NCJFCJ
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

PUBLICATIONS LIST

Family Violence and Domestic Relations Program

Las publicaciones disponibles en español se enumeran al final de este documento.

Publications can also be accessed via the provided QR codes throughout this document. To use the QR codes, open the camera on your smart device and focus on the code until yellow brackets appear; a link will then drop down directing you to the publication webpage:

The Family Violence and Domestic Relations Program (FVDR) produces regular publications for its constituents. This list contains the latest and most requested documents.

Quantity shipping may be available, upon request, for some publications. Please visit our website for additional FVDR publications.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Family Violence and Domestic Relations Program
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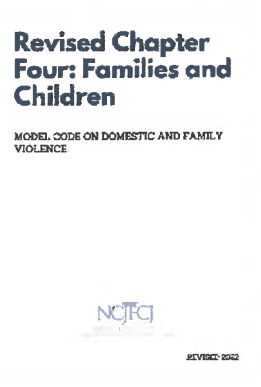
Revised Chapter Four: Families and Children Model Code on Domestic Violence and Family Violence (2022)

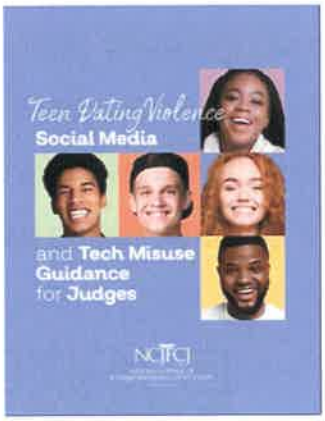
The focus of this Revised Chapter is on an approach that requires a careful analysis and tailored response, which means that adequate information is obtained (safely and ethically) and provided to the court, allowing for a comprehensive assessment of the context, nature, and effects of domestic abuse on the parent who is abused and children who experienced domestic abuse.



Free Online Download

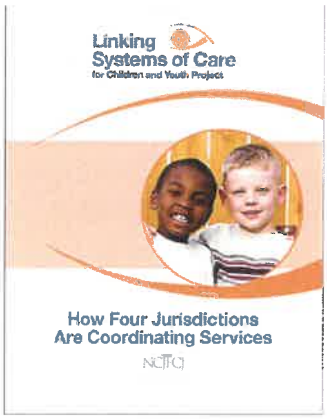
Teen Dating Violence: Social Media and Tech Misuse Guidance for Judges (2021)

Abusive behaviors through social media and technology mirror abusive behaviors offline – surveilling or stalking, spreading false narratives or impersonating the survivor, ruining credibility, causing financial harm through fraud or by hurting a survivor's professional or scholastic reputation, exposing survivors to harm from third parties, humiliating survivors, and causing pain and suffering. Even though the sharing of intimate images without a person's consent may seem like a new abusive behavior, in the past photocopies of such images may have been sent to the survivor's fellow classmates, coworkers, or family. What is different is the ability for the abuser to quickly reach a larger audience online and do so with considerable anonymity.



Free Online Download

Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Project: How Four Jurisdictions are Coordinating Services (2021)



Children, youth, and young adults who are survivors of traumatic events during their formative years often encounter multiple human service and legal systems. Serving youth with multi-system experiences requires an approach that recognizes multi-system involvement, is aware of trauma histories, and links services by building upon resilience factors that encourage healing.

The primary purpose of the Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Project (LSC) systems integration case studies publication is to highlight efforts that have successfully linked two or more systems that serve child victims of maltreatment and/or family violence. These highlighted efforts appear in the form of site profiles that present specific examples of programs that reflect key aspects of the LSC national demonstration project.

Free Online Download

COVID-19 and Abuse in Later Life: The Impact and What Judges and Courts Can Do (2021)

The impact of the pandemic on older adults cannot be overstated. As we learn more about the virus, the research is clear that it affects older adults more severely. The mortality rate for patients over 50 is at least thirty times that of those in their twenties and increases dramatically with age. Older adults are also more likely to have other health conditions that result in more serious symptoms. The rapid spread of the virus through nursing homes is but one example of the concentrated effects on older adults.

This factsheet identifies suggestions specifically on court practices that will improve access to the courts for older adults, especially those who have experienced abuse.

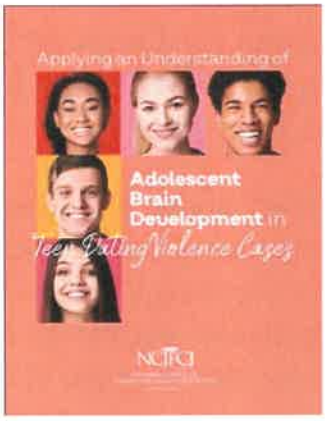
Free Online Download

Applying an Understanding of Adolescent Brain Development in Teen Dating Violence Cases (2021)

This technical assistance brief was developed to provide judges with an overview of brain development during adolescence and to provide an overview of the following:

- Typical adolescent brain development;
- How brain development may be impeded by toxic stress and adversity;
- Implications of brain development in how we understand and address teen dating violence; and
- Recommendations and promising practices for effective intervention in cases of teen dating violence.

While understanding adolescent brain development helps us address teen dating violence more effectively, it is also important to remember what our current knowledge of adolescent brain development can and cannot tell us.



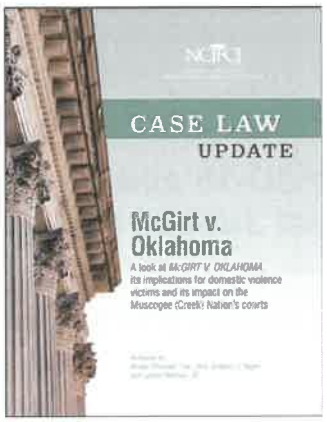
Free Online Download

McGirt V. Oklahoma: Case Law Update (2021)

American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) women are more likely to experience intimate partner violence and sexual violence than women of other races, with 47.5% of AI/AN women having reported experiencing domestic violence in their lifetimes. Domestic violence and physical and sexual assault are three-and-a-half times higher than the national average in Native American communities; however, this number may not reflect reality, as many assaults are not reported.

Recently, the United States Supreme Court, in *McGirt v. Oklahoma*, recognized the continued existence of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's reservation, and as a consequence, that tribal and federal courts have primary jurisdiction to prosecute citizens of tribal nations for crimes committed within that reservation.

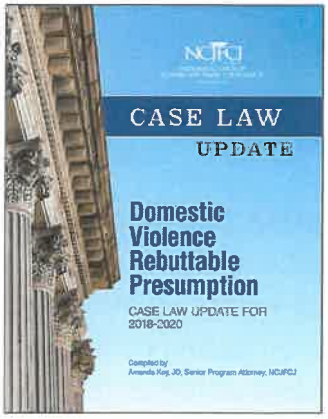
This publication examines that decision, and its potential impacts to domestic violence victims and states and tribal courts in their efforts to address domestic violence. It also looks at the impact that *McGirt* has had on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's courts.



Free Online Download

Case Law Update for 2018-2020: Domestic Violence Rebuttable Presumption (2021)

This document contains summaries of published state court decisions of interest related to a rebuttable presumption against awarding sole or joint custody to a parent who has engaged in domestic violence against the other parent. Such provisions have been adopted in some form in 28 states. While most of these summaries are brief, containing only the court's holding and any necessary background or procedural details, a few have been expanded based on their complexity, their uniqueness, or the importance of their holding.



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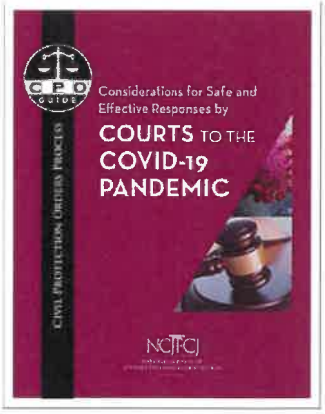
2020 Publications

Considerations for Safe and Effective Responses by Courts to the COVID-19 Pandemic (2020)

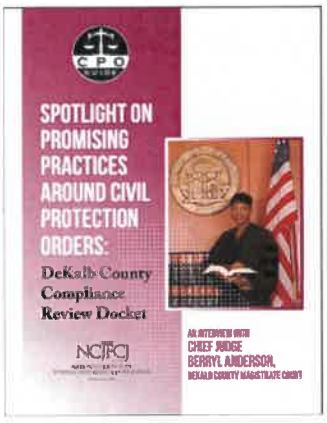
The guidance provided is intended to assist judicial officers and courts as they design creative and effective solutions to the problems imposed by the COVID-19 emergency. In addition to describing how judicial officers can assume a leadership role in promoting a collaborative response to the pandemic, this document provides examples of concrete strategies that courts and communities can implement to maximize the accessibility and effectiveness of the CPO system despite the impediments. Where available, hyperlinks to specific examples of forms, policies, and other resources are included.



Free Online Download

Spotlight on Promising Practices Around Civil Protection Orders: DeKalb County Compliance Review Docket (2020)

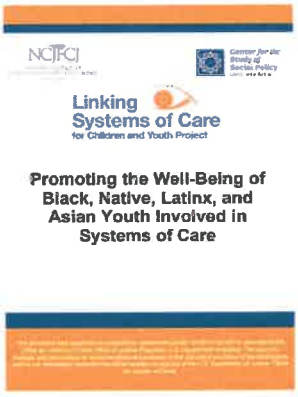
Civil protection orders can be a powerful remedy for victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking. However, when orders are not enforced, they can seem like nothing more than a piece of paper. Ensuring compliance with orders often falls on the shoulders of the victim/petitioner either to call law enforcement or to go to court to initiate an often complicated contempt procedure. Some courts have chosen to take a more active role in making sure that victims are kept safe and that respondents succeed in complying with the conditions of the court's orders. One such innovative court is the DeKalb County Magistrate Court, which implemented an entire calendar for compliance review of their Family Violence Protective Orders, which includes compliance with conditions for intervention classes and weapons surrender.



Free Online Download

Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Projects: Promoting the Well-Being of Black, Native, Latinx, and Asian Youth Involved in Systems of Care (2020)

This report examines the importance and multidimensional nature of wellbeing, in general, and the well-being of Black, Native, Latinx, and Asian youth involved in systems of care, in particular. These young people must navigate three significant challenges: typical developmental issues and stressors associated with child and adolescent development; various difficulties associated with their experiences before and during their systems involvement; and experiences of racism and inequitable treatment in their daily living and in their involvement with different systems.



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Enhancing Judicial Awareness of Resilience in Family Court: Some Initial Considerations (2020)

This is the second in a series of technical assistance briefs on resilience. The first brief focused on clarifying and refining the concept of resilience, provided an overview of the research on this important topic, and offered some initial considerations as courts attempt to reinforce resilience further in applicable cases.

However, this brief also touches upon how the topic of resilience applies, to a limited extent, in some custody and divorce matters, and emphasize the importance of family court judges becoming even more aware of how courts are considering resilience or protective factors even though, in cases like custody and divorce, direct application of these factors may not be standard or may be quite different.

Free Online Download

Using Data in Domestic Violence Work: Spotlight on Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT) in New York's Family Court System (2020)

Navigating family court can be overwhelming, confusing, and stressful for families. Many people have financial barriers to accessing counsel, cannot qualify for traditional civil legal services, and are self-represented in their legal matters. The stress and risks involved in court appearances are amplified for survivors of violence. As part of an effort to build evidence for promising solutions, the FVDR worked with Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT) to design and implement a client feedback process. This snapshot highlights LIFT's experience augmenting their existing data to incorporate client voices systematically and measure the impact of their legal consultation services for self-represented families.

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20 Facts for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (2020)

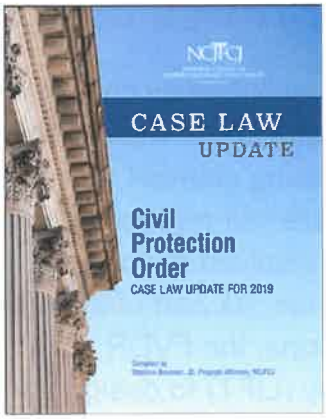
For this 2020 Domestic Violence Awareness Month Fact Sheet, the FVDR sought to honor survivors and their families who are experiencing co-occurring domestic violence and child maltreatment by exploring its prevalence and risk factors, its effects on child outcomes, and protective factors that promote resilience. The facts in this factsheet were adapted from an article published in a special issue of the Juvenile and Family Court Journal.

Free Online Download

2019 Publications

Case Law Update for 2019: Civil Protection Order (2019)

This document contains summaries of published state court decisions of interest related to civil protection orders, their issuance, and their enforcement for the year 2019. While most of these summaries are brief, containing only the courts holding and any necessary background or procedural details, a few have been expanded based on their complexity, their uniqueness, or the importance of their holding.



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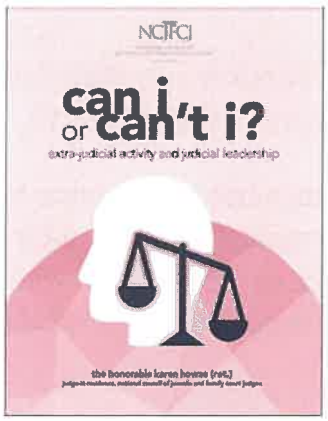
Can I or Can't I: Extra-Judicial Activity and Judicial Leadership (2019)



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Recognizing that judges have grappled with the propriety of participation in extrajudicial activities for decades, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' (NCJFCJ) 2017-2018 Family Violence and Domestic Relations Steering Committee set the development of guidance on extra-judicial activity as a priority to encourage judges to engage in judicial leadership. This guidance is the result of the review of judicial ethics codes promulgated by states, the District of Columbia, Territories and tribes, as well as opinions issued by judicial ethics committees and commissions.

This guidance is designed to serve as a tool for judges evaluating whether a proposed extra-judicial activity meets the requirements of the judicial code of conduct in the jurisdictions where ethics opinions have been published.

Child Support When You're Afraid of the Other Parent (2019)

Free Online Download

A palm card booklet for survivors and advocates working with survivors designed to help survivors assess risks associated with receiving child support and be equipped to navigate the child support process more safely. The booklet provides an overview of safety options, guidance on steps for opting out of child support services, and examples of common child support processes that may elevate risk for survivors. The booklet is intended to help survivors, and advocates working with survivors, make informed and empowered decisions about child support.

Resources for Petitioners: Services of Process in Another State (2019)

This technical assistance brief addresses requirements for performing service in another state and types of people allowed to perfect service, and provides information on whom to contact/assist with service across jurisdictions.

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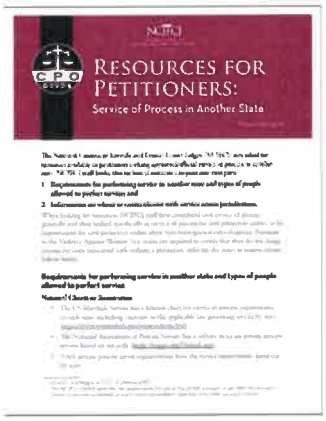

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20 Facts for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (2019)

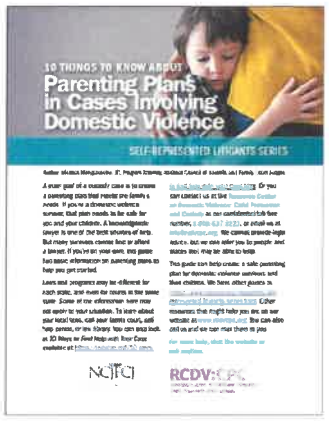
June 22, 2019, marked the 20th anniversary of the publication of Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice. For more than 20 years, it has been the policy of the NCJFCJ to encourage child protection services, domestic violence agencies, juvenile courts, and community-based services to design interventions for families with co-occurring domestic violence and child maltreatment to achieve three outcomes: to create safety, enhance well-being, and provide stability for children and families.

The 2019 Domestic Violence Awareness Month Fact Sheet sought to honor survivors and their children who are experiencing co-occurring domestic violence and child maltreatment while attempting to navigate child custody and child welfare systems.

Free Online Download

10 Things to Know About Parenting Plans in Cases Involving Domestic Violence (2019)

The main goal of a custody case is to create a parenting plan that meets the family's needs. If you're a domestic violence survivor, that plan needs to be safe for you and your children. A knowledgeable lawyer is one of the best sources of help. However, many survivors cannot find or afford a lawyer. If you're on your own, this guide has basic information on parenting plans to help you get started. Laws and programs may be different for each state, and even for courts in the same state. Some of the information here may not apply to your situation. To learn about your local laws, call your family court, self-help center, or law library. This guide by the Resource Center on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody, a project of the NCJFCJ, can help create a safe parenting plan for domestic violence survivors and their children.



Free Online Download

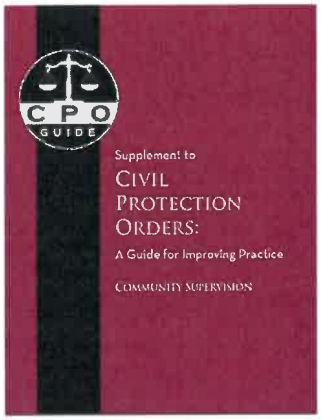
Identifying and Reinforcing Resiliency in Children Exposed to Maltreatment and Domestic Violence: Some Initial Considerations (2019)

This is the first in a series of technical assistance briefs on resiliency. This brief focuses on clarifying and refining the concept of resiliency, provides an overview of the research on this important topic, and offers some initial considerations as courts attempt to reinforce further resiliency in applicable cases.

Free Online Download

Supplement to Civil Protection Orders: A guide for Improving Practice: Community Supervision (2019)

In 2010, the NCJFCJ published Civil Protection Orders: A Guide for Improving Practice (CPO Guide), which contains strategies for various disciplines involved in the civil protection order process. This supplement addresses the role of Community Supervision professionals in improving civil protection order practice and provides concrete strategies for their involvement. A parallel supplement addresses the role of Court Staff and Court Administration.



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Supplement to Civil Protection Orders: A guide for Improving Practice: Court Staff/Court Administration (2019)

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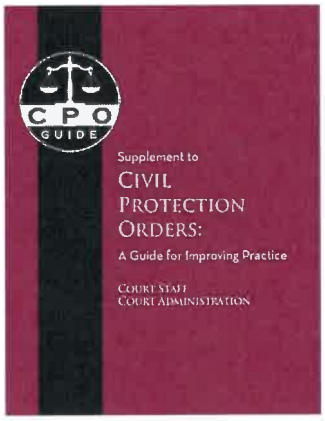
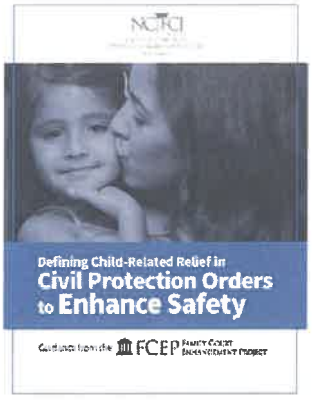


Free Online Download

Defining Child-Related Relief in Civil Protection Orders to Enhance Safety (2019)

Many communities around the country are implementing or considering the use of facilitated settlement processes and other forms of alternative dispute resolution in civil protection order cases, a practice that may be safe and beneficial for victims of domestic violence, but only if important safeguards are established. This document is intended to provide guidance on these safeguards and how to design and implement a facilitated settlement process termed "safety facilitation," which specifically addresses child-related relief in civil protection orders.



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2018 Publications

Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Project: State Demonstration Project Planning and Implementation: Lessons Learned Report (2018)

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) funded and launched the Linking Systems of Care (LSC) for Children and Youth State Demonstration Project in 2015. This multi-year, multicomponent implementation project was designed to holistically address child and youth victimization through state-level demonstration projects. This Lessons Learned Report documents the lessons derived in these states during their planning and early implementation phases. Subsequent publications include lessons from mature implementation and sustainability phases, and project outcomes.

Free Online Download

Technology Guide for Judges (2018)

This guide is intended for judges who may be less familiar with popular technologies or are hesitant to engage with social media. While there are a number of reasons judges may choose not to use these technologies, they are major components of the lives of many of the litigants before them. These technologies have great potential to connect individuals and communities, but they also can be misused to intimidate, harass, and stalk others or otherwise invade their privacy. This guide provides basic information related to the types of applications, social media platforms, and other common technology related terminology.

Free Online Download

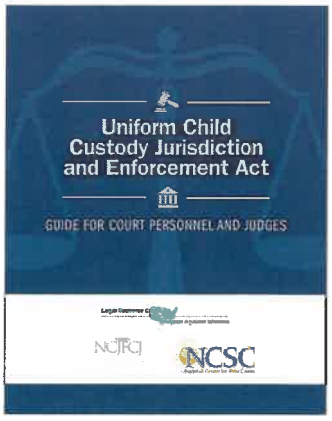
How to Gather Technology Abuse Evidence for Court (2018)

If someone is using technology like text messages, email, or social media (like Facebook) to harass you, this guide will help you "capture" the evidence of the harassment, so you can bring it to court. You might think you can just show the judge your phone in court—but you probably won't be allowed to just show your device. Even if you are allowed, you could risk the court taking your device as evidence. To be sure the judge considers your evidence and that you don't lose your phone (or other device), you need to gather evidence in a form allowed by the court. This guide will provide suggestions on how to capture evidence that can be admitted in court from your devices, such as your cell phone, computer, or tablet (such as an iPad). This quick guide has links to websites and some national telephone numbers that may help you.

Free Online Download

Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act: Guide for Court Personnel and Judges (2018)

This guide, developed by the Legal Resource Center on Violence Against Women, the National Center on State Courts, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, is intended to help court personnel and judges to determine whether their court has jurisdiction to enter or modify a child custody order in these and other interstate cases, as well as to understand their responsibilities to enforce orders from other jurisdictions. The guide includes four components: (1) an overview of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (the UCCJEA), a uniform state law that governs decision-making about jurisdiction in interstate custody cases; (2) a practice guide for judicial officers that includes strategies for effective implementation of the UCCJEA in your court; (3) a similar practice guide for non-judicial court personnel; and (4) a copy of the UCCJEA and a chart with citations to state versions of the UCCJEA.



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2017 Publications

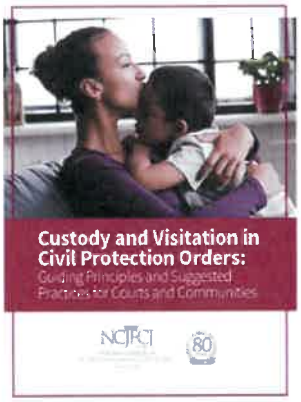
10 Things to Know About Family Court (2017)

If you are the victim of domestic violence and need legal help, this guide contains some basic information about family court. While a lawyer who knows about domestic violence is the best person to help, many survivors cannot find or afford lawyers to represent them in court. This quick guide provides general information about family courts across the country. Keep in mind some information may not apply to your court or your state.

Free Online Download

Custody and Visitation in Civil Protection Orders: Guiding Principles and Suggested Practices for Courts and Communities (2017)

Despite the fact that the majority of state civil protection order statutes confer legal authority upon judicial officers to include custody, visitation, and other child-related relief in civil protection orders (CPOs), judges often do not exercise that authority. These guiding principles and suggested practices are intended to assist communities' efforts to address this disparity. They are the product of a collaborative effort involving the NCJFCJ, the Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP), the Center for Court Innovation (CCI), and a group of national experts, including judges, attorneys, and advocates.



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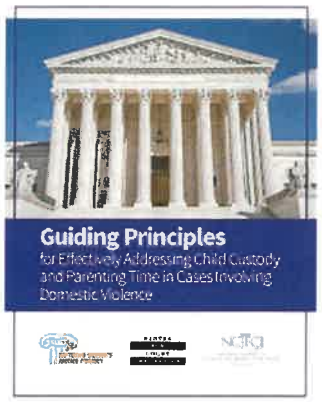
Deportation and Children (2017)

Also available in Spanish

Although family courts and child welfare systems were created to protect families and to serve the best interests of children, recent immigration enforcement efforts have created an environment in which immigrant victims of domestic violence no longer feel safe seeking relief through those venues. The once untenable possibility that an immigrant victim of domestic violence could be deported while seeking protection through a court or child welfare agency has recently become all too real. Because of this new reality, and because it can be devastating for children when a parent is removed or deported, the FVDR has prepared this fact sheet and resource guide to help inform victims of domestic violence and advocates about the risks of parental deportation, identify ways in which parents can protect their children by preparing for the possibility of deportation, and provide a list of resources for immigrant victims of domestic violence.

Free Online Download

Guiding Principles for Effectively Addressing Child Custody and Parenting Time in Cases Involving Domestic Violence (2017)



The Family Court Enhancement Project was a multi-year demonstration initiative designed to build the capacity of court systems and partner stakeholders to improve child custody decision-making in cases involving domestic violence.

Four project sites engaged in assessing and strengthening their response to domestic violence in custody cases. In doing so, the sites identified five fundamental values that underlie the work and developed a set of Guiding Principles that enable courts and communities to incorporate those values into their systems, processes, and decision-making. The Guiding Principles are intended to be broadly applicable in diverse communities and courts across the country, despite some significant differences in governing legal standards, court processes and structure, and demographic characteristics.

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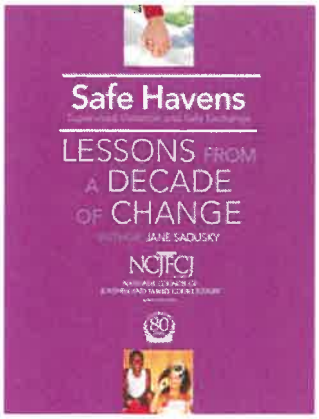
2016 Publications

Safe Havens: Lessons from a Decade of Change (2016)

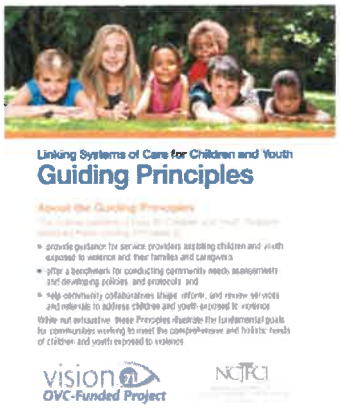


While the need for supervised visitation and exchange for victims of domestic violence and their children had long been recognized, the Safe Havens Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Program (Safe Havens Program) provided a key opportunity to expand services available and to do so in a way that accounted for the realities of domestic violence. By focusing on the realities of domestic violence post-separation, this program led to a significant shift in how those services are offered. The many individuals, organizations, national training and technical assistance providers, and supervised visitation centers that have done this work have not only provided the services, but also provided an important shift in philosophy and practice in the supervised visitation and exchange field. This retrospective celebrates their work, captures the lessons learned, and honors the life and contributions of Ellen Pence (1948-2012).

Free Online Download

Vision21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Guiding Principles (2016)

Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Demonstration Initiative's Guiding Principles are designed to guide efforts to develop and better align all of the systems of care that respond to the needs of children, youth, families, and caregivers who have experienced victimization or been exposed to violence in the homes, schools, and communities. These Guiding Principles were created to improve community response to children and youth by providing guidance on three core principles: healing individuals, families, and communities; linked systems of care; and informed decision-making.



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31 Facts for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (2016)

The 2016 Domestic Violence Fact Sheet highlights the impact domestic violence has on victims, with special emphasis on domestic violence as it relates to communities of color, individuals who are disabled or affected by mental illness, children, LGBTQ victims, and tribal communities.

Free Online Download

Synergy, Vol. 19, No. 3 (2016)

This issue of *Synergy* focuses on the child support system, its evolving role in the lives of low-income families, and the implications of that evolution for domestic violence survivors and their children. The issue gives readers an overview of the child support system and goes on to explore the challenges around safety and fairness that the child support process can pose for low-income survivors of domestic violence and their children. Articles include perspective from nationally recognized experts on custody and domestic violence, Nancy VerSteegh and Gabrielle Davis, on how parenting time determinations might be safely integrated into the child support process, a judge's reflections on how to account for risk from the bench in child support cases, the story of a state coalition's successful collaboration with their state's child support agency to make child support a safer and more accessible option for survivors, and an interview with policy expert Jacquelyn Boggess, JD that shines a light on the complexities and unintended consequences of child support enforcement for very low-income families, including the perspectives of survivors.

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Family Violence: Legislative Update, Vol. 21 (2016)

This volume focuses on the 2015 legislative sessions. In 2015, for the first time in recent years, efforts to enact and reinforce victim rights and protections edged out measures to strengthen the criminal justice response and protection orders, although both remained active areas of legislation in many states. Across all of these categories was a noted emphasis on technology, both its potential for increased dangers to victims and its utility in enhancing systems' responses to domestic violence. Volumes 1-20 (1995–2014) are also available.

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10 Steps for Presenting Evidence in Court (2016)

Also available in Spanish

When you go to court, you will give information (called "evidence") to a judge who will decide your case. Courts have rules about evidence so that judges will make decisions based on good information, not gossip and guesswork. Although the rules can be confusing, they are designed to protect your rights, and you can use them to help you plan for your court appearance. Even though courts work differently, this publication will introduce you to the nuts and bolts of presenting evidence at a hearing. As you read it, please consider the kind of help you might want as you prepare and present your case.

Free Online Download

Model Order Appointing a Custody Evaluator (2016)

This model order is a tool designed to assist judges in drafting orders for the appointment of custody evaluators in cases where domestic violence is an issue. The order and companion commentary guide a judge through considerations in key elements of an appointment order. Electronic copies of the order are available for easy modification to comply with local rules and practice.

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10 Ways to Find Help with Your Case (2016)

Also available in Spanish

If you are the victim of domestic violence and need legal help, this guide will help you find someone who can help you with your case. A lawyer who knows about domestic violence may be the best person to help. Parts of this guide will give you ideas about how to find one. However, you may not be able to find a lawyer to represent you in court. This guide also gives you ideas of other ways to get help with your case without a lawyer. This quick guide has links to websites that may help you and some national telephone numbers.

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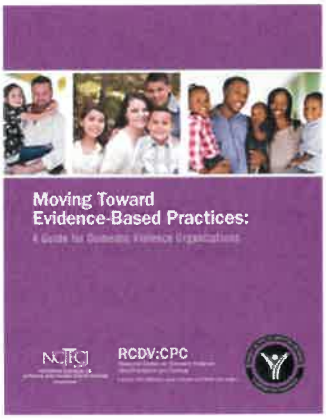
Decision-Making in Custody Cases Involving Domestic Violence: A Review of the Literature (2016)

This publication summarizes results of empirical research studies on decision-making in custody cases involving domestic violence. It specifically focuses on how a variety of case-related factors and individual characteristics may influence the decision-making of three key professional groups: judicial officers, custody evaluators, and mediators. Case-related factors include type and nature of alleged abuse, evidence of abuse, and state statutes; individual characteristics include knowledge, beliefs, experiences, and gender. Gaps in the existing literature and future directions for research are identified. Although there is much to learn, this review is intended to provide a foundation for understanding what is currently known about decision-making in custody matters involving domestic violence for a broad range of professionals (e.g., advocates, administrators, policy-makers, attorneys, service providers, judicial officers).

Free Online Download

Moving Toward Evidence-Based Practices: A Guide for Domestic Violence Organizations (2016)

Over the last five years, the domestic violence field has actively sought to participate in evidence-building practice and evidence-based documentation. Responding to national conversations suggesting that programs and practices should be able to demonstrate empirical evidence of their effectiveness, advocates and survivors have sought to define and document successful outcomes and interventions. The goal of the Moving Toward Evidence-Based Practices: A Guide for Domestic Violence Organizations (EBP Guide) is to help programs identify where they are in the process of documenting empirical evidence to support their effectiveness so they may identify ways to move up the continuum of evidence. Every program will be in a different place and have different resources available to them regarding their capacity to evaluate programs and practices. The EBP Guide is meant to be informative, to help you determine your current readiness to evaluate your own programs and practice, and to help you move forward with evaluation when you are ready to do so.



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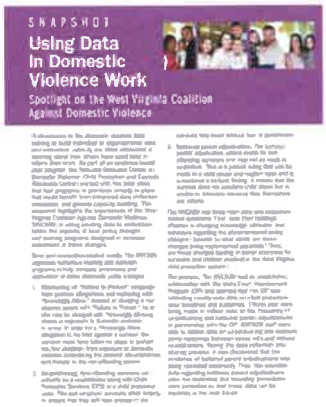
Using Data in Domestic Violence Work: Spotlight on the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2016)

Professionals in the domestic violence field looking to build individual or organizational data and evaluation capacity are often interested in learning about how others have used data to inform their work. As part of an evidence-based pilot program, the FVDR worked with two pilot sites that had programs or practices already in place that could benefit from enhanced data collection, evaluation, and general capacity building. This snapshot highlights the experiences of the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence in using existing data to understand better the impacts of local policy changes and training programs designed to increase awareness of those changes.



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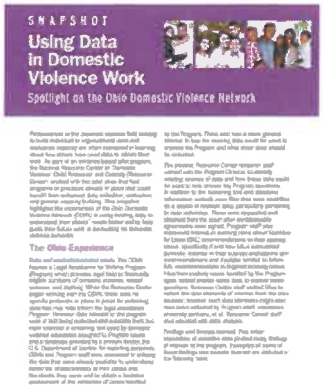
Using Data in Domestic Violence Work: Spotlight on the Ohio Domestic Violence Network (2016)



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Synergy, Vol. 19, No. 2 (2016)

This Spring 2016 edition of Synergy discusses collaboration between child welfare agencies, the courts, and domestic violence organizations. The issue reintroduces the Greenbook Initiative, discusses the provisions in the 2010 Reauthorization of CAPTA related to collaboration, and identifies the need for evidence-based research supporting the effectiveness of collaborations. The issue contains interviews with Lonna Davis, who was instrumental in the promotion and application of the Greenbook principles, and Jo Simonsen, the Family Systems Director of the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, as well as a list of resources on collaboration. Finally, the issue closes with an article by the Honorable Judge Rosa (Ret.) on the ACEs study and the effects of trauma on children exposed to domestic violence.

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Synergy, Vol. 19, No. 1 (2016)

The Winter 2016 issue of Synergy is an introduction to the innovative work of the Full Frame Initiative (FFI), a national nonprofit organization that works to break cycles of poverty and violence through systems change. The lead article highlights FFI's report How Survivors Define Success, the result of three years of research into understanding what success means for survivors of domestic violence. The issue also features FFI's Five Domains of Wellbeing framework and its application in making system reforms in the Missouri Children's Division, the state child welfare agency.

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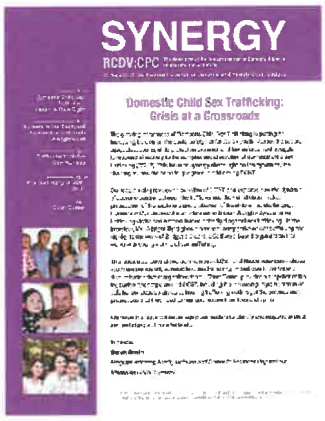
2015 Publications

Synergy, Vol. 18, No. 1 (2015)

The Spring 2015 issue of Synergy is dedicated to the topic of domestic child sex trafficking (DCST). The lead article offers an overview of DCST and explores the dynamics of coercive control and the trafficking victim that makes the prosecution of exploiters and protection of DCST victims so challenging. Other issue highlights include an interview with anti-trafficking pioneer, Leah Albright-Byrd, a trafficking survivor who founded Bridget's Dream, a California-based organization that works with young trafficking victims, and articles about impact of trafficking on the LGBT and Native American communities.



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2014 Publications

The Judicial Institute on Adolescent Relationship Abuse Curriculum Excerpts and Exercises (2014)

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Research confirms that as many as one in five adolescent females and one in ten adolescent males have been abused physically or sexually by a dating partner. In response, many states have made protective orders available to minors though they have limited additional legal protections to extend. Meanwhile, dependency and delinquency courts are recognizing that many of the parents of the minors that enter the juvenile system are coping with adult intimate partner violence in their lives. And tragically, too many communities have mourned the death of adolescent victims of homicide at the hands of their partners or former partners. Until recently, there has been no comprehensive effort to explore the research, present promising practices, and give the judiciary guidance for informed and effective decision-making when it comes to adolescent relationship violence.

2011 Publications

Checklist to Promote Perpetrator Accountability in Dependency Cases Involving Domestic Violence (2011)

Free Online Download

This publication is known as the *Accountability Checklist* and was developed to guide judges in holding perpetrators of domestic violence accountable and ensure that efforts to reach fathers will foster the safety and well-being of children and victim parents. The *Accountability Checklist* will help judges define domestic violence; gather information; assess dangerousness, strengths, and fatherhood capacity; review service plans and treatment options; consider placement and visitation; and ensure an effective judicial process.

Child and Family Service Review Outcomes – Strategies to Improve Domestic Violence in CFSR Program Improvement Plans (2009, revised 2011)

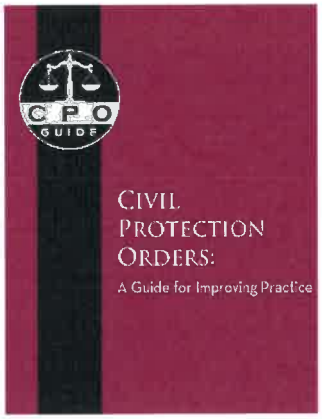
Unidentified domestic violence or unsafe intervention in domestic violence situations may contribute to poor outcomes for families. This guide was written to help stakeholders develop effective Program Improvement Plans for achieving safety, permanency, and well-being in domestic violence cases, and to identify or anticipate related technical assistance needs.

Free Online Download

2010 Publications

Civil Protection Orders: A Guide for Improving Practice (2010)

This publication is known as the *CPO Guide* and is an updated version of the publication: *A Guide for Effective Issuance & Enforcement of Protection Orders,* also known as the *Burgundy Book*. The NCJFCJ, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women developed the *CPO Guide* as a tool designed to support the work of professionals dedicated to enhancing the effectiveness of the civil protection order process. It provides guidance for advocates, attorneys, judges, law enforcement personnel, and prosecutors to help ensure that protection orders are effectively issued, served, and enforced across the country.



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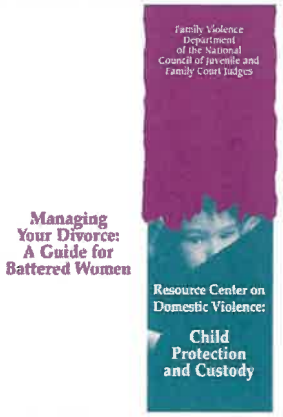
Managing Your Divorce: A Guide for Battered Women (1998, revised 2010)

This booklet is intended to be used by battered women who are representing themselves, without an attorney, in court cases involving child custody. It does not take the place of an attorney and does include a section on how to find an attorney. You may request a combination of the English, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, or Korean versions.



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Juvenile and Family Court Journal – Family Violence Issue, Vol. 61, No. 4 (2010)

Special Issue Journal

This special issue on family violence showcases cutting-edge research and emerging trends in the field in the areas of child protection and custody and is the third special issue of its kind. The 2010 issue features articles on adolescent partner violence and the legal system's response, stalking and technological implications for safety, judicial responses to elder abuse, current research and emerging legislative trends involving men who use violence, integrated domestic violence dockets, and child custody jurisdiction and enforcement in cases involving domestic violence.

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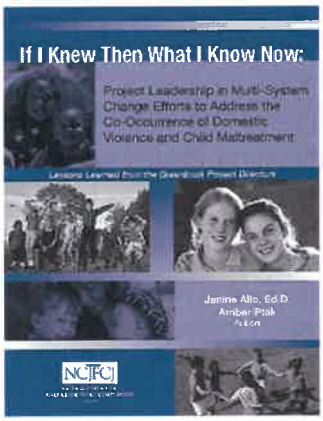
2009 Publications

If I Knew Then What I Know Now: Project Leadership in Multi-System Change Efforts to Address the Co-Occurrence of Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment Lessons from the Greenbook Project Directors (2009)



This publication shares many of the leadership lessons from the perspective of the Greenbook Project directors and is one of several publications that document the Greenbook sites' experience. The Greenbook Project guided collaborative efforts among local child protection agencies, domestic violence advocacy programs, the family or dependency court, and other organizations, to more effectively serve families experiencing domestic violence.

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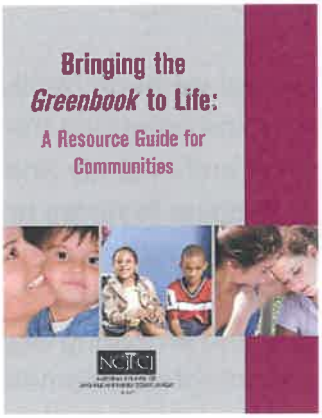
2008 Publications

Bringing the Greenbook to Life: A Resource Guide for Communities (2008)

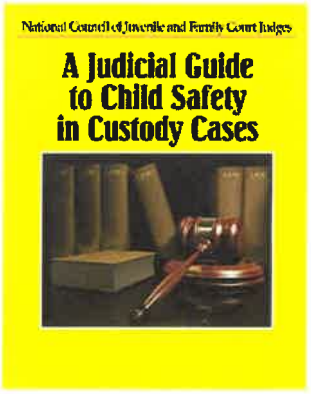


This publication is designed for communities seeking to develop interventions that will improve their responses to families suffering both domestic violence and child maltreatment. This resource guide is organized into eight sections: Understanding Each Other; Laying the Foundations; Collaboration; Assessing System Readiness; Confronting the –isms; Changing Practice; Widening the Circle; and The Unresolved Questions.

Free Online Download

A Judicial Guide to Child Safety in Custody Cases (2008)

Because custody cases involving abuse have intermingled issues of safety and access, judges require effective and accessible information and tools to aid their decision-making. The *Judicial Guide* contains 14 bench cards, which provide an easy-to-use checklist system for judges at critical decision-making points throughout the case, as well as a supplemental guide, which provides additional information about in- and out-of-court behaviors, best interest of the child, and order issuance and enforcement.



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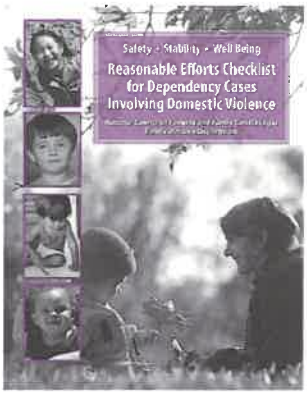
Reasonable Efforts Checklist for Dependency Cases Involving Domestic Violence (2008)

Domestic violence in dependency cases often goes unrecognized and unaddressed. This checklist includes easy reference bench cards for judges to consult during removal, adjudication, disposition, review, permanency, and termination hearings involving domestic violence. It is designed to aid judges in making reasonable efforts findings that are required by federal law in dependency cases involving domestic violence.



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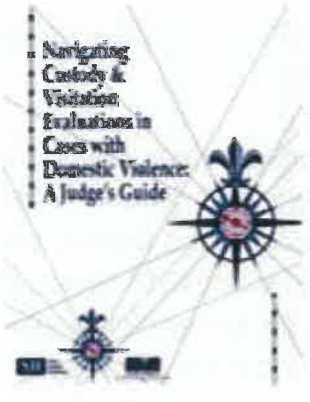
2006 Publications

Navigating Custody and Visitation Evaluations in Cases with Domestic Violence: A Judge's Guide (2004, revised 2006)

This publication is intended to serve as a practical guide for judges on how to interpret and act on professional child custody evaluations when domestic violence is involved in family law cases. The *Navigating Guide* includes four bench cards and supplementary material that are intended to guide a judge chronologically through the custody evaluation process.



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2003 Publications

Juvenile and Family Court Journal – Family Violence Issue, Vol. 54, No. 4 (2003)

Special Issue Journal

The second special edition examines some of the many complexities surrounding family violence. The articles encompass vicarious trauma in judges, child custody and visitation, integrating domestic violence law into family court practice, misconceptions in custody cases involving domestic violence, immigration issues, disproportionate representation in the various systems, reasonable efforts determinations, domestic violence advocates in juvenile court, the military response to domestic violence, and safety audits.

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1999 Publications

Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice (1999)

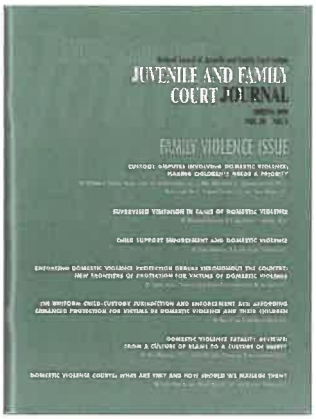
This publication, also known as the *Greenbook*, sets forth principles and recommendations for improving the policies and practices of child protection services, domestic violence services, and juvenile courts. The five chapters contained in the *Greenbook* include: Guiding Framework, Foundation Principles and Recommendations, Child Protection System, Domestic Violence Services for Families, and Courts.

Free Online Download

Juvenile and Family Court Journal – Family Violence Issue, Vol. 50, No. 2 (1999)

Special Issue Journal

In this first special edition, a number of authors brought together by the Family Violence Department examined a broad range of family violence matters. The topics of the articles encompass child custody, supervised visitation, child support, managing the domestic violence court docket, adult fatality reviews, full faith and credit to protective orders, and the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.



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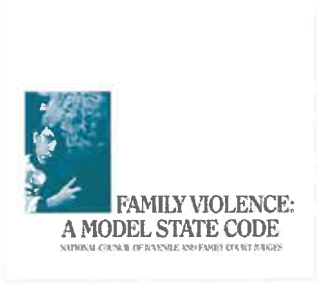
1994 Publications

Model Code on Domestic and Family Violence (1994)

The *Model Code* was drafted by a multidisciplinary Advisory Committee comprised of judges, battered women's advocates, attorneys, law enforcement officers, and other professionals. The five chapters of the *Model Code* include General Provisions, Criminal Penalties and Procedures, Civil Orders for Protection, Family and Children, and Prevention and Treatment.



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Publicaciones en Espanol

La Deportacion y Los Niños/as (2017)

Aunque las cortes de familia y los sistemas para el bienestar de menores fueron creados para proteger a las familias y para servir el mejor interés de los/as menores, los esfuerzos recientes para hacer cumplir las políticas de inmigración han creado un ambiente en el que las víctimas de violencia doméstica que son inmigrantes ya no se sienten seguras al buscar ayuda a través de esos canales. La posibilidad que alguna vez era inconcebible de que una víctima de violencia doméstica que es inmigrante pudiera ser deportada al buscar protección en una corte o agencia de protección de menores, se ha convertido en algo muy real. A causa de esta nueva realidad, y porque puede ser devastador para los/las niños/as cuando se remueve o se deporta a uno de los padres, el Centro de Recursos sobre Violencia Doméstica: Protección y Custodia de Menores ha preparado esta hoja informativa y guía de recursos para ayudar a informar a las víctimas e intercesores/as de violencia doméstica sobre los riesgos de la deportación parental, identificar maneras para que los padres puedan proteger a sus hijos/as al prepararles para la posibilidad de la deportación y proveer una lista de recursos para víctimas de violencia doméstica que son inmigrantes

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10 Pasos para Presenter Evidencia en la Corte (2017)

Cuando vaya al tribunal, le dará información (llamada “evidencia”) a un/a juez/a que decidirá su caso. Esta evidencia puede incluir información que usted u otra persona le dice a el/la juez/a (“testimonio”) y también cosas como emails y mensajes de texto, documentos, fotos y objetos (documentos u objetos de prueba conocidos como “exhibits” en inglés).

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10 Maneras de Encontar Ayuda para su Caso (2017)

Si usted es víctima de violencia doméstica y necesita ayuda legal, esta guía le ayudará a encontrar a alguien que le pueda ayudar con su caso. Puede que un/a abogado/a con conocimiento en violencia doméstica sea la mejor persona para ayudarle. Partes de esta guía le darán ideas sobre cómo encontrar a uno/a. Sin embargo, es posible que no encuentre a un/a abogado/a para representarle en la corte. Esta guía también le dará ideas sobre otras maneras de conseguir ayuda con su caso, aún sin tener a un/a abogado/a.

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Manejar Su Divorcio: Una Guia Para Las Mujeres Maltratadas (1998)

Esta guía está destinada a ser utilizada por mujeres maltratadas que se representan a sí mismas, sin abogado/a, en casos judiciales relacionados con la custodia de los hijos. Incluye capítulos sobre cómo encontrar un/a abogado/a, consideraciones financieras, mediación de custodia y divorcio, recolección de pruebas para el juicio, visita sin supervisión y planificación de seguridad, consejos para tratar con evaluadores de custodia, guías para seleccionar un testigo experto, reubicación y muchos más. Sin embargo, no es una recomendación ir a un tribunal no representado. De hecho, le recomendamos encarecidamente que busque asesoramiento legal de un abogado capacitado en asuntos de violencia doméstica si hay alguna disputa o conflicto sobre custodia y visitas.

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Specialized Family Violence Information Packets

FVDR developed five specialized family violence information packets on child protection and child custody issues in the context of domestic and family violence. Please limit your order to three packets total.

Child Protection and Custody Packet

The Child Protection and Custody packet is designed to provide a survey of up-to-date research and information on child protection and custody in the context of family and domestic violence, both in private custody matters and in child welfare/abuse and neglect matters.

Decision-Making in Child Custody Cases Packet

The Decision-Making in Child Custody Cases packet is designed to provide up-to-date research and information to judges, custody evaluators, advocates, and mental health professionals on decision-making in contested child custody cases involving family and domestic violence.

Effects of Domestic Violence on Children Packet

The Effects of Domestic Violence on Children packet is designed to provide up-to-date research and information on the effects of domestic violence on children, working with children to promote their resiliency, and developing a community response.

Mediation Packet

The Mediation packet is designed to provide research and information on mediation in cases involving family and domestic violence.

Supervised Visitation Packet

The Supervised Visitation packet is designed to provide up-to-date research and information to advocates, attorneys, judges, victims, and supervised visitation providers on supervised visitation and safe exchange in the context of family and domestic violence.

Specialized Family Violence Info Packets are also available online.

Publications and Technical Assistance Order Form

FVDR Publications are also available online.

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	Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Project: How Four Jurisdictions are Coordinating Services (2021)
	McGirt V. Oklahoma: Case Law Update (2021)

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	20 Facts for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (2020)

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	Supplement to Civil Protection Orders: A guide for Improving Practice: Court Staff/Court Administration (2019)
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	How to Gather Technology Abuse Evidence for Court (2018)
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	Juvenile and Family Court Journal – Family Violence Issue, Vol. 54, No. 4 (2003)

	Juvenile and Family Court Journal – Family Violence Issue, Vol. 61, No. 4 (2010)
	Juvenile and Family Court Journal – Family Violence Issue, Vol. 50, No. 2 (1999)
	Juvenile and Family Court Journal - State Codes on Domestic Violence: Analysis, Commentary and Recommendations, Vol. 43, No. 4 (1992)

Specialized Family Violence Packet Orders

Please limit your order to three packets total.

	Child Protection and Custody Packet
	Decision-Making in Child Custody Cases Packet
	Effects of Domestic Violence on Children Packets
	Mediation Packet
	Supervised Visitation Packet

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