

STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner

DATE: May 22, 2025

SUBJECT: Public Act 24-127 Updates the Victim Rights and Services Forms

The Judicial Branch Office of Victim Services (JB-OVS) has recently updated the Victim Rights and Services form (JB-VS-2) to comply with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-10g, as amended by Section 3 of Public Act 24-127. It replaces the Domestic Violence Resources pad (JDP-VS-52).

The statute requires JB-OVS to provide the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) with electronic information regarding services and resources available to domestic violence and sexual assault victims, both for publication on the CSDE website and for dissemination to local and regional boards of education.

Below, the JB-OVS has provided links to the electronic version of the document, which has been translated into several different languages. These translations are designed to ensure accessibility for diverse audiences.

Each link will direct you to the respective Victim Rights and Services Forms webpage and the translated forms:

- CT Judicial Branch Forms webpage
- English (JD-VS-2).
- Spanish (JD-VS-2S).
- Polish (JD-VS-2P).
- Portuguese (JD-VS-2PT).

Also, the <u>Domestic Violence Resources</u> publication is on the CSDE webpage. Please share this information on domestic violence, contacts, and resources with the appropriate staff.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring that students and families have access to this important information. For additional information or questions, please contact the Judicial Branch Office of Victim Services at ovstraining@jud.ct.gov or 860-263-2760.

cc: Sinthia Sone-Moyano, Deputy Commissioner of Educational Supports and Wellness John D. Frassinelli, Division Director Chlo-Anne Brobrowski, Education Manager Kimberly S. Traverso, Education Consultant





CONNECTICUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, there are CONFIDENTIAL, SAFE, and FREE services available throughout Connecticut 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. This document, developed jointly by the Connecticut Judicial Branch, Office of Victim Services (OVS) and the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV), explains some of the available resources across the state.

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that may include emotional or psychological abuse, stalking and harassment, physical abuse, sexual abuse, technological abuse, and/or financial abuse. Abusers use a variety of methods to control, intimidate, and isolate their victims (see box). Victims are left feeling scared, confused, dependent, and insecure about their ability to survive on their own, financially or otherwise. The children of an abused parent must contend with these same fears and realities.

Available Services for Survivors

Domestic Violence Services

CCADV has 18 member domestic violence organizations that provide **CONFIDENTIAL**, **SAFE**, and **FREE** services throughout the state. Some of these services include:

- Safety planning safety looks different for everyone and domestic violence advocates will help you think through the pros and cons of different options
- One-on-one counseling
- Support groups
- Emergency shelter and other housing options
- Criminal and civil court advocacy domestic violence advocates can explain the court process, offer you guidance on getting available protections, such as a restraining order, and support you throughout the process
- Information and connections to other community-based resources such as SNAP, TANF, transportation, rental assistance, legal assistance, etc.

To learn more, visit www.ctcadv.org or www.CTSafeConnect.org

Compensation for Crime Victims

The OVS Victim Compensation Program offers **financial help** to:

- Victims of a physical injury, including victims of domestic violence and their family members,
- Victims of an emotional injury from a direct threat of either physical injury or death who received treatment or
- A child who witnessed domestic violence, including children not related to the victim or other persons who have experienced certain financial loss because of a crime.

SIGNS OF AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

Stalking and harassment, such as constantly checking up on you or showing up at your home or job uninvited

Economic control, such as not giving you access to money or running up debt in your name

Physical violence, such as pushing, hitting, or slapping you

Being overly jealous about your relationships with others and preventing you from seeing family or friends

Disrespecting you or calling you names in front of others

Controlling your means of communication, such as your phone or computer, including checking your phone without your permission

Threatening you, your children, your family, or your pets

Forcing you to have sex or do sexual acts when you do not want to

If you are a victim of domestic violence and told a certified domestic violence or a certified sexual assault counselor (for example, an advocate at one of CCADV's 18 domestic violence organizations) about the crime or if a judge gave you a restraining order or a civil protection order after a hearing, you may be eligible.

Only expenses and losses related to the crime that are not covered by insurance or other financial sources will be considered. Some examples of covered expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Medical, dental, counseling, and prescription expenses
- Counseling for relatives of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse victims
- Lost wages because of crime-related injuries or care to a victim
- Lost wages or travel expenses for you and your relatives to attend court, juvenile, and Board of Pardons and Parole proceedings.

To review a complete list of program eligibility requirements and explanation of coverage, visit www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim/compensation.htm. OVS offers a series of videos explaining the victim compensation process, as well as a section of frequently asked questions.

To receive an application, call the Victim Compensation Program at (888) 286-7347, email at OVSCompensation@jud.ct.gov or visit www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim.

Safe At Home (Address Confidentiality Program)

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP), which is administered by the Connecticut Office of the Secretary of the State, helps victims of domestic violence, among others, keep their new address confidential. The ACP offers its participants two services designed to help keep the victim's new location secret. First is the participant's use of an ACP substitute mailing address and cost-free mail forwarding services. The second part of the program prevents public access to a participant's actual address on government records including voter registry lists and keeps marriage records confidential. Applications for the program are completed by domestic violence or sexual assault counselors.

To apply, please contact Safe Connect (see below).

How Can I Access Services?

Domestic violence services in Connecticut are accessed through a single point of entry known as Safe Connect. Safe Connect is a project of CCADV that strengthens access to safety for survivors of domestic violence by creating a comprehensive, coordinated, statewide response. Safe Connect's certified domestic violence advocates provide survivors with extensive information, safety planning, counseling, and case management, as well as referrals to one of CCADV's 18 member organizations and other available community-based resources, such as medical care, mental health services, and legal assistance.



Safe Connect offers **CONFIDENTIAL**, **SAFE**, and **FREE** services to survivors of domestic violence **24** hours per day, **365** days per year. Your safety is CCADV's priority. If you or someone you know needs help, you can...



CALL/TEXT CHA



EMAII

CALL or TEXT 888.774.2900

CHAT or EMAIL available at www.CTSafeConnect.org

Prepared in accordance with Public Act 19-146. For more information, please contact:



Connecticut Coalition Against
Domestic Violence
(860) 282-7899
ctcadv.org
CTSafeConnect.org



Information and Support

Judicial Branch Office of Victim Services (JB-OVS)	800-822-8428	
Victim Notification Registration (VINELink.com)	877-846-3428	
Department of Correction Victim Services	888-869-7057	
Mothers Against Drunk Driving	800-544-3690	
Survivors of Homicide	860-257-7388	
Elder Abuse	888-385-4225	
Child Abuse Care Line	800-842-2288	
Office of the Victim Advocate	888-771-3126	
Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities	800-842-7303	
Immigration Services	800-375-5283	
Emergency Assistance	911	
Health and Human Services Hotline	211	

Financial Help

Victims of violent crime may be eligible for help paying for certain crime-related expenses not covered by insurance or another financial resource. Call JB-OVS at 888-286-7347 or use the QR code.



Crime Victims' Rights





Address Confidentiality

The Safe at Home Program helps certain victims keep their new home address confidential. Call the domestic violence or sexual violence programs listed on the reverse side or use the QR code.

JD-VS-2 Rev 12-24 C.G.S. Sections 46b-38b(f) and 54-222a

Domestic Violence

The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) has 18 member organizations that provide confidential, safe, and free services to domestic violence victims throughout the state. Some of these services include safety planning, counseling, support groups, emergency shelter and other housing assistance options, court-based advocacy, and assistance accessing basic needs and community-based services.

CT Safe Connect: 888-774-2900 | www.CTSafeConnect.org

Call • Text • Chat • Email | Bilingual advocates available 24/7

Sexual Violence

The Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence and its member centers offer free and confidential services to child, adolescent, and adult victims of sexual violence 365/24/7.

Alliance services include advocacy; counseling; support groups; accompaniments in hospital, police, and court settings; victim notification; case management and support navigating systems-based processes; legal services; and information and referrals.

Statewide 24-Hour Toll-Free Hotlines:

English: 888-999-5545 | Spanish: 888-568-8332

For more information or to find your local sexual assault crisis services center, visit www.EndSexualViolenceCT.org.

Police department and telephone number

Case number and court location



C.G.S. Sections 46b-38b(f) and 54-222a

JD-VS-2 Rev 12-24

Print Form

Servicios de Infomación y Apoyo

Oficina de Servicios a las Víctimas de la Rama Judicial (JB-OVS) 800-822-8428	800-822-8428	
Registro de Notificación a las Víctimas (VINELink.com)	877-846-3428	
Unidad de Servicios a las Víctimas del Departamento Penitenciario 888-869-7057	888-869-7057	
Madres contra la Conducción en estado de Ebriedad	800-544-3690	
Familiares y Amigos de Víctimas de Homicidio	860-257-7388	
Maltrato de personas Mayores	888-385-4225	
Línea de Ayuda para casos de Maltrato Infantil	800-842-2288	
Oficina del Intercesor de Víctimas	888-771-3126	
Intercesión para personas con Discapacidades	800-842-7303	
Servicios de Inmigración	800-375-5283	
Ayuda en caso de Emergencia	911	
Línea directa del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Sociales 211	211	

Ayuda Económica

Las víctimas de delitos violentos podrían reunir los requisitos para recibir ayuda para el pago de ciertos gastos incurridos a consecuencia del delito que no estuvieran cubiertos por un seguro u otro recurso económico. Llame a JB-OVS al 888-286-7347 o utilice el código QR.



Derechos de las Víctimas del Delito

medida de lo posible, del acusado/a y a recibir información sobre las víctimas del delito, como por ejemplo, a ser protegidas, en la La constitución y las leyes estatales brindan ciertos derechos a el caso. Llame al 800-822-8428 o utilice el código QR.



domicilio. Llame a los programas de violencia intrafamiliar o de algunas víctimas a mantener la confidencialidad de su nuevo violencia sexual listados en el reverso o utilice el código QR. El programa Safe at Home (A Salvo en el Hogar) ayuda a



C.G.S. Sections 46b-38b(f) and 54-222a

JD-VS-2S Rev. 12-24

Violencia Intrafamiliar

confidencial, segura y gratuita a víctimas de violencia intrafamiliar en todo asistencia de vivienda, intercesión en el tribunal y asistencia para acceder asesoría, grupos de apoyo, albergue de emergencia y otras opciones de tiene 18 organizaciones afiliadas que proporcionan servicios de manera La Coalición de Connecticut Contra la Violencia Intrafamiliar (CCADV) el estado. Algunos de estos servicios incluyen planes de seguridad a recursos básicos y a servicios en la comunidad.

CT Safe Connect: 888-774-2900 | www.CTSafeConnect.org

Llamadas • Textos • Chat • Correo electrónico | Intercesores bilingües disponibles 24 horas al día, 7 días a la semana

Violencia Sexual

adolescentes y adultos víctimas de violencia sexual. Estos servicios están centros afiliados ofrecen servicios gratuitos y confidenciales para niños, La Alianza de Connecticut para Terminar con la Violencia Sexual y sus disponibles 24 horas al día, 7 días a la semana, los 365 días del año.

grupos de apoyo, acompañamiento al hospital, la policía o el tribunal, notificación a la víctima, gestión del caso y apoyo para navegar los Los servicios que proporciona La Alianza incluyen intercesión, procesos, servicios legales, información y remisiones.

Líneas gratuitas disponibles en todo el estado 24 horas al día: Inglés: 888-999-5545 | Español: 888-568-8332 Para más información o para encontrar el centro de atención en casos de agresión sexual más cercano, visite www.EndSexualViolenceCT.org.

Departamento de policía y número de teléfono

Número de causa y dirección del tribunal

C.G.S. Sections 46b-38b(f) and 54-222a JD-VS-2S Rev 12-24