

Safety Planning

1. Safety in a violent incident: Violence cannot always be avoided, but some tactics may be used to increase the safety of battered victims.
 - a. Practice escape and teach children.
 - b. Use code or signal with family or children to indicate the need for the police.
 - c. Keep purse and keys safe and accessible.
 - d. Tell someone about the abuse and to call police if they suspect something.
2. Safety when preparing to leave: Leaving must be done with careful planning to avoid increased danger from the batterer.
 - a. Leave money, SS cards, important documents, and extra clothes hidden in a safe place.
 - b. Learn the local Domestic Violence Program's hotline number.
 - c. Keep change for phone calls with you always. Avoid any calls that might show up on your phone bill.
3. Safety in residence: Victims can increase safety in their own residence.
 - a. Change your locks on your doors.
 - b. Teach children to make collect calls.
 - c. Tell everyone close to you that your partner no longer lives with you and to report any observations.
 - d. Purchase smoke detectors, security lights, window bars, and rope ladders if necessary.
4. Safety with a PFA. After a PFA order has been attained
 - a. Keep protection order with you at all times.
 - b. Give copies to place of employment, schools, and police department where you live. Inform family and friends that you have a PFA .
 - c. Call your local Domestic Violence Program if you have any questions.
 - d. Call the police if a violation occurs and report it to your Domestic Violence Program Advocate.
5. Safety on the job and in public
 - a. Inform boss, other employees, and security of your current situation.
 - b. Ask another person to screen phone calls.
 - c. When leaving, walk to car/home with others.
 - d. Avoid being alone after dark.
 - e. When driving, if you are being followed, go to the police station and blow the horn.

THERE IS HELP FOR YOU