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Member Agencies

Center for Domestic Violence Services at BHcare
Ansonia, CT

The Center for Women & Families
Bridgeport, CT

Women's Center
Danbury, CT

Domestic Violence Program
United Services
Dayville, CT

Network Against Domestic Abuse
Enfield, CT

Domestic Abuse Services
Greenwich YWCA
Greenwich, CT

Interval House
Hartford, CT

Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis
Meriden, CT

New Horizons
Middletown, CT

Prudence Crandall Center
New Britain, CT

Center for Domestic Violence Services at BHcare
New Haven, CT

Safe Futures
New London, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Norwalk, CT

Women's Support Services
Sharon, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Stamford, CT

Susan B. Anthony Project
Torrington, CT

Safe Haven
Waterbury, CT

Domestic Violence Program
United Services
Willimantic, CT

Testimony In Support of

HB 6702, AAC Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Judiciary Committee
April 15, 2013

Good morning Senator Coleman, Representative Fox and members of the committee. My name is Liza Andrews and I am the Communications & Public Policy Specialist for CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is the state's leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies that serve them. Our 18 member programs provide essential services to victims such as 24-hour crisis response, emergency shelter, safety planning, counseling, support groups, and court advocacy.

We urge your support of House Bill 6702.

Section 1

Section 1 of this bill would add language to the state's civil restraining order statute (§ 46b-15) giving judges the ability to grant financial orders as part of the restraining order process. In addition to existing restraints that a judge may order as part of a restraining order, including ordering the respondent not to restrain the victim, stalk or threaten the victim, enter the family dwelling, etc. it adds the possibility of a judge ordering the respondent to provide temporary financial assistance to the applicant for a period of up to 120 days. This would only be in cases where the respondent as the legal duty to support the applicant and the ability to pay, and if it is necessary for the safety or to maintain the basic needs of the applicant or the respondent's children.

This bill language will also give judge's the ability to prevent the respondent from terminating utility service to the family dwelling or dwelling of the applicant provided the respondent and applicant resided together at the time of application. There are also provisions to prevent the respondent from denying access to the applicant's personal property or damaging personal property that the applicant may have a legal or equitable interest in.

According to the American Bar Association, **37 states have incorporated some form of temporary child and spousal support in the restraining order process.** This includes the surrounding states of **Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey,** and **Vermont.**

These additions to our restraining order statute are critical to fully provide for the safety of domestic violence victims and their children. While many people associate domestic violence with physical abuse, it is pattern of controlling and coercive behavior that can take many forms, including emotional, psychological, physical, sexual, and financial.

According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, research indicates that financial abuse is experienced in 98% of abusive relationships. The U.S. Department of Justice defines financial or economic abuse as "making or attempting to make an individual financially dependent by maintaining total control over financial resources, withholding one's access to money, or forbidding one's attendance at school or employment." The victim is made to be entirely dependent on their abuser with little or no ability to financially care for themselves or their children. They are often faced with the agonizing decision of staying and dealing with the abuse or leaving and facing possible poverty and homelessness.

The immediate days following a victim's decision to leave are often the most difficult for those who have experienced financial abuse. By providing temporary but immediate financial relief through the civil restraining order process, victims will have

access to resources that can help keep them safe and keep them away from their abuser. Furthermore, it will give them the time they need to begin the process of obtaining permanent child and spousal support through the available legal channels.

Eliminating what is perceived as the immediate threat of violence is only part of the equation. Ensuring that a victim is given financial protections is as critical a part of providing that person with safety as removing the physically abusive partner from the home. Without this protection, a victim is likely to face the continued threat of violence either as a result of homelessness or because s/he returns to the abuser due to financial constraints.

It is our intent for financial orders to be considered only at the restraining order hearing (often referred to as the "two week hearing") and not at the time that a judge may issue a temporary ex-parte order. Also, it is our intent that any violation of the financial order piece of the restraining order would be considered contempt of court and would not be deemed a criminal violation of a restraining order (C.G.S. § 53a-223b).

It is never acceptable to ask victims to choose between their safety and economic survival. Immediate financial protection could mean the difference between staying and leaving. Just as 37 other states do, Connecticut's civil restraining order process can and should provide this level of protection.

*Please see the attached Policy Brief for additional information, including what other northeastern states include in their restraining order statutes.

Section 2-3

Sections 2 & 3 of the bill make a simple addition to C.G.S. § 53a-32, which requires probation officers, when they suspect that probation has been violated, to notify both the police and the victim of the offense for which the person is on probation, provided the probation officer has been given accurate contact information. This bill will also require that the probation officer contact any victim advocate assigned to assist the victim.

Victims of domestic violence often move for safety purposes and, therefore, the probation officer may not have the most up-to-date contact information for the victim. However, victim advocates, including the Family Violence Victim Advocates (FVVAs) that work for CCADV's 18 member programs, will not have address changes and will likely be easier to contact. Victims may continue to be involved with their local domestic violence program which can then contact them in the event of a probation violation. Providing notice to FVVAs will give them the opportunity to work with victims around safety planning and seeking available legal protections.

Section 4

Section 4 of the bill will require that the Judicial Branch establish ongoing training programs for Guardians ad Litem (GAL) to inform them about the policies and procedures of the court as they relate to family violence matters.

The Connecticut Practice Book requires that any person appointed as a GAL complete a 6 day training course offered through the Judicial Branch. This training is designed by the Judicial Branch with no outside monitoring standards or established outcome measures. An example of one day of the training agenda - day three - requests that participants complete a self-exploration exercise after "reading (*or at least skimming*)" the assigned homework materials. As a result, many people are appointed as GALs who do not have a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence, yet many will inevitably be asked to advocate for children involved in family violence cases.

While there are of course many GALs with an extensive understanding of family violence and its impact on victims and their children, there are many who do not have that understanding. Nationally, over fifteen million children are exposed to domestic violence each year. Children who witness intimate partner violence within their family face a greater risk of developing severe and potentially lifelong problems with

physical health, mental health, and school and peer relationships, as well as disruptive behavior. It is absolutely critical that GALs have a thorough understanding of those issues if they are to represent the best interests of the child in family violence cases. Comprehensive and ongoing training is also essential to ensuring that GALs do not engage in victim blaming and can recognize when an abusive parent is attempting to use the child as a tool to continue to control and manipulate the non-abusive parent.

Enhanced training and standards on these and related issues, as well as establishing outcomes measures for the successful completion of the course will result in a stronger GAL system more adequately prepared to advocate for the needs of children involved in family violence situations.

Section 5

Three years ago Connecticut became one of 21 states that have enacted statutes that permit tenants who are victims of domestic violence to terminate residential leases early without penalty. Victims are required to provide at least 30 days notice, make a sworn statement affirming the abuse and provide either a police report, court record or signed statement from an employee of the Office Victim Services or the Office of the Victim Advocate detailing the act of family violence. This was a critical step in protecting victims of family violence from ongoing abuse by offenders.

Section 5 of this bill will make this protection available to victims of sexual assault. While CCADV does not provide services to victims of sexual assault, we support the efforts of our sister association, CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services (CONNSACS), in securing early lease termination for victims of sexual assault.

Section 6 – 15

Sections 6 - 15 of this bill remove the term "battered women" from statute and replace it with "victim of domestic violence." This includes replacing "battered women's center" with "domestic violence agency" and "battered women's counselor" with "domestic violence counselor." The term "battered women" is outdated and does not accurately reflect the work of CCADV and our member programs with all victims of domestic violence, including male victims. We respectfully request that Connecticut statute be updated to reflect those efforts.

Section 16

Section 7 of this bill will add a third representative of offender and victims' services providers to the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission, which currently consists of 21 members, only 2 of whom represent such community services. We strongly encourage increased representation of community-based victims' services, especially considering that one third of all cases in CT's criminal court are domestic violence-related.

Section 17

Section 17 of the bill will require the Chief Court Administrator to provide in each family court a secure waiting area for victims of family violence crimes and advocates for victims of family crime which is separate from the waiting area of: the defendant; the defendant's family, friends, or attorneys; witnesses; and, the state's attorney's office.

This will be similar to victims' rights in other states, including Massachusetts, which provides a locked room within each courthouse that is utilized exclusively for victims, witnesses and family members that allows them to be free from intimidation, threats and other interference from defendant's or friends and family of the defendant.

Eleven (11) courts in Connecticut currently provide dedicated office space for family violence victims and Family Violence Victim Advocates (FVVAs). Four (4) courthouses provide designated space that is shared with either Family Relations or a housing advocate and, therefore, is not a private space where an FVVA can meet with a victim. Finally, five (5) courthouses (Bantam, Danbury, Enfield, Manchester & Rockville) do

not provide any dedicated space requiring that FVVAs meet with victims in public areas such as the hallway or stairwell.

FVVAs are employed by the state's 18 domestic violence programs and are stationed at the local courthouse to provide essential services to victims such as safety planning, support, guidance through the justice system and crisis intervention. FVVAs need a dedicated, safe, private space that will facilitate the confidentiality and privacy provisions afforded victims not only in Connecticut General Statutes but also through the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA).

Lack of a private space leaves domestic violence victims vulnerable to further intimidation and control by their abuser. Meeting in a public area can also prevent full disclosure of the victim's situation leaving the FVVA unable to establish a comprehensive safety plan for the victim. It is critical that each courthouse provide a private, dedicated office with a desk/table, dedicated phone line with voice mail capability, internet access (domestic violence agencies would provide computers and printer), and a secure file cabinet for victim files. We strongly encourage your support of this language to ensure that victims of domestic violence in every courthouse in this state are treated with the dignity and respect that they deserve.

Sections 18 – 19

Section 19 of the bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP), in conjunction with Chief State's Attorney and the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, to include in its firearm forfeiture protocol a provision to ensure that individuals who become ineligible to possess a pistol or revolver or other firearm because they are subject to a restraining order, protective order or a foreign order of protection to transfer, deliver or surrender such firearm while accompanied by a police officer.

CT General Statute § 29-36k currently requires that these individuals transfer, deliver or surrender their firearms to either the Commissioner of DESPP or a federal licensed firearms dealer within two (2) business days after the issuance of the restraining order, protective order or foreign order of protection. The protocol called for in this bill will require that these individuals be accompanied by a police officer for the transfer, deliver, or surrender of the firearm, which is intended to help protect domestic violence victims.

However, we would like to note that because offenders still have two (2) business days to transfer the weapon and are not required to do so immediately following the issuance of the restraining order, protective order or foreign order of protection, there will still be an unsupervised period of access to those firearms in which the offender can use the firearm to either injure him or herself or another person or persons.

Section 20

Section 20 of this bill requires the Judicial Branch to assess the effectiveness of batterer intervention programs including the Family Violence Education Program (FVEP), EXPLORE and EVOLVE. The assessment must consider findings from the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative's cost-benefit analysis model with respect to such programs. Results First seeks to help states assess the costs and benefits of policy options and use that data to make decisions based on results.

Currently Connecticut is one (1) of only six (6) states that do not have standards for batterer intervention programs. Of the 44 states with standards, 70% require standards by law. Most state standards include some method of certification for the professionals working with domestic violence offenders through a designated state entity.

In Connecticut, the Judicial Branch's Court Support Services Division (CSSD) administers state contracts to fund the provision of FVEP, EXPLORE & EVOLVE using a Request for Proposals process which includes guidelines for the delivery of these programs. While CSSD is able to collect, analyze and report data on offenders who have participated in their programs, information and standards about providers outside this state funded arena is non-existent and, therefore, of questionable value.

The Batterer Intervention Standards for the state of Indiana point out that, "Intervention standards promote the elimination of domestic violence by providing guidelines for ethical and accountable intervention practices to protect victims, their families and the community while seeking to eliminate domestic violence."

The absence of clear standards for programs and certification of providers leaves judges at a disadvantage when dealing with domestic violence offenders and attempting to hold them accountable for their violence.

Section 21

Section 21 of the bill requires the Judicial Branch to assess the training programs available for judges and other Judicial Branch staff related to family violence. At a minimum, the assessment must compare such training programs to those of other northeastern states.

One third of the cases before Connecticut's criminal courts relate to family violence. Judges in both criminal and civil court play a significant role in the lives of many victims and it is critical that they be fully informed about the dynamics of domestic violence. CCADV continually seeks opportunities to work with the Judicial Branch for purposes of training and education. Over the past year we have provided one hour of training for civil court judges at no cost as a means to strengthen the judicial system's understanding of this complex issue.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

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CCADV
CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence

March 2013

Policy Brief

Financial Abuse: Securing Economic Protections for Victims of Domestic Violence

Over the last several years, Connecticut has made significant enhancements to our state laws that protect victims of domestic violence and hold offenders accountable. However, we still lag behind many other states with our definition of domestic violence (also referred to as "family violence") and, therefore, how we as a state seek to address the crime. Because our statutory definition of domestic violence focuses on physical acts or the threat of physical acts, we fail to address one of the most persistent forms of domestic violence – financial abuse.

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) and our 18 member programs contend that it is critical for the state to include financial orders as part of the civil restraining order process. Giving victims the ability to request financial relief to maintain their safety and basic needs, as well as that of the offender's dependent children, is a critical piece to ensuring their safety.

PROBLEM

Connecticut's civil restraining order statute (C.G.S. § 46b-15) fails to fully protect victims:

- Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional abuse, psychological abuse, sexual abuse and financial abuse
- 98% of abusive relationships include some form of financial abuse
- Some abusers prevent their victims from working or ever event obtaining the skills or training necessary to work, leaving the victim completely dependent financially on the abuser
- Victims often face the agonizing decision of living with the abuse or leaving and potentially facing poverty and homelessness
- By solely focusing on physical acts of violence or the threat of physical acts of violence and not addressing other forms of abuse, the state is not fully addressing the safety and basic needs of victims who seek to end an abusive relationship
- In 2009, the American Bar Association reported that 37 states included some form of spousal and child support as part of the restraining order

PROPOSAL

The civil restraining order process provides a unique opportunity for the state to alter the system of power and control held by abusers over their victims, as well as acknowledge the role that economic security plays in victim safety.

CCADV proposes the following additions to clarify the court's ability to grant financial relief as part of civil restraining orders:

- If the respondent has the legal duty to do so and the ability to pay, and if necessary for the safety or to maintain the basic needs of the applicant or the respondent's dependent children, ordering the respondent to: (a) provide financial assistance to the applicant for a period of up to 120 days; and (b) to refrain from terminating utility services provided to the applicant's household if the parties resided together at the time the applicant applied for relief
- Restraining the respondent from withholding items of the applicant's personal property which are specified in the order
- Restraining the respondent from taking, converting, or damaging property or assets in which the applicant may have legal or equitable interest

WHAT IS FINANCIAL ABUSE?

Domestic violence is widely considered to be abusive behavior used by a person to maintain power and control over an intimate partner or family member. The most common form of abuse that people associate with domestic violence is physical abuse, such as hitting, slapping, punching and kicking. But in fact, domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can go far beyond an act of physical abuse, including emotional abuse, psychological abuse, sexual abuse and financial abuse.

A 2009 national poll conducted by the Allstate Foundation found that 86% of Americans did not associate "economic abuse" with domestic violence.[1] While less commonly understood, financial abuse is a tactic used frequently by abusers to ensure the dependency of their victim. The U.S. Department of Justice defines economic abuse as "making or attempting to make an individual financially dependent by maintaining total control over financial resources, withholding one's access to money, or forbidding one's attendance at school or employment."[2]

There are generally three categories of financial abuse: preventing the victim from acquiring resources, preventing the victim from using resources, or exploiting the victim's resources.[3] These actions can lead victims to be entirely dependent on their abuser with little or no ability to financially care for themselves or their children.

EXAMPLES OF FINANCIAL ABUSE:

- Forbidding the victim to work or attend school
- Sabotaging employment opportunities by giving the victim a black eye or other visible injury prior to an important meeting
- Jeopardizing employment by stalking or harassing the victim at the workplace
- Denying access to a vehicle or damaging the vehicle so that the victim cannot get to work
- Sabotaging educational opportunities by destroying class assignments
- Withholding money or giving "an allowance"
- Not allowing the victim access to bank accounts
- Hiding family assets
- Running up debt in the victim's name

THE IMPACT ON LEAVING

According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, research indicates that financial abuse is experienced in 98% of abusive relationships.[4] While many factors impact a victim's decision to leave an abusive relationship, one of the reasons for staying most frequently cited by victims is a lack of access to financial resources. Victims are often confronted with the agonizing decision of staying in an abusive relationship or leaving and possibly facing extreme poverty and homelessness.

98%

of abusive relationships include some form of financial abuse

Financial retaliation is also extremely common when a victim decides to end an abusive relationship. Upon deciding to leave, a victim will often discover that her[5] partner has drained the joint bank account leaving her without access to cash. Further, a victim may find that her credit history has been destroyed because her abuser stole her identity and ran up excessive charges on her credit card. That is, of course, if she was ever allowed to build a credit history through use of credit cards or acquisition of assets. Either way, her abuser's actions have rendered her unable to obtain housing.

When considering the total number of intimate partner violence victims in the U.S., the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports that nearly 8 million days of paid work and productivity are lost.[6] Victims miss work for a variety of reasons, including infliction of physical injuries, lack of transportation, depression, fear that her abuser will harass her at the workplace, etc. Without access to cash, credit or stable income, victims can very quickly find themselves homeless. Here in Connecticut, our domestic violence shelters serve nearly 2,400 adults and children each year. The prospect of being homeless is terrifying and reason enough for many victims to remain in an abusive relationship.

USING RESTRAINING ORDERS TO GRANT ECONOMIC PROTECTIONS

The immediate days following a woman's decision to leave are often the most difficult for those who have experienced financial abuse. She is not only contending with the emotional trauma of the abuse, but she must also find a safe place to live and financial resources to care for herself and possibly her children. The reality of financial constraints often results in her return to her abuser. By providing temporary but immediate financial relief to victims through Connecticut's civil restraining order (RO) process, victims will have access to resources that can help keep them safe and keep them away from their abuser.

The RO process provides a unique opportunity for the state to alter the system of power and control held by abusers over their victims. RO laws should "provide remedies that permit a multidimensional reordering of the relationship, from the terms of the legal relationship to a recalibration of the power dynamics."[7] Financial relief is just as critical to the victim's overall safety as removing a physically abusive partner from the home. "An order to vacate a residence may not offer adequate assistance if a survivor lacks the monetary resources to pay the rent or mortgage."[8] If by removing the abuser a woman is left without the financial resources to which she has been made dependent, than she will still face harm and uncertainty.

The goal of the RO is to ensure the safety of the victim and that safety is undoubtedly dependent on access to financial resources. Domestic violence can impoverish its victims and leave them vulnerable to increased risk of violence. A significant cost is often borne by a victim who seeks to keep her abuser away as she establishes a free and independent life. As was previously mentioned, lack of access to financial resources is one of the reasons most frequently cited by victims who remain in an abusive relationship. Therefore, if the RO statute is to achieve its "legislative mandate, courts must honor requests for economic justice."[9]

2,400

adults and children in CT domestic violence shelters each year

CONNECTICUT'S CURRENT RESTRAINING ORDER STATUTE

CT General Statutes § 46b-15 – relief from physical abuse by family or household member – states that:

(a) Any family or household member as defined in section 46b-38a who has been subjected to a continuous threat of present physical pain or physical injury, stalking or a pattern of threatening, by another family or household member may make an application to the Superior Court for relief under this section.

(b) The application form shall allow the applicant, at the applicant's option, to indicate whether the respondent holds a permit to carry a pistol or revolver or possesses one or more firearms. The application shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath which includes a brief statement of the conditions from which relief is sought. Upon receipt of the application the court shall order that a hearing on the application be held not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. The court, in its discretion, may make such orders as it deems appropriate for the protection of the applicant and such dependent children or other persons as the court sees fit. In making such orders, the court, in its discretion, may consider relevant court records if the records are available to the public from a clerk of the Superior Court or on the Judicial Branch's Internet web site. Such orders may include temporary child custody or visitation rights, and such relief may include, but is not limited to, an order enjoining the respondent from (1) imposing any restraint upon the person or liberty of the applicant; (2) threatening, harassing, assaulting, molesting, sexually assaulting or attacking the applicant; or (3) entering the family dwelling or the dwelling of the applicant. Such order may include provisions necessary to protect any animal owned or kept by the applicant including, but not limited to, an order enjoining the respondent from injuring or threatening to injure such animal. If an applicant alleges an immediate and present physical danger to the applicant, the court may issue an ex parte order granting such relief as it deems appropriate. If a postponement of a hearing on the application is requested by either party and granted, the order shall not be continued except upon agreement of the parties or by order of the court for good cause shown.

CCADV'S PROPOSAL

The state's current statute contains the catch-all phrase "such relief may include, but is not limited to..." before it goes on to outline several types of physical actions that the respondent is enjoined from taking. Based on the broad nature of the catch-all phrase, it would appear that judges can already grant temporary financial relief under this statute. However, it is the experience of our advocates that most judges are unwilling to consider any type of temporary financial relief as part of the process, viewing it as something unrelated to the RO process.

CCADV proposes the following additions to clarify the court's ability to grant financial relief as part of civil restraining orders under C.G.S. § 46b-15 and thereby acknowledge the role that economic security plays in victim safety.

- If the respondent has the legal duty to do so and the ability to pay, and if necessary for the safety or to maintain the basic needs of the applicant or the respondent's dependent children, ordering the respondent to: (a) provide financial assistance to the applicant for a period of up to 120 days; and (b) to refrain from terminating utility services provided to the applicant's household if the parties resided together at the time the applicant applied for relief
- Restraining the respondent from withholding items of the applicant's personal property which are specified in the order
- Restraining the respondent from taking, converting, or damaging property or assets in which the applicant may have legal or equitable interest

This proposal would not apply to the state's temporary, emergency restraining order ("ex parte"). Financial orders would only be considered at the restraining order hearing to consider the application.

CONCLUSION

It is critical that the court system view domestic violence beyond the narrow definition of physical abuse and instead for the totality of the broad crime that it is. "When the civil system is deeply intertwined with the criminal justice system, it tends to restrict the domestic violence narrative to criminal acts and physical violence. Psychological, emotional, and economic abuses are not addressed nor listened to unless they somehow meet the definition of a crime that is recognized by the court."[10]

Eliminating what is perceived as the immediate threat of violence is only part of the equation. Ensuring that a victim is given financial protections is as critical a part of providing her with safety as removing the physically abusive partner from the home. Without this protection, a victim is likely to face the continued threat of violence either as a result of homelessness or because she returns to her abuser because of financial constraints.

Referring a victim to another process outside of the RO causes unnecessary delay and fails to meet the immediate safety needs of victims. The abuser has chosen his actions and he should be held accountable for them. By requiring him to provide temporary financial assistance for a time-limited period following the issuance of a RO, the victim is provided the opportunity to regain the power and control over her own life and take the steps necessary to become financially stable and fully independent – something that in many cases, the abuser has prevented her from doing up until that point.

It is never acceptable to ask a victim to choose between her safety and economic survival. It is almost impossible for anyone, whether or not they are a victim of domestic violence, to make basic life decisions if they have no roof over their head. For instance, securing employment will prove difficult if each day is spent figuring out where you will sleep that night. Immediate financial protection could mean the difference between staying or leaving. Connecticut's RO process can and should provide this level of protection.

37

states include some form of spousal and child support in the civil restraining order

WHAT ARE OTHER STATES DOING?

In 2009, the American Bar Association reported that at least 37 states[11] have incorporated some form of child and spousal support in the RO (also referred to as "civil protection orders" or CPOs). The following is a brief synopsis of economic protections provided in the RO process of other northeastern states:

New Hampshire[12]

- Granting the plaintiff the exclusive right of use and possession of household furniture or a specific automobile, unless the defendant exclusively owns such personal property and has no legal duty to support the plaintiff or minor children
- Ordering the defendant to make automobile, insurance, healthcare, utilities, rent, or mortgage payments
- Directing the defendant to pay financial support to the plaintiff or minor children, unless the defendant has no legal duty to support the plaintiff or minor children
- Ordering the defendant to pay the plaintiff monetary compensation for losses suffered as a direct result of the abuse (e.g.: loss of earnings, medical and dental expenses, moving and shelter expenses)

New Jersey[13]

- Granting exclusive use of the residence to the plaintiff regardless of whether the residence is jointly or solely owned/leased by the parties
- Requiring the defendant to pay monetary compensation to the victim for losses suffered as a direct result of the act of domestic violence (e.g.: loss of earnings or other support, including child or spousal support, cost of repair or replacement of property damaged or destroyed by the defendant, moving expenses)
- Requiring the defendant make or continue to make rent or mortgage payments on the residence occupied by the victim if the defendant has a legal duty to support the victim
- Awarding emergency monetary relief, including emergency support for minor children, to the victim

Vermont[14]

- Ordering the defendant to pay the plaintiff's living expenses for a fixed period of time, if the defendant has a duty to support the plaintiff
- Temporary order of child support, if the defendant has a duty to support the child or children

Maine[15]

- Ordering a division of personal property and household goods and furnishings; refrain from taking, converting or damaging property in which the plaintiff has a legal interest
- Ordering payment of temporary support for the dependent party or for a child, where there is a legal obligation to support the dependent party or child
- Ordering payment of monetary compensation to the abused person for losses suffered as a direct result of the abuse

Massachusetts[16]

- Ordering the defendant to pay temporary support for the plaintiff or any child in that plaintiff's custody or both, when the defendant has the legal obligation to support such a person
- Ordering the defendant to pay the person abused monetary compensation for the losses suffered as a direct result of such abuse (e.g.: lost earnings, cost of restoring utilities, medical)

ENDNOTES

[1] The Allstate Foundation. *Crisis: Economics and Domestic Violence poll*, May 2009.
[2] Accessed 3.7.13 from http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/domviolence.htm
[3] Adams, Adrienne E., et al., *Development of the Scale of Economic Abuse*. Violence Against Women 2008; 14; p. 563-588. Accessed 3.11.13 from www.wbg.org.uk/GBA_Present_2_2951060362.pdf.
[4] Accessed 3.7.13 from http://www.nnedv.org/resources/ejresources/about-financial-abuse.html
[5] Nationally, 95% of domestic violence victims are female and, therefore, female pronouns will be used when referring to domestic violence victims. All victims of domestic violence deserve protections and all services provided at CCADV's 18 member agencies are available to victims regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, education, economic status or immigration status.
[6] Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. *Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*. March 2003.
[7] Johnson, Margaret E., *Redefining Harm, Reimagining Remedies, and Reclaiming Domestic Violence Law*. UC Davis Law Review; 42; p. 1107-1164. Accessed 3.7.13 from http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1303011.
[8] Sussman, Erika A., *Civil Protection Orders as a Tool for Economic Justice*. The Advocate's Quarterly; Center for Survivor Agency and Justice; issue 3; 2006. Accessed 3.11.13 from http://www.ncdsv.org/images/AdvQuar_POasEconJustice_Spring2006.pdf.
[9] Id.
[10] Johnson, supra note 7, at 1141.
[11] American Bar Association, Commission on Domestic Violence. *Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State*. June 2009. Accessed 3.7.13 from www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/domviol/pdfs/dv_cpo_chart.authcheckdam.pdf.
[12] New Hampshire Revised Statutes § 173-B:5; http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XII/173-B/173-B-5.htm
[13] New Jersey Statutes § 2C:25-29; http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=44678724&Depth= 2&depth=2&expandheadings=on&headingswithhits=on&hitsperheading=on&infobase=statutes.nfo&record={1892}&softpage=Doc_Frame_PG42
[14] Vermont Statutes, 15 § 1103; http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=15&Chapter=021&Section= 01103
[15] Maine Revised Statutes, 19-A § 4007(1); http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/19-A/title19-Asec4007.html
[16] Massachusetts General Laws, 209A § 3; http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartII/TitleIII/ Chapter209A/Section3

WHO IS CCADV?

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc. (CCADV) is the state's leading voice for domestic violence victims and those agencies that serve them. We are a membership organization of Connecticut's 18 domestic violence service agencies that provide critical support to keep victims safe 24 hours per day, wherever they live in our state. Confidential services provided by our members include a 24-hour toll-free crisis line, emergency shelter, safety planning, counseling, support groups, court advocacy, information and referrals, and community education. These services are provided free of cost to all victims of domestic violence.

Center for Domestic Violence Services at BHcare
Ansonia | 203.736.9944

The Center for Women & Families
Bridgeport | 203.384.9559

Women's Center of Greater Danbury
Danbury | 203.731.5206

Domestic Violence Program United Services, Inc.
Dayville | 860.774.8648

Network Against Domestic Abuse
Enfield | 860.763.4542

Domestic Abuse Services Greenwich YWCA
Greenwich | 203.622.0003

Interval House
Hartford | 860.527.0550

Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis
Meriden | 203.238.1501

New Horizons
Middletown | 860.347.3044

Prudence Crandall Center
New Britain | 860.225.6357

Center for Domestic Violence Services at BHcare
New Haven | 203.789.8104

Safe Futures
New London | 860.701.6000

Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Norwalk | 203.852.1980

Women's Support Services
Sharon | 860.364.1900

Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Stamford | 203.588.9096

Susan B. Anthony Project
Torrington | 860.482.7133

Safe Haven
Waterbury | 203.575.0036

Domestic Violence Program United Services, Inc.
Willimantic | 860.456.9476