

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Law

The law protects you if you are being abused or threatened by an intimate partner, spouse, former spouse, person with whom you have a child in common or another family or household member who is or WAS living in the same household as you as a family. You need not be married to the abuser or related to be protected under the law.

Your Rights

You have the right to file a criminal complaint and go to court and file a petition requesting an injunction for protection from domestic violence which may include, but not limited to, provisions which:

- Order the abuser not to commit any further acts of abuse
- Direct the abuser to leave your household
- Prevent the abuser from entering your residence, school, business or place of employment
- Award you custody of minor children

Redflags For High Lethality Cases

- Ownership - "If I can't have you, nobody will"
- Obsession with and/or domination over you
- Repeated Intervention - Past domestic violence history
- Escalation of risk taking - Acting without regard for consequences
- Threats of Homicide/Suicide
- Access to and threatened use of handguns
- Drugs and Alcohol abuse
- Family history of domestic violence



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Sergeant.....	561.688.4162
Detectives.....	561.688.3975
..... (Glades)	561.992.1015
Victim Advocates.....	561.688.4195
..... (Spanish)	561.688.3972
..... (Glades)	561.992.1016

State Attorney DOVE Unit..... 561.355.7433

Palm Beach Co. Victim Service

North.....	561.624.6648
Central.....	561.355.2418
South.....	561.274.1500
West.....	561.996.4871
P.B.C. Clerk of the Court	
Restraining Orders.....	561.355.2277

Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County

Central.....	561.655.8944 ext. 238
South/West.....	1.800.403.9353

Coalition for Independent Living Options

Victims with Disability - C.I.L.O 561.966.4288

Shelters

YWCA Harmony House.....	561.640.9844
Aids to Victims of	
Domestic Abuse A.V.D.A.....	1.800.355.8547

Victim Information and

Notification Everyday - V.I.N.E. 1.877.846.343



This Information has been brought to you by
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RIC L. BRADSHAW, SHERIFF
561.688.3000 • www.pbso.org
Emergency 911

Domestic Violence Unit

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"It's hard to look for the light when you are lost in darkness."

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

The Domestic Violence Unit was formed in 1998 and is part of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Special Investigations Division. The Unit is supervised by a Sergeant and consists of Detectives, Victim Advocates and Volunteer Advisors. The Domestic Violence Unit monitors the D.A.R.T. (Domestic Abuse Response Team) program and the Domestic Violence website which allows immediate access to crucial case information to include photographs at the various stages of the Criminal Justice process. Members of the Domestic Violence Unit are involved in many community organizations to include the Domestic Violence Council, Human Trafficking Coalition, the Victim's Rights Coalition and the Palm Beach County Fatality Review Team.



D.A.R.T. PROGRAM

Domestic Abuse Response Team members are specially trained Deputy Sheriff's who have received advanced training in the identification and investigation of Domestic Violence incidents. D.A.R.T. members are issued additional equipment to assist in the collection of crucial evidence to include tape recorders and digital cameras.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DETECTIVES

Detectives assigned to the Domestic Violence Unit are highly motivated and skilled investigators who perform a number of duties on a daily basis, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Conduct departmental training to include, D.A.R.T training, Florida Department of Law Enforcement mandated training and new employee orientation.
- Review all Domestic Violence offense reports to ensure that all investigative and statutory requirements are being met.
- Work in conjunction with Victim Advocates and Volunteer Advisors to ensure that victims of Domestic Violence are receiving the best services possible.
- Provide assistance to Road Patrol deputies while investigating Domestic Violence investigations by offering guidance.

**FLORIDA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE
1.800.500.1119**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM ADVOCATES

The primary goal of the PBSO Victim Advocates is to reduce secondary injuries or trauma associated with the aftermath of crime by providing counseling, information and assistance, as well as referrals to appropriate agencies for additional services. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Safety Planning.
- Providing guidance and support throughout the Criminal Justice Process.
- Court Accompaniment and assistance with filing an Injunction for Protection.
- Liaison between law enforcement and various agencies involved in the criminal case.
- Provide education and awareness about the dynamics of domestic violence and its impact on victims/families.



"This is not love. It is a crime. You can't look the other way just because you have not experienced domestic violence with your own flesh." — Salma Hayek