

1-888-LSNJ-LAW
(1-888-576-5529)

Legal Services
of
New Jersey

**Domestic Violence
Representation
Project (DVRP)**

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR DVRP ASSISTANCE?

Low-income people in New Jersey who are victims of domestic violence may be given assistance in civil cases related to domestic violence. (Legal Services programs do not handle criminal cases.) All who apply for help are screened to see if their incomes fall within the guidelines for eligibility (up to 200 percent of the federal poverty line).

DVRP resources are limited. We are not able to help everyone who asks for assistance, but we make every effort to refer those we cannot help to other attorneys or agencies.



ABOUT LSNJ

Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) coordinates the statewide network of nonprofit Legal Services programs that provide free legal assistance in civil cases to low-income people in New Jersey who cannot afford lawyers. If you have a legal problem and think that your income may qualify you to become a Legal Services client, please call LSNJ-LAW™, Legal Services of New Jersey's statewide, toll-free legal hotline, at:

1-888-LSNJ-LAW
(1-888-576-5529)

The LSNJ-LAW Hotline
is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Get legal help—apply online
www.LSNJLawHotline.org



Legal Services of New Jersey



**Providing legal
assistance to
low-income
New Jerseyans
who are victims of
domestic violence**

www.LSNJLAW.org

WHAT IS THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPRESENTATION PROJECT?

The Domestic Violence Representation Project (DVRP) provides legal representation, referral, and advice to low-income New Jerseyans who suffer abuse from a spouse, household member, or significant other and cannot afford to pay for the services of a private attorney.

The DVRP serves clients throughout the state and also offers training and ongoing assistance with cases to private attorneys who provide free representation for low-income clients.

As resources permit, the DVRP provides advice and direct representation for Final Restraining Order hearings and other related matters such as custody, parenting time, spousal support, and child support. Staff attorneys, social workers, and paralegals are available to help DVRP clients. All calls and consultations are strictly confidential.

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence may be physical, sexual, or emotional abuse. The following are examples of domestic violence acts that are included in New Jersey's Prevention of Domestic Violence Act:

- Beatings or physical assaults, such as kicking, slapping, punching, pushing, or hair pulling
- Threats with a weapon, such as a gun or knife
- Threats that cause you to fear for your life, or that of your children or other family members
- Repeated harassment
- Imprisonment in your own home or another place
- Forced sexual contact or rape
- Stalking

WHAT IS YOUR PROTECTION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act is a New Jersey civil law that offers legal help to victims of domestic abuse. If you are a victim of domestic violence, you may be able to obtain a court order restraining your abuser from coming near you or your home, job, or school, or from contacting you in any way. You are eligible to obtain a restraining order if:

- You are 18 years of age or emancipated and your abuser is your spouse, former spouse, boy/girl friend, gay or lesbian partner, roommate, or any adult who lives or has lived with you; or
- You and your abuser are the parents of one or more children; or
- You and your abuser have had a dating relationship.