing will likely be held virtually via WebEx. You will need to call in or join the video hearing via WebEx at 8:30am to check in. The instructions to join the hearing can be found in the Notice of Hearing and Order to Appear:

You are ordered to join the virtual hearing on 01/02/2024. **You must report for check-in at 8:30a.m.** The hearing will take place via video on an app called Webex or by audio by phone call. **The hearing may take place any time on this day after check in.** Instructions to join the hearing are below.

- To join the hearing by **video**, please click on this link, <https://dccourts.webex.com/meet/ctb114> or by visiting <https://dccourts.webex.com> and typing the meeting ID **129 568 2274**.
- In the event that you are unable to join the WebEx app by video, please call (202) 860-2110 and type in the meeting code which is **129 568 2274** to check in for your hearing by phone. You will receive instructions about your hearing.
- For technical questions about joining the hearing, contact the Courtroom Recording and Technology Branch at 202-879-1928, and select option 2.

When you check in via WebEx, a clerk will ask for your contact information. The court will call you back when a negotiator is available to speak with you, and/or when the judge is ready to call your case. You should stay by your telephone and expect that you may receive calls from the court at any time before 5:00 p.m. that day.

What if my Civil Protection Order or Temporary Protection Order expires while the Court is closed?

Your Temporary Protection Order will be extended until the next court date in your case. Your Civil Protection Order will expire on the date specified on the order, unless you file a [Motion to Extend](#) it.

What if I need to extend or modify my current Civil Protection Order or Temporary Protection Order?

A [Motion to Modify or Extend](#) a Civil Protection Order or Temporary Protection Order can be filed any time before the Civil Protection Order or Temporary Protection Order expires. Anyone who wants to extend their Civil Protection Order *must* file a motion to extend before it expires, or else would need to file a new petition based on new incidents.

You may file a Motion in person at one of the two Domestic Violence Intake Centers located in:

- 1) Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court, 500 Indiana NW, Washington, DC 20001.
- 2) Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional Building at 2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE, Washington, DC 20020.

The Domestic Violence Intake Center is open Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

The Domestic Violence Clerk's Office is also accepting motions filed online. You should go to www.probono.net/dccourts to complete and submit the forms online or download and email the forms to DVD@dcsc.gov.

If you cannot determine which form to use, or the form you need is missing, contact the Clerk's Office by telephone at **(202) 879-0157** or by email at DVD@dcsc.gov.

Legal Help

Legal Aid attorneys are available to provide advice and help people file for a Civil Protection Order or file Motions related to their Civil Protection Orders. Our Northwest and Southeast offices are open with the following locations and hours:

- 1) NW Office at 1331 H Street NW, Suite 350, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12:30 pm and 4:00 pm
- 2) Anacostia Professional Building (the Big chair) at 2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave Suite 201 on Mondays and Thursdays between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm.

You can also apply for our services by phone at **(202) 628-1161** or [online](#). You can also find a Legal Aid attorney at the Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and at the Domestic Violence Intake Center

located in Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional building between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Counseling and Support

Who can I contact for counseling or safety planning?

The following organizations are offering counseling and/or safety planning services:

- [The Wendt Center](#) provides counseling to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, homicide, and other violent crimes. They can be reached at (202) 204-5021.
- [The Women's Center](#) also provides counseling services for survivors of domestic violence. Those in need can contact the Intake Specialist at (202) 293-4580, ext. 100.
- [The Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project \(DVRP\)](#) has case managers available on their hotline at (202) 833-2233.
- [JCADA](#) operates a confidential helpline Monday - Thursday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and on Fridays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Survivors can call 1-877-88-JCADA for information, support, and safety planning.
- [DAWN](#) offers support services for survivors who are deaf or hard of hearing. Survivors can connect with DAWN by email at hotline@deafdawn.org.
- D.C. SAFE can assist with safety planning, and can be reached via the D.C. Victim Hotline at 1-844-4HELPDC (1-844-443-5732).

Custody

How can I file a custody case, or file a motion in my existing custody case?

You can file a new case or a motion in an existing custody case at the Family Court Central Intake Center, located in Room JM-540 of the D.C. Superior Court, is open to accept filings between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

You also have the option to file online. You can go to <https://www.probono.net/dccourts/familycourt/> and fill out the appropriate form. Once you have completed the form, there are two ways to file it:

- If you have a [fee waiver](#), or want to [request a fee waiver](#), you can email the form (and the fee waiver form if necessary) to familycourtcic@dcsc.gov.
- If you have a fee waiver, or want to request a fee waiver, you can print your documents and drop them off in the Domestic Relations Drop box located inside the main entrance of D.C. Superior Court, at 500 Indiana Avenue, NW.
- If you do not have or qualify for a fee waiver, you can create an account on [Case File Xpress](#), and file electronically.

For help drafting and filing a case, motions, and other pleadings, you can **contact the Family Court Self-Help Center at (202) 879-0096.**

I have custody through a Temporary Protection Order. Do I need to file a custody case to ensure that I maintain custody?

Maybe. When you have your Civil Protection Order hearing, you may be granted custody for the duration of the Civil Protection Order. If you are not granted custody beyond the Temporary Protection Order period, you may file a custody case at that point.

If you are considering filing a custody case, it would be best to speak to an attorney about whether or not to file. Legal Aid attorneys are available to provide advice. Our Northwest and Southeast offices are open with the following locations and hours:

- 1) NW Office at 1331 H Street NW, Suite 350, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12:30 pm and 4:00 pm
- 2) Anacostia Professional Building (the Big chair) at 2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave Suite 201 on Mondays and Thursdays between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm.

You can also apply for our services by phone at **(202) 628-1161** or [online](#). You can also find a Legal Aid attorney at the following offices:

- 1) Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays
- 2) Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional building between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.
- 3) Family Law Assistance Network located in Courtroom 105 at the D.C. Superior Court between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays.

I suspect the other parent is abusing our child. I feel like it is unsafe for our child to visit with the other parent. What should I do?

It depends. If you do not have a custody order, you should file a Civil Protection Order case on behalf of your child and ask for a Temporary Protection Order that grants you custody and suspends the abuser's visitation (see above for [how to file for a Civil Protection Order](#)).

If you do have a custody order that gives the abuser any visitation, you should [file an Emergency Motion to Modify Custody](#). You can use the [Motion to Modify Custody form](#), but be sure to specify that you are filing an **emergency** motion.

You can also call the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) at **(202) 442-6100**, or make a report of child abuse to their **24-hour hotline at (202) 671-7233**.

My abuser recently assaulted or threatened me. Now I feel like exchanges of our child and/or visits between our child and the abuser are unsafe. What should I do?

It depends. If you do not have a custody order, you should [file a Civil Protection Order case](#) and [ask for a Temporary Protection Order](#). In addition to asking for protection for yourself, you can ask that the Temporary Protection Order deny the abuser visitation or set a safe exchange location.

If you do have a custody order that gives the abuser any visitation, you may want to [file an Emergency Motion to Modify Custody](#). You can use the [Motion to Modify Custody form](#), but be sure to specify that you are filing an **emergency** motion. You can file for a Civil Protection Order as well, and may want to for your own protection, but domestic violence judges are hesitant to change existing custody orders. The judge may decline to modify your custody agreement, or may modify custody only for a short period of time. Also, even if a Temporary Protection Order suspends visits temporarily, you will likely be required to file a [Motion to Modify Custody](#) as well.

What should I do if my current Civil Protection Order or custody order requires visits at the Supervised Visitation Center?

If visits have been ordered at the Supervised Visitation Center, you should make sure to complete your intake by calling (202) 879-4253. After you complete your intake, the Center will coordinate visits between your child and the other parent.

If supervised visits are not set up in your case, you should use your best judgment and try to be reasonable during this time. Consider alternatives to visitation at the Supervised Visitation Center, and try to communicate with the other party about visitation, if it is safe to do so.

If you and the other party cannot agree on safe, appropriate arrangements for supervised visitation outside of the Supervised Visitation Center, you can file a Motion to Modify your Civil Protection Order and/or your custody order. It is possible that visitation will be postponed or take place over video until the Supervised Visitation Center reopens. But keep in mind that judges will be more likely to consider your Motion if you have made sincere attempts to make arrangements with the other party.

If you decide to file a Motion to Modify your Civil Protection Order, you can follow the same procedure for [filing for a Civil Protection Order](#), and use the Motion to Modify form.

If you decide to file a Motion to Modify Custody, follow the [procedure for filing a motion in your existing custody case](#).

Divorce

My spouse is controlling our finances and preventing me from accessing our money. What are my options?

If you are married and experiencing financial abuse, you may be able to get relief by filing a case in Family Court or the Domestic Violence Division. What you can file and the relief available will depend on the specific details of your situation. Legal Aid can help you consider your options.

Legal Aid attorneys are available to provide advice. Our Northwest and Southeast offices are open with the following locations and hours:

- 3) NW Office at 1331 H Street NW, Suite 350, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12:30 pm and 4:00 pm
- 4) Anacostia Professional Building (the Big chair) at 2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave Suite 201 on Mondays and Thursdays between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm.

You can also apply for our services by phone at **(202) 628-1161** or [online](#). You can also find a Legal Aid attorney at the following offices:

- 4) Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays
- 5) Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional building between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.
- 6) Family Law Assistance Network located in Courtroom 105 at the D.C. Superior Court between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Housing

I need to leave my abuser. Is there somewhere I can go?

Yes. There are domestic violence shelters run by [D.C. SAFE](#), [My Sister's Place](#), [DASH](#) (District Alliance for Safe Housing), and [House of Ruth](#). Domestic violence survivors in need of safe housing should call or text the [D.C. Victim Hotline](#) at **1-844-4HELPDC (1-844-443-5732)**.

Additional housing resources are as follows:

- **DASH** is offering a call-in clinic on Wednesdays from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Those in need can call **(202) 290-2356 x 101**.
- Anyone in need of shelter can call the **D.C. Shelter Hotline** at **(202) 399-7093** at any time.

Can I get help from the Crime Victims Compensation Program?

Crime Victims Compensation (CVC) applications are processed remotely. You can [download the application](#) and email a copy of your completed application to CVCPapplications@dcsc.gov. You can also submit your application in person to 515 5th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001, Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. If you need help completing your application, you can call CVC at 202-879-4216, Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. You can also visit the Domestic Violence Center located in Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional building, Monday through Friday 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. You may also call or text the **D.C. Victim Hotline** at **1-844-4HELPDC (1-844-443-5732)** for assistance.

My abuser and I are both listed on our lease. I do not feel safe living with my abuser. Can I force my abuser to leave?

Possibly. If you file for a Civil Protection Order, you can ask that the abuser be ordered to leave your shared residence. If you are in imminent danger, you can request a Temporary Protection Order (TPO) when you file, and you may be granted a telephonic hearing that same day. If the judge grants you a TPO, they may require that the abuser vacate the home as part of this Order.

I need to move because my abuser knows where I live. Can I break my lease?

Yes. You are permitted to break your lease if you are a victim of Domestic Violence. You must give your landlord written notice and include a copy of a Civil Protection Order or other documentation from a qualified third party about the violence (law enforcement officer, DCHA public safety officer, health professional, DV counselor). The lease termination will be effective **fourteen (14) days** after you provide the written notice. You can find [sample letters](#) to use on Legal Aid's website.

My abuser is threatening to put me out of our home, and I don't have anywhere else to go. I am not on the lease, but I have been helping pay rent. Can the abuser do this?

Possibly. It will depend on whether or not you are considered a subtenant with rights to remain in the apartment. Whether or not you are a subtenant will depend on the specific facts of your situation, including the understanding between you and your abuser when you moved into the apartment and whether your abuser has been ordered to leave the apartment. Please call **Legal Aid** at **(202) 628-1161** or apply for our services [online](#) to get advice about your specific situation.

My abuser has a Section 8 voucher. I am on the voucher, but not the Head of Household on it. Can I keep the voucher if I need to separate from my abuser?

Possibly. This will depend on the circumstances of your case. You should **contact DCHA right away at (202) 535-1000** and let them know that you: (1) are on a voucher; (2) are a survivor of domestic violence; and (3) want your abuser removed from the voucher. Please call **Legal Aid** at **(202) 628-1161** or apply for our services [online](#) to get advice about your specific situation.

Public Benefits

My abuser was providing financial help to our family, but I had to flee that situation. Is there assistance I can get to help pay for food and other expenses?

You may be eligible for SNAP benefits (often called food stamps) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF for short). TANF is cash and other assistance for families with very low income and children 18 or younger, including people who are pregnant.

You can apply [online](#), fax an application (available in [English](#), [Spanish](#),

and [Amharic](#)) to a Service Center (numbers below), or drop off an application in person. In-person applications are discouraged at this time for health and safety reasons.

Congress Heights Service Center, 4049 South Capitol St., SW
Phone: (202) 645-4546
Fax: 202-654-4524

H Street Service Center, 645 H St. NE
Phone: (202) 698-4350
Fax: 202-724-8964

Taylor Street Service Center, 1207 Taylor St. NW
Phone: (202) 576-8000
Fax: 202-576-8740

How long will it take for me to start receiving SNAP or TANF benefits?

The Department of Human Services must process your SNAP application in 30 days, unless you qualify for expedited food assistance because: 1) you have less than \$100 and less than \$150 in income each month and/or 2) your rent and utilities are more than your income each month. These expedited applications must be processed in 7 days.

The Department of Human Services generally has 45 days to process TANF applications.

Once your application for SNAP and/or TANF is approved, the Department of Human Services will mail you an Electronic Benefits Transfer (or EBT) card so you can access your benefits.

Where do I call if I have trouble applying for SNAP and/or TANF?

You can call the Department of Human Services at (202) 727-5355. If you can't get through or still need help, you can contact Legal Aid at (202) 628-1161, or apply for services [online](#).

My abuser is listed as part of my household on my TANF and food stamps cases. How can I remove my abuser from my cases?

If you are listed as the head of household, you can submit a letter to a DHS service center asking them to remove the abuser and update your household. If the abuser is listed as the head of household, you will need to submit a new combined application for benefits so DHS can create a separate case in their system.

I need health insurance. How do I get it?

You have a few different options depending on your income and immigration status.

[Medicaid](#) helps pay for medical services for low-income people and people with disabilities who are citizens, lawful permanent residents or some other lawful status. (See below for Medicaid income cutoffs.) To apply, you can complete an application [online through DC Health Link](#) or mail the [application](#) to:

DC Health Link
Department of Human Services
Case Records Management Unit
P.O. Box 91560
Washington DC 20090

The application is also available in Amharic, Spanish, Chinese, and French.

[Alliance](#) and [Immigrant Children's Program](#) provide health insurance for adults (Alliance) and children (Immigrant Children's Program) who meet Medicaid income requirements but not Medicaid immigration

status requirements. Applications are the same as for SNAP and TANF. You can apply [online](#), fax an application (available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Amharic](#)) to a Service Center (numbers below), or drop off an application in person. In-person applications are discouraged at this time for health and safety reasons.

Congress Heights Service Center, 4049 South Capitol St., SW
Phone: (202) 645-4546
Fax: 202-654-4524

H Street Service Center, 645 H St. NE
Phone: (202) 698-4350
Fax: 202-724-8964

Taylor Street Service Center, 1207 Taylor St. NW
Phone: (202) 576-8000
Fax: 202-576-8740

If you have additional questions about public benefits, please see [Legal Aid's Frequently Asked Questions About Public Benefits in the District](#). If you need help with public benefits, you can **contact Legal Aid at (202) 628-1161**, or apply for services [online](#).

Consumer Protection

Which parent is legally entitled to claim the children as dependents?

The custodial parent (i.e. the parent with whom the children reside for more than half of a given tax year) has the right to either claim the minor children as dependents on their own tax return, or give the non-custodial parent permission to claim the children as dependents by executing [IRS Form 8332](#) each year.

Criminal

Prosecutor in the case for more information about release status.

My abuser violated my Civil Protection Order, and I want to press charges. What should I do?

If your abuser has violated your Civil Protection Order, there are two ways to press charges:

- Call the police when the incident happens. Like any other crime, police will investigate, and seek a warrant, if they think it is appropriate.
- File a [Motion for Contempt](#). You can file in person at the Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court. The Domestic Violence Intake Center is open between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. You can also complete and submit the forms electronically through www.probono.net/dccourts or download and email the forms to DVD@dcsc.gov. If you need assistance filing a Motion for Contempt, **contact the Domestic Violence Clerk's Office at (202) 879-0157** or get in touch with D.C. SAFE via the **D.C. Victim Hotline at 1-844-4HELPDC (1-844-443-5732)**. Motions for Contempt are being reviewed by attorneys at the D.C. Office of the Attorney General, and they will file charges if they deem it appropriate. You can also go in-person to one of the two Domestic Violence Intake centers to get assistance with filing:
 - Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

- Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional building between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Immigration

If you have other immigration-related questions, Legal Aid attorneys are available to provide advice and help people on immigration matters. Our Northwest and Southeast offices are open with the following locations and hours:

- 1) NW Office at 1331 H Street NW, Suite 350, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12:30 pm and 4:00 pm
- 2) Anacostia Professional Building (the Big chair) at 2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave Suite 201 on Mondays and Thursdays between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm.

You can also apply for our services by phone at **(202) 628-1161** or [online](#). You can also find a Legal Aid attorney at the Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 4550 of the D.C. Superior Court between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and at the Domestic Violence Intake Center located in Room 400 of the Anacostia Professional building between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.