

Legal Services of New Jersey
100 Metroplex Drive at Plainfield Avenue
P.O. Box 1357
Edison, New Jersey 08818-1357

Contact: Harvey Fisher
Office Phone: 732-529-8430
Cell Phone: 908-616-9941
E-mail: hfisher@lsnj.org

FOR RELEASE AT WILL

October 2018

**LATEST LEGAL SERVICES NEWSLETTER FOCUSES ON SAFEGUARDS FOR
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS**

EDISON — October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and the latest newsletter of Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) focuses on some of the ways victims can deal with abusive situations.

The bilingual publication, “Looking Out For Your Legal Rights,” may be viewed online at www.lsnj.org and also is available at all Legal Services offices in New Jersey.

The newsletter details the key protections available to victims under the New Jersey Safe Housing Act, which allows victims and their children to get out of long-term leases early, provided they give landlords written notice that they need to leave because they face an immediate threat from a named individual. The victims must supply specific details about the abuse and landlords must keep the information confidential.

The newsletter lists examples of what would likely qualify as evidence of the feared threat. It also is noted that getting out of leases in public or subsidized housing is available under federal law for poor people who can provide proof they are victims of abuse.

Another situation spelled out is how someone who is under a domestic violence restraining order still can file for divorce but must serve the other party with a copy of the divorce complaint and related papers. There are very specific rules that must be followed in

providing the other party the necessary papers and the acceptable methods under which the documents are to be served.

Meanwhile, detailed information about filing for divorce is contained in LSNJ’s “Divorce in New Jersey —A Self-Help Guide.” A digital PDF of the guide with all forms to file for divorce is available at <https://checkout.lsnj.org>.

Finally, the newsletter lists a half dozen services and organizations available for victims of domestic violence.

Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ), located in Edison, heads the state’s Legal Services system, a network of five independent non-profit corporations and has been providing free essential legal aid in civil matters to low-income people through offices in all 21 counties for more than 50 years. Since its inception, New Jersey Legal Services has provided representation in more than 2.4 million cases.

#####