

YOU DO NOT DESERVE TO BE ABUSED.

If you are being abused:

Find a safe place. Stay with family, friends, or at a shelter. Use this directory to help you find any services you need.

Remember, you are not alone!

If you have an emergency:

Dial 911
Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you are injured:

Go to a hospital emergency room or your doctor and tell them what happened to you.

SHELTER PROGRAM

Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.
Services to Aid Families

HOTLINE (24/7): (315) 342-1600 or
(315) 342-7618 or
1-877-342-7618 (toll-free)

** collect calls accepted within the county**

OFFICE: (315) 598-4717

WEBSITE: www.oco.org/crisis-development

POLICE

For Emergencies, Call 911

OSWEGO COUNTY SHERIFF (315) 349-3202

STATE POLICE:

Fulton Area (315) 593-6194
Hastings Area (315) 668-2496
Pulaski Area (315) 298-1444

LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS:

Oswego City (315) 342-8120
Fulton City (315) 598-2111
Central Square (315) 676-4303
Phoenix Village (315) 695-2001
Pulaski Village (315) 298-7525

SUNY OSWEGO POLICE (315) 312-5555

MEDICAL SERVICES

For Emergencies, Call 911

Hospitals

Oswego Hospital (315) 349-5522

Urgent Care Centers

Central Square Health Center (315) 668-5240
Fulton Health Center (315) 592-3500

HOTLINES

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Local Hotlines

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CNY 211 Helpline Dial 211

New York State Hotlines

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 1-800-942-6906

CHILD ABUSE 1-800-342-3720
1-800-638-5163 (TDD)

National Hotlines

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 1-800-799-7233
1-800-787-3224 (TDD)

SUICIDE PREVENTION 1-800-273-8255

ADVOCACY PROGRAMS

*Safety for you and your children is your right.
If you are confused and need to find help, call:*

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District Attorney's Office
(315) 349-3200

LEGAL SERVICES

Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc.
108 Bridge Street
Oswego NY 13126

HelpLine: 1-877-777-6152 (toll-free)

Website: www.lasmny.org

**OSWEGO COUNTY
COUNSELING & SUPPORT**

Oswego County Mental Hygiene (315) 963-5361

Oswego Health (Mental Health) (315) 326-4100

Catholic Charities (315) 598-3980

ARISE (315) 887-5156

Council on Alcoholism & Addictions

Oswego (315) 342-2370

Fulton (315) 598-6707

OSWEGO COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LIAISON (315) 963-5000

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (315) 963-5000

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (315) 963-5339
(Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 4:00pm)

LEGAL SYSTEM

Criminal Court:

CONTACT the police.

CALL Services to Aid Families (SAF) immediately after contacting the police.

FILE a formal complaint with a police officer. If you can, get a copy of the domestic incident report from the police.

SEEK the help of a Services to Aid Families (SAF) advocate if you go to court.

SHOW UP in court when you are subpoenaed.

Family Court:

GO to Oswego County Family Court at the Oswego Public Safety Center, 39 Churchill Rd., Oswego, NY 13126.

ASK for help from Services to Aid Families (SAF) at the courthouse.

FILE a petition in Family Court with the help of your advocate.

SHOW UP in court for all hearing dates. If you can't afford an attorney, ask the court to assign you a free lawyer.

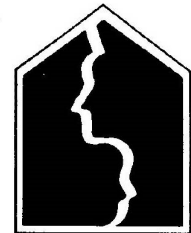


This booklet was prepared for the Domestic Violence Coalition of Oswego County by the Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc. to provide a directory of services and general legal information for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. For more information regarding this booklet, contact the Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc. at 268 Genesee Street Utica, New York 13502 (315-793-7000).

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**OSWEGO COUNTY
SERVICE DIRECTORY**



Q: What should I do if I am hit or threatened?

A: In an emergency, call 911.

Q: How can I stay safe?

A: Safety first! If you decide to leave the abuser, call Services to Aid Families at (315) 342-1600 or 1-877-342-7618 (toll-free) for help making a plan to do so safely. You and your children may be able to go to a DV shelter. If you have pets, some shelters will also help you find a safe place for your pets to stay. Whether you decide to stay or leave, you need a “safety plan.” It could save your life! Call Services to Aid Families for help. Update your safety plan every time your situation changes.

Q: What is an order of protection?

A: It is a court order signed by a judge. The order prohibits the abuser from threatening, abusing, or acting violently towards you. It may also require the abuser to stay away from you, your children, your home, your pets and your job.

Q: What court do I go to?

A: There are 3 different courts where you can get an order of protection:

- criminal court
- family court
- supreme court (in a divorce case)

Filing for an order of protection is free.

Q: Do I have to be physically hurt?

A: No. If someone is threatening you or your children by words or actions, you can ask for an order of protection.

Q: Who can get orders of protection?

A: Both men and women have equal rights to get orders of protection. You may also ask for an order of protection for your children, if they are

under the age of 18. In family court, you can file on behalf of a relative by blood or marriage, if you believe he or she is in danger.

Q: How do I get a criminal court order of protection?

A: Call the police and file a criminal complaint with them. Tell the police you want an order of protection. The police can request one on your behalf. An advocate from Services to Aid Families can also help you through the process.

Q: How do I get a family court order of protection?

A: You can go to family court if:

- you are married to the abuser OR
- you have a child together OR
- you have a blood relationship with the abuser OR
- you have an intimate relationship with the abuser (this includes same-sex relationships)

The first step is to fill out a petition and file it with the family court clerk in your county. Call Services to Aid Families, or ask for help from the DV advocate at the courthouse.

Bring your ID. In your petition, write down what the abuser did. Be specific! If possible, include dates and times when the abuse happened. Write down what you want the judge to do to protect you and your children.

Q: What if I’m already in court for a divorce?

A: You can ask for an order of protection in supreme court, as part of your divorce case. Talk to your divorce lawyer.

Q: If I’m in danger, can I get an order of protection right away?

A: A judge can give you a temporary order of protection right away. To get

one, you will need to go in front of the judge when you file your petition. If family court is not in session, you may get a temporary order of protection from your local criminal court or town justice.

Q: What does an order of protection do?

A: An order of protection can order the abuser not to assault you or come near your home, job, children’s school or daycare, pets, etc. It may order the abuser not to speak to you in person, by phone, mail, text, or e-mail. It may also order the abuser not to threaten you. If you live with your abuser, it can order him or her to leave the home. A family court or supreme court order may also give you temporary custody of your children. If you want permanent custody, you must file a custody petition with the court. NOTE: The order does not give you ownership of your home, or any property you co-own with the abuser.

Q: How long does an order of protection last?

A: A criminal court order typically lasts 1 year, but can last up to 5 years (or even longer, in extreme cases). If you have a “temporary” order, it will expire on a certain date, unless you ask the court to extend it. A family court order typically lasts 1 to 2 years, but can last up to 5 years. You can ask the court to extend the order for a longer time, if you have good cause. If you don’t want the order anymore, you must go back to court.

Q: What should I do with my order of protection?

A: Make copies. Keep a copy at home, at work, in your car, and with a trusted relative or friend. If the order covers your children, make sure their school and daycare have a copy. Include a picture of the abuser with each copy, if you can.

Q: Do I have to wait until I’m physically hurt to file for a violation?

A: No! If the abuser does anything forbidden in the order, it’s a violation. Call the police. You can file a criminal complaint, and the abuser can be arrested. You can also file a violation petition in family court, even if no arrest is made.

Q: What happens when the abuser is found in violation?

A: If the abuser violates a family court order, he or she could go to jail for up to 6 months or be fined. If the abuser violates a criminal court order, he or she could go to jail for up to 1 year. If this isn’t the first time the abuser has violated a criminal court order (or if you were physically hurt, or your property was damaged) the abuser could even go to state prison. You can find out when the abuser is getting out of jail by calling VINE-NY at 1-888-846-3469. Visit www.Vinelink.com to sign up for alerts by phone, text, email and TTY.

Safety Tips
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always carry a cell phone. Put 911 and the police on speed dial. • Change your locks, and always keep your home and car doors locked. • Change up your routine, and try not to go out alone (especially at night). • Keep an emergency box with a trusted relative or friend. Include ID, copies of important documents, clothes, an extra set of keys, credit cards, money, etc. • Give your co-workers, neighbors and friends a “code word” and a special signal (such as pulling down a certain window shade) that means “call the police.” • Get a security system and outdoor lights. • Check out the “Stay Safe” app for your phone at: https://personalapp.staysafeapp.com/ • Install smoke & CO2 detectors at home. • Make a complete “safety plan” with Services to Aid Families, and update it often.