

Make a SAFE PLAN!

1. Know the 24 hr shelter number.
2. Don't get trapped in any room.
3. Take your children with you.
4. Know a safe place to escape.
5. Have an extra car key and cash hidden in the car or another safe place.
6. Gather important papers and phone numbers, and store them with a friend or relative.
7. Arrange a signal with a neighbor to call the police during a violent incident.

If you are hurt and need help immediately:

1. Call the Police: **911**
2. Leave - go to safe place
3. Call the hotline
4. If you are hurt, go to the closest Medical Facility for help

Note: Filing charges and obtaining Protective Orders are effective only if the abuser and you obey the restrictions. Your safety and the safety of the children may depend on developing an alternative plan for your protection. For more information on safety planning, call **The Genieve Shelter at 1-800-969-4673** or the **Virginia Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-838-8238**

Officer's Name: _____

Officer's ID Number: _____

Date: _____ **Time:** _____

IBR#: _____

**IF IN
IMMEDIATE DANGER
CALL 911**

FOR HELP AND SUPPORT:

- *The Genieve Shelter.....1-800-969-4673
- *H.E.R. Shelter. (Portsmouth)757-485-3384
- H.E.R. aftercare services.....757-485-1443
- *Response (Rape Crisis & Child Sexual Assault).....757-622-4300
- *Y.W.C.A. Women in Crisis.....757-625-5570
- *Virginia Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline.....1-800-838-8238
- *Child Abuse Hotline.....1-800-552-7096
- *National Domestic Violence Hotline.....1-800-799-SAFE
- Suffolk Court Services..... 757-514-4311
- Victim/Witness Assistance Program ...757-514-4366
- Lawyer Referral Services.....1-800-552-7977

*** indicates numbers available 24 hrs a day**

Additional help and support

Military Family Advocacy Programs

Navy

- *Hotline.....757-444-2102
- Portsmouth Naval Hospital.....757-953-5000
- Naval Family Advocacy.....757-444-2230
- *Fleet & Family Support Center (Norfolk).....1-800-372-5463
-757-688-6289
- SAVI (Sexual Assault Victim Intervention).....757-462-7563

Sponsored by

**CITY OF SUFFOLK
POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
INVESTIGATIONS**

This project was supported in part by V-STOP grant no.03-E3152VA02 awarded by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) from funds authorized by the federal Violence Against Women Act and awarded to Virginia by the U.S. Department of Justice. Opinions or points of view expressed do not necessarily represent those of DCJS or the Justice Department. Updated 2/2010.

ARE YOU A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Family abuse, which is often known as domestic violence, is a pattern of controlling behaviors used by one individual to control or exert power over another individual in the context of an intimate relationship. The abuser may be a friend, relative, or current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend. The abuse may be emotional or physical, involving slapping, shoving, pushing, pinching, pulling hair, kicking, punching, choking, beating with a weapon, stabbing or shooting. It may also include forced or unwanted sexual contact, name-calling, degrading remarks, continuous criticism, or threats to you, your family or household members. It may involve holding you against your will, not letting you contact family or friends, or not allowing you to use a telephone or vehicle.

ARREST

The officer will arrest the abuser if there is probable cause to believe that assault and battery against a family member has occurred.

Assault is when you were threatened with bodily injury and believed you would be hurt.

Battery occurs when you were touched without your permission. If a weapon was involved, the battery may constitute a felony.

If the abuser was arrested: call the Western Tidewater Regional Jail (539-3119 or 539-2408) to see if the person arrested was held or released on bond.

WARRANT

Whether or not the abuser was arrested, you may contact the officer who responded to your call if you have any questions by calling 923-2350. If you need assistance obtaining warrants in other situations involving domestic violence you may contact the officer.

You do not have to be physically injured to apply for a warrant. A warrant can also be issued for threats, stalking, trespassing, and property damage.

Magistrates are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Be prepared to explain what happened and why you seek assistance.

PROTECTIVE ORDER

A protective order is a legal document issued by the court to protect the health and safety of a victim domestic violence or any family or household member of the victim.

EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE ORDER

If you feel the abuse poses a continuing threat to your safety, you may request an Emergency Protective Order from the Officer on the scene.

A magistrate may issue an Emergency Protective Order if requested by a police officer.

An Emergency Protective Order may include the following conditions:

- order the abuser and you to have no physical or phone contact with each other
- order the abuser to stop assaulting you
- grant you the exclusive possession of your residence and vehicle

The order is in effect **only after it has been served on the abuser.**

The Emergency Protective Order is in effect until 5:00pm the next scheduled court day. If you need further protection, you must contact the Suffolk Court Services Unit and request a preliminary protective order. Call 514-4366 to make an appointment. In addition to a Protective Order, if you are planning to separate from the abuser, you may file at court services for:

- Custody of the children
- Child support
- Spousal Support (if married)
- Exclusive use of residence
- Alternate housing

There is no fee for any of these petitions.

COURT

If a warrant has been filed and/or you have requested a preliminary order, you will be going to court.

Proving your case will require testimony, evidence and witnesses (if available). For assistance and support with the court process, contact: The Genieve Shelter at 925-4365 or Victim/ Witness Program at 514-4366.