What Do I Do If The Abuser Violated The Injunction?

You will receive a copy of the injunction. **Keep it with you at all times.**

If the abuser violates the conditions of the injunction, **call the police right away.**

- The abuser may be arrested.
- If the abuser is arrested, he/she will be held until the court determines bail
- The judge will consider your safety and the safety of your children
- You may go to court if you wish
- The court may order penalties as allowed by law.

IF THE INJUNCTION HAS BEEN VIOLATED, BUT NO ARREST HAS BEEN MADE, report the violation to the Clerk's Office where you filed your injunction papers. The Clerk's Office will help you file your petition for enforcement for the violation. The judge will determine what action should be taken for your safety and the safety of your children.

Exemption From Public Inspection

Under the provisions of s. 119.07(3)(s), F.S., any information which reveals the home or employment telephone number, home or employment address, or personal assets of a person who has been the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence is exempt from public inspection and examination. You must make a written request and provide official verification, such as a police report, that an applicable crime has occurred. Such information shall remain exempt for 5 years, after which it will become available to the public,

FLPD	761-5700
Emergency	911
Detective Bureau	761-5497
Jail	761-5746
Records	761-5465
Juvenile Unit	831-6960
Central Courthouse	831-6955
Department of Corrections	765-5021
State Parole Commission	487-3259
Victim Assistance Program	488-9166
Broward County Jail	831-5900
Pompano Annex	831-5400
Victim Notification Unit	321-4135
Crisis Line	761-7273

Counseling

Nova University	475-7070
Catholic Community Services	522-2513
Family Services Agency	587-7880
Jewish Family Services	749-1505

Whom May I Talk To For More Information?

Florida Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-500-1119
Florida Abuse Hotline	1-800-962-2873

(To file confidential reports of child abuse)

National Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-422-4453

(24 hour help line which provides crisis counseling, information and referrals)

National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-799-7233

Local Numbers

Fort Lauderdale Police Department	761-5700
Women in Distress	761-1133
State Attorney Office Domestic Violence	831-7978

Your Case Information

Law Enforcement Agency

Phone Number

Case Number

Date of Report

Officer's Name ID Number

Domestic Violence

NOTICE OF LEGAL RIGHTS & REMEDIES

DID YOU KNOW?

- In Florida, a person is killed by a family member every 36 hours.
- Domestic Violence is the leading cause of injury to women.
- More than 100,000 incidents of domestic violence are reported in Florid each year involving victims young and old, male and female.

YOU HAVE RIGHTS . . .

KNOWING YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD ENDING ABUSE.

Domestic Violence

IT ISN'T JUST WRONG – IT'S A CRIME

What Is Domestic Violence?

Under the provisions of Florida Statue 741.28, *domestic violence* means any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another who is or was residing in the same single dwelling unit. This includes acts such as:

Physical Abuse – Pushing, slapping, kicking, punching, choking and beating.

Emotional/Verbal Abuse – Threats, verbal intimidation, following and stalking, or acting out in anger.

Sexual Abuse – Any unwanted touching or forcing of someone to engage in a sexual act against his/her will.

(**English**) Revised 1/98

What Does The Law Mean?

If you are being physically or sexually abused, threatened, or stalked by a family or household member, there is a law to protect you. Family or household member means spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past as a family, and persons who have a child in common regardless or whether they have been married or have lived together at any time.

Are You A Victim Of Domestic Violence?

IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, or if you have reason to believe that you may become a victim or any act of domestic violence, you have the right to request that an **INJUNCTION FOR PROTECTION FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** be issued. The Clerk of the Court is required to assist you in seeking both injunctions for protection against domestic violence and enforcement for a violation of any injunction. Representation by an attorney is not required. If you cannot afford the filing fees, tell the Clerk of the court and there may be no cost.

As stated in Florida Statute 741.29(1)(b):

IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, you may ask the State Attorney to file a criminal complaint. You also have the right to go to court and file a petition requesting an injunction for protection from domestic violence which may include, but need not be limited to:

- provisions which restrain the abuser from further acts of abuse;
- directing the abuser to leave your household;
- preventing the abuser from entering your residence, school, business, or place of employment;
- awarding you custody of your minor child or children; and
- directing the abuser to pay support to you and the minor children if the abuser has a legal obligation to do so.

For safety reasons, you may furnish your address to the court in a separate confidential filing when filing the petition for injunction.

How Can The Law Help Me?

If you have been a victim of domestic violence, if the abuser has hurt you sexually or physically, or if you are afraid that you will be hurt, Florida's domestic violence law enables you to work with the court system to stop the violence.

Go to the Clerk of the Court's Office in your county courthouse.

- Bring identification.
- Bring information about where the abuser can be located.
- Bring any other information on the abuser, such as photos or identification.
- Bring any papers relating to your case.
- Tell the clerk that you are interested in filing an **injunction for protection from domestic violence**. The Court Clerk will help you in filing the proper paperwork. By filling out these forms, you will be explaining to the judge whom you need protection from and exactly what type of protection you need..
- After you have completed the paperwork, the court may determine that danger of domestic violence exists. The court may order a **temporary injunction**, which is good for 15 days. Then a full hearing is held to consider the safety of you and your children.
- The abuser must be served with the injunction before it becomes effective. The injunction will tell the abuser what the judge requires and when to return to court for a hearing. This hearing will be within 15 days unless the abuser can not be served.
- **It is important for you to attend the hearing** so that you can make sure the judge understands exactly what help you need and why. **If you do not attend, usually the judge will end the injunction.**
- After the hearing, a **final injunction** may be granted. It may be valid for up to one year and may be extended past that time.