What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic Violence is a pattern of abusive behavior that involves physical abuse or threat of physical abuse. Domestic Violence may include:

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Verbal Abuse
- Economic Coercion
- Isolation

Domestic Violence is committed by adults or adolescents against their intimate partners in current, or former dating, married, or cohabitating relationships. Domestic Violence does not discriminate against race, class, gender, sexual preference, age, or economic status.

Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Abuse is a crime even if the perpetrator is a spouse, partner, boyfriend, girlfriend, or within a dating relationship.

The Cycle of Violence

The Cycle of Violence may occur hundreds of times in a relationship. There may be a period of calm following each phase and each phase may last a different period of time.

While not everyone’s experience is the same, it is important to note that without intervention, the Violence will likely continue to increase in frequency and severity.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

It’s Not Your Fault

What Every Victim Should Know

Richard D. Hillman
Chief of Police

Folsom Police Department
46 Natoma Street
Folsom, CA 95630
(916) 355-7231
www.folsom.ca.us/police

For emergencies, please dial 9-1-1

AN HONOR TO SERVE,
A DUTY TO PROTECT

Did you know?

- Domestic Violence affects at least one out of every four families.
- Approximately 33% of female homicide victims in the U.S. are killed by their intimate partner.
- Most cases of domestic violence are never reported to the police.

Community Resources

Emergency Shelters
- WEAVE
  916-920-2952
- My Sister’s House
  916-428-3271

Additional Resources
- Sacramento Information Line 211
  www.211sacramento.org
- Adult Protective Services 916-874-9377
- California Victim Compensation Board 800-777-9229
- Child Protective Services 916-875-5437
- Lawyer Referral Service 916-546-6707
- MANAlive Sacramento 877-662-8465
- My Sister’s House 916-428-3271
- NextMove Family Shelter 916-455-2160
- Powerhouse Ministries 916-983-0658
- Senior Legal Hotline 916-551-2140
- St. John Family Shelter 916-453-1482
- Suicide Prevention 916-368-3111
- Twin Lakes Food Bank 916-985-6232
- Victim-Witness Assistance 916-874-5701
- Wind Youth Services 916-561-4900

Law Enforcement
- Folsom Police Department 916-355-7231
- Sacramento Police Department 916-264-5471
- Sacramento County Sheriff 916-874-5115
- Citrus Heights Police Department 916-727-5500
- Rancho Cordova Police Department 916-875-9600
- Elk Grove Police Department 916-478-8000
- Galt Police Department 209-366-7000

Report #:...
What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual Assault is:
- Unwanted sexual act committed or attempted against a person’s will
- Forced or unwanted sexual contact
- Incest or molestation
- Sexual exploitation

It is a crime for anyone to sexually assault or rape you, whether they are a stranger, acquaintance, boyfriend, girlfriend, lover or even a spouse.

The victim has the right to:
- Be believed, regardless of their relationship with the assailant,
- Decide for themselves if they want a medical evidentiary exam,
- Request that inaccuracies in the crime report, if any, be corrected,
- Request that their name not be made a matter of public record on the crime report,
- Request a friend/family member and rape crisis counselor be present during law enforcement interviews and/or court proceedings,
- Request a friend/family member and rape crisis counselor be present during the medical exam, and
- If assailant is held to answer in court, the victim has the right, in certain cases, to have the assailant tested for AIDS/HIV virus.

Law Enforcement Response

**Domestic Violence**—In an emergency situation, victims of Domestic Violence should call their local law enforcement or 911 immediately. Officers responding to an emergency call will first secure the scene. Once the scene is safe, officers will speak to the victim about the incident. Based on the facts of the incident, and if the abuser is still present, the officer may make an arrest at the scene. If the abuser has left, the officer may request an arrest warrant from the court. The officer will document the incident and provide the victim with a report number.

**Sexual Assault**—Sexual Assault victims who wish to report the crime should contact local law enforcement or call 911 as soon as possible.

The evidence of the crime is on your body, clothing and location of the assault. Do not dispose of any items and follow these steps to help preserve evidence and help law enforcement:
- Do not shower/bathe before the medical exam;
- Do not brush teeth, smoke, gargle, drink liquids prior to the medical exam;
- Save and do not wash bedding or clothing;
- Try not to disturb the crime scene or location of the assault; keep people and pets away from the crime scene.

The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) provides a 24-hour response to sexual assault victims at Sutter Medical Plaza in Sacramento. The primary goal of SART is to reduce additional trauma to the rape victim, while collecting evidence to support a possible arrest and conviction of the assailant. Law enforcement may transport the victim to the hospital for this specialized exam.

Restraining Orders

The victim has the right to petition the court for a Domestic Violence Restraining Order. The following orders may be issued by a judge based on facts alleged in the restraining order application:
- Restraining abuser from abusing the victim and other family members,
- Directing abuser to leave the household,
- Preventing abuser from entering the residence, school, business or place of employment of the victim,
- Awarding non-abusive parent custody of, or visitation with, a minor child(ren),
- Restraining abuser from molesting/interfering with minor children in custody of victim,
- Directing abuser to pay support for minor children if there is legal obligation to do so,
- Directing abuser to make specified debt payments while order is in effect, and/or
- Directing either or both parties to attend counseling.

In an emergency situation and when there are reasonable facts showing an immediate and present threat, a Domestic Violence victim may be eligible for an Emergency Restraining Order obtained by law enforcement officers at the scene.

To obtain a Domestic Violence Restraining Order:

District Attorney’s Office

The District Attorney’s Office has a team of specially trained Deputy District Attorneys and support personnel that handle Domestic Violence case. Once presented with a case by law enforcement, the D.A.’s office will review and determine how best to move forward with prosecution.

A victim of Domestic Violence also has the right to file a civil law suit for losses suffered as a result of the abuse. Those losses may include medical expenses, property damage, and other domestic violence related expenses.

- **District Attorney Domestic Violence Unit** 916-874-6171
- **District Attorney Sexual Assault Unit** 916-874-6557
- **Family Justice Center** 916-876-4673
- **VINE (Victim Info and Notification)** 800-491-3064

**More resources listed on back**