DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BUREAU

Physical and sexual assaults, or threats to commit them, are the most apparent forms of domestic violence and are usually the actions that allow others to become aware of the problem. However, regular use of other abusive behaviors by the batterer, when reinforced by one or more acts of physical violence, make up a larger system of abuse. Although physical assaults may occur only once or occasionally, they instill threat of future violent attacks and allow the abuser to take control of someone's life and circumstances. The Power & Control diagram is a particularly helpful tool in understanding the overall pattern of abusive and violent behaviors, which are used by a batterer to establish and maintain control over his partner. Very often, one or more violent incidents are accompanied by an array of these other types of abuse. They are less easily identified, yet firmly establish a pattern of intimidation and control in the relationship.





#### Michelle Kaminsky Bureau Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau

Main Switchboard (24hrs)	(718) 250 - 2000
Domestic Violence Bureau	
Victim Services Unit	(718) 250 - 3300 (718) 250 - 3820
TDD/TTY	(718) 250 - 2338

### **FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER**

350 Jay St. 15th Floor Walk in hours Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm Main Switchboard (718) 250 - 5111

### **OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES**

Victims Assistance Hotline (800) 247 - 8035

### **HOTLINES/HELPLINES**

Domestic Violence (800) 621 - HOPE Suicide Prevention (212) 673 - 3000 Lifenet (800) LIFENET Spanish Lifenet (877) AYUDESE NYC Non Emergency Information 311

### YOUR CASE INFORMATION

**ASSIGNED ADA:** 

**ADA'S PHONE #:** 

**DOCKET/INDICTMENT #:** 

# KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

# Domestic Violence Bureau

350 Jay Street, 15th Floor Brooklyn, NY 11201 (718) 250-3300



**ERIC GONZALEZ DISTRICT ATTORNEY** 







If you are a victim of domestic violence, you are not alone. As the District Attorney of Kings County, I want to ensure that the criminal justice system provides complete assistance and effective support to you and your family.

The Domestic Violence Bureau in the District Attorney's Office is there to help you. Please let me or my staff know if there is anything else we can do to help.

Thank you, Eric Gonzalez District Attorney

# WHAT IS HAPPENING?

You are the victim of a crime. The person who victimized you may be your spouse or someone you have been in an intimate relationship with. By calling the police, you have made a decision that you want the abuse to stop. You should know that you are not alone. In 2014, the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office prosecuted over 10,000 cases involving domestic violence assaults, harassment and violations of court orders of protection.

# WHY AM I HERE?

You are here so you can tell us what happened. If a crime has occurred, it must be prosecuted:

- first to help you and to stop the abuse;
- second, to hold another accountable for his/her actions and to show him/her that he/she can't get away with abusing you or anyone else.

# WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

An assistant district attorney will talk to you to find out what has happened. This may take some time, depending on how many other people are waiting, and we ask that you be patient. You will be asked a number of questions about what has happened, including questions that may seem too personal. The assistant district attorney must know the full situation before they can decide what to do about it. Please be as open and truthful as possible.

If the case is going to be prosecuted in Criminal Court, you will be asked to read the criminal complaint and sign a statement, which states that the facts in the criminal complaint, attributed to you, are truthful.

If the offender is convicted, either by admitting what happened and pleading guilty or after a trial, the assistant district attorney may ask the Court to impose many different kinds of sentences, including:

- an order of protection;
- alcohol or drug rehabilitation;
- batterer's intervention program
- supervised probation;
- restitution, to pay you back for any loss;
- jail

### **WILL I HAVE TO COME BACK?**

That depends. If the case is classified as a felony, you will have to testify before the grand jury, which may involve another trip to court. You may also be asked to come back to the District Attorney's Office for one or more additional interviews.

### **SERVICES AVAILABLE**

- **FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER:** The Domestic Violence Bureau is one of over 20 partner agencies that make up The Family Justice Center (FJC). The FJC provides a wide range of services for victims of domestic violence, including civil legal assistance, immigration assistance, counseling, emergency support, spiritual counseling, and information about housing and public assistance.
- HOTLINE NUMBERS: The numbers listed in this pamphlet can provide immediate help if you are afraid to go home. Call to find out what to do and where to go.
- intimate partner abuse and parental (parents, grandparents, great grandparents, etc.) abuse, and abuse by home aides or other caregivers. This includes physical abuse, threats of violence, and neglect involving victims age 60 years or older.
- VERIZON HOPELINE: phones that are equipped with 3,000 anytime minutes of airtime, with Nationwide Coverage, Call Forwarding, Call Waiting, 3-Way Calling, Caller ID, Basic Voice Mail and texting. A participant must have a valid full orderofprotection and meet certain other criteria.
- **SHORT-TERM COUNSELING:** This service is available through a staff of social workers.

Talk to the assistant district attorney about your fears and concerns. There are many resources to help you.