



Quarterly E-Newsletter

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What's New: Resources from the Field

Civil Protection Orders by State: Summary Charts Available Online

The ABA Commission on Domestic Violence is pleased to announce to availability of three new statutory summary charts on its website at <http://www.abanet.org/domviol/statutorysummarycharts.html>. These charts summarize the provisions of each state's civil protection order statutes for incidents of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking/harassment. Check them out!

Accessing Safety: New Disability Access Web Resource

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is pleased to announce a new online resource that is open to the public. OVW and the Vera Institute of Justice, through its Accessing Safety Initiative (ASI), have created a website specifically addressing the issue of violence against individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals. The website may be accessed at: www.accessingsafety.org

Specific topics include information on domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, disability, Deaf culture, and the intersection of violence against women and disability/Deaf issues. In addition, the website provides valuable information on creating accessible services and programs, collaboration building, conducting a needs assessment, and creating a strategic plan. OVW and Vera are in the process of developing a section specifically addressing victims with disabilities and Deaf victims and the criminal justice system. We anticipate this portion of the website will be open to the public in October, 2008.

VictimLaw: New Victims' Rights Web Resource

The National Center for Victims of Crime recently launched VictimLaw, a comprehensive, on-line database of state, federal, and tribal victims' rights laws and protections, developed with funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Visit at www.victimlaw.info

VictimLaw is a unique and groundbreaking resource, offering free, user-friendly access to information that until now has been difficult to locate. The database includes more than 15,000 victims' rights statutes (state and federal), tribal laws, constitutional amendments, court rules, and administrative code provisions. Future additions to the database will include state attorney general opinions and summaries of court decisions related to victims' rights. VictimLaw will offer regular updates to the information in the database.

Researchers can search under each of the following rights: the right to attend, to compensation, to enforcement, to be heard, to be informed, to protection, to restitution, and to the return of property. VictimLaw offers four ways to search: by topic, legal term, jurisdiction, and citation.

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