



JUDICIAL COUNCIL
OF CALIFORNIA

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FACT SHEET

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Domestic Violence Safety Partnership (DVSP)

Domestic violence is a critical issue facing family, criminal, and juvenile courts in California. The Domestic Violence Safety Partnership (DVSP) was developed to enhance safety and improve practices and protocols in the handling of domestic violence cases. A court that participates in the DVSP uses the Domestic Violence Safety Partnership Self-Assessment—a tool furnished by the Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC), Operations and Programs Division, Judicial Council of California—to examine its own practices and needs in the handling of domestic violence cases, especially in relation to legal mandates. The court, if it wishes, can then work with the DVSP project staff to discuss ways of improving its practices or to obtain the training or technical assistance that the court has determined would be helpful.

The court does not pay for training or technical assistance received through the DVSP. Funding for this component of the project is granted to the Judicial Council by the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), with resources from the federal Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

Project Goals

DVSP provides resources for local courts so that they can:

- Identify and review key statutes and other mandates addressing domestic violence;
- Identify and review court security and safety considerations related to domestic violence cases;
- Obtain DVSP-funded technical assistance to ensure compliance with requirements or enhance safety;
- Obtain DVSP-funded local training on domestic violence–related topics for judicial officers or court staff; and

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- Obtain DVSP purchased computer or audio visual equipment for court specific domestic violence related projects.

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Assessment Tools

The packet addresses procedures in the following categories:

- Domestic Violence Prevention Act cases (emergency protective orders, temporary restraining orders and orders after hearing)
- Family Court Services Domestic Violence Protocol
- Criminal Court: Protective Orders in Domestic Violence Cases (pretrial, conviction and post-conviction)
- Juvenile Dependency Court Restraining Orders (temporary restraining orders and orders after hearing)
- Juvenile Dependency Court—Court-Connected Dependency Mediation Domestic Violence Protocol
- Juvenile Delinquency Court Restraining Orders (temporary restraining orders and orders after hearing)
- Court Administration
- Part II—Safety Considerations

Criteria for Applying for Funds for Technical Assistance or Local Education

Applications for funds to cover the cost of technical assistance or local education will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. Although participation in the self-assessment process is not a prerequisite to obtaining assistance under this program, completion of the self-assessment tools is strongly encouraged and priority will be given to courts that do complete the process. DVSP funds will be expended for short-term projects up to \$5,000. Requests for amounts that exceed \$5,000 will be taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis. Projects will be awarded based on available funds. No funds are available to pay directly for meals, although travel meals can be reimbursed through a travel claim process, using the state's per diem rates.

All requests must be directly related to the DVSP's primary goals set out above. Requests must also relate specifically to enhancing a court's response in cases involving adult victims of domestic violence.

Types of Assistance Available

No funds will be granted directly to the local courts. Requests for assistance must be for goods or services that can be purchased directly by the Judicial Council office. Examples of likely types of assistance follow:

- Reimbursement of travel costs for a team from your court to visit another court;
- Purchase of consulting services to assist your court;
- Funding to bring faculty and experts to your area for a training on domestic violence, sexual assault and/or human trafficking, customized to your jurisdiction's needs;
- Purchase of computer equipment to provide services in domestic violence cases (e.g. laptop to use in court to produce orders or to use in self-help center for DVPA cases);
- Equipment and technical assistance to implement or improve use of CCPOR (California Court Protective Order Registry) in your court. For more information on CCPOR: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/ccpor.pdf>;
- Purchase of computer equipment to access the California Court Protective Order Registry (CCPOR), the California Restraining and Protective Order System (CARPOS) or other relevant databases housed within the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS);
- Purchase of audio visual equipment to show videos to parties in domestic violence court on court procedure; and
- Translate content related to domestic violence into languages other than English.

Further Information and DVSP Staff

For additional information about DVSP or to obtain a copy of the self-assessment packet, please contact:

Ms. Lisa Chavez

Center for Families, Children & the Courts | Operations and Programs
Division

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