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LATEST LEGAL SERVICES NEWSLETTER FOCUSES ON WHAT CAN BE AN EXASPERATING SITUATION: BEING THE TARGET OF REVENGE PORN

EDISON — The latest newsletter of Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) advises people what they can do if nude or other revealing pictures they had given to a former lover or others suddenly start popping up on the internet — a phenomenon known as revenge porn.

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

The newsletter lays out various laws that protect against nonconsensual sharing of intimate images, making it a crime of harassment or cyber-harassment under the state’s domestic violence protection statute.

Some victims, depending upon circumstances, can seek court restraining orders to have the posting of the photos stopped and even deleted. Essentially, if you gave someone permission to take the photos or you took them yourself, the other person does not have permission to share them without approval. Cyber harassment comes into play when it appears the posting of the photos are designed to harass.

Details on how to get photos taken down from the internet and related steps that may be taken are outlined in the newsletter, which also provides a glimpse into the emotional ordeal

one woman went through when she discovered many nude photos of herself on the internet replete with her full name and address.

Meanwhile the newsletter also offers details about major expanded protections for workers in New Jersey under a new law enacted this past August. They includes giving workers up to six years — rather than two years as in the past — to file and recoup claims for unpaid minimum or overtime wages, with the possibility of receiving twice the amount of the claim. Additionally, there are new broader anti-retaliation protections for workers, as well as other changes designed to stop employers from attempting actions deigned to circumvent wage laws.

There also is a reminder in the newsletter that daylight savings time ends Nov. 3 and turning back clocks is a good opportunity for homeowners and tenants to check their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

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 in all 21 counties for more than 54 years. Since its inception, LSNJ has provided representation in more than 2.4 million cases.

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