

Other Resources

The Massachusetts Domestic Violence Hotline SafeLink/Casa Myrna Hotline:

877-785-2020/877-521-2601(TTY)

The Massachusetts 24/7 statewide domestic violence hotline operated by Casa Myrna. All Calls to SafeLink are free, confidential and anonymous. Advocates are multilingual, and have access to a translation services in more than 130 languages. Can also refer you to services or domestic violence shelters.

YWCA Program:
413-733-7100

Hampden County District Attorney
413-747-1000

Hampden County Addiction Taskforce (HCAT)
50 State St, Springfield, MA
Website: <http://hampdenda.com>

Fenway Health (LGBTQ)- Springfield Office
Contact: Dory Welch
857-313-6638
Cell: 617-320-3099

Community Legal Aid
413-781-7841

Website: <https://communitylegal.org>

Community Legal Aid, gives free civil (non-criminal) legal help to low-income and elderly people in central and Western Massachusetts.

Department of Revenue (DOR)
Child Support: 1-800-332-2733
Customer Service: 800-392-6089
Website: www.mass.gov/dor

Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA)
877-382-2363
Website: www.mass.gov/dta

Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance
617-586-1340
www.mass.gov/mova

BHN Psychiatric Crisis
413-733-6661

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, or financial abuse. Domestic violence is a pervasive crime that affects millions of individuals regardless of age, economic status, race, gender, religion, sexual orientation/identification, or education.

Warning Signs

- ◆ Jealousy
- ◆ Possessiveness
- ◆ Controlling Behaviors
- ◆ Isolation
- ◆ Blaming
- ◆ Intimidation
- ◆ Threatening
- ◆ Explosive Temper



Forms of Abuse

- ◆ **Emotional /Psychological:** ignoring, putting down, humiliation, insults, yelling, threats, threatens to abuse children and/or custody
- ◆ **Physical:** pinching, shoving, pulling, shaking, slapping, strangling, hitting, punching, kicking, using objects/weapons
- ◆ **Financial:** controlling household income, not letting survivor work, ruining survivors' credit history, stealing survivors' bank and/or credit cards.

Domestic Violence Resource Guide

Domestic Violence Advocates:

Milta Vargas 413-735-1519
Jennifer Rivera 413-735-1520
413-735-1510



Fax: 413-787-6808

Email: <https://SpringfieldMaPolice.com>

Address: 130 Pearl St Springfield, Ma 01105



Domestic Violence Resource Guide

Special Victims Unit



Springfield Police Department

**Domestic Violence
Help!**

Safety Planning

Safety Planning is a valuable tool if you are in or planning to leave an abusive relationship! A safety plan is a personalized, practical plan that includes ways to remain safe while in a relationship, planning to leave, or after you leave. Safety planning involves how to cope with emotions, tell friends and family about the abuse, and take legal action and more. The Springfield Police Dept., ALIANZA, YWCA, and The Hampden District Attorney Intervention Office, offer services to help you create and to execute this plan.

YWCA Western Massachusetts

The YWCA of Western Massachusetts is one of 300 local Associations in the United States. For over 145 years, the YWCA has served our region, guided by its founding principle: to provide shelter, support services, and tools for self-sufficiency for women and girls in our community. Today, the YWCA provides safe places for women and children in crisis. It offers Counseling, job training, child-care, and health and fitness. The YWCA also offers job training to people ages 16-21 who are out of school. The YWCA of Western Massachusetts has stood with women for more than 145 years, and they are ready to help you right now. All calls are free and confidential.

- ◆ 24-hour domestic violence/sexual assault hotline
- ◆ 413-733-7100
- ◆ 800-796-8711

Website: <https://vwworks.org>

ALIANZA

(formerly Women Shelter/Compañera)

ALIANZA operates a confidential emergency shelter for women and children who are trying to escape from dangerous relationships. The goal of the shelter staff is to keep families safe in a home-like atmosphere and assist them in their efforts to establish violence-free lives. They also work with men who are victims of abuse and will help find safe housing. Outreach is focused in Western Mass.

Services Offered:

- ◆ 24 Hour hotline
- ◆ Emergency Shelter, Individual Counseling, Safety Planning, In-Court Legal Advocate, Support Groups, Child Advocacy, and More.
- ◆ 1-877-536-1628 / 413-536-1628

Website: www.alianzadv.org

Springfield Police Department



Domestic Violence Advocates

EMERGENCY 209A ORDERS CAN BE OBTAINED AFTER COURT HOURS ON EMERGENCY BASIS AND IF GRANTED BY AN ON CALL JUDGE.

The 209A Order

An Abuse Prevention Order is called a "209A" or a "Restraining Order", it is a civil court order that provides protection from physical or sexual harm caused by force, or threat of harm from a family/household member. An order can be obtained against:

- ◆ A spouse or former spouse
- ◆ A present or former household member
- ◆ Relative by blood and a present or former relative by marriage
- ◆ Parent of a minor child, even if the parents never married or lived together

Obtaining a 209A Order

A 209A Order can be obtained in any District, Superior, or Family And Probate Court in Massachusetts.

An emergency 209A is available through any police department after court hours, holidays, and weekends.

Guns or weapons will be ordered to be turned over to the police, along with license to carry, the guns, and FID card. The police can also search for and take custody of any guns, or Weapons, if granted permission to search your home.

Court Orders Under M.G.L.209A

The court can order the abuser to:

- ◆ Stop or refrain from abuse
- ◆ Have no contact with the victim
- ◆ Vacate and remain away from a house, workplace, or school
- ◆ If needed the court can also award temporary support and custody of minor children to the victim.

Hampden County District Attorney



Domestic Violence Intervention Office

The Domestic Violence Unit employs prosecutors and victim/witness advocates to deal with the unique needs of victims of domestic violence. Advocates offer guidance and support for all domestic abuse victims. They provide assistance with obtaining restraining orders, safety planning and community resource referrals.

Hampden County Hall of Justice, 50 State Street, Springfield and is open **Monday through Friday from 8:30- 4:30. 2nd fl. Directly across from the elevators** You may also call: **Tina Simmons; 413-505-5651 or 413-747-4826.**

No appointment is necessary.

When considering obtaining a 209A "Restraining Order" it is important that you understand your rights:

Common Terminology:

- ◆ Plaintiff: You are the plaintiff (or the person seeking the order)
- ◆ Defendant: the person who you have asked the court for protection from.

No Abuse:

Defendant must not;

- ◆ Do anything which might physically harm you, or makes you afraid that he/she might cause physical harm, ex: threats
- ◆ Use force or threat of any kind to make you have sex unwillingly

No Contact:

Defendant must not contact you in any way:

- ◆ No talking to you in person
- ◆ No calling/texting you
- ◆ No contacting you through social media
- ◆ No sending messages to you through friends, relatives, or children

When to return to court:

The order you will be issued will have a return hearing date. On that date a judge will decide whether to extend, modify, or dismiss the order. The defendant does not have to appear in order for the judge to extend the order.

Who Can Dismiss:

Only the court that issued the order can change or dismiss it. Any changes in the order are done in writing by a judge.