

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

**<https://www.vera.org/publications/prosecuting-witness-tampering-bail-jumping-and-battering-from-behind-bars>**

## Policy Issue Resources

### Publication

Many victims awaiting a trial for domestic violence crimes fear that the system cannot protect them. Their fear is exacerbated when they continue to be threatened and harassed after an arrest has been made especially when the defendant is being held without bail. Recognizing this dilemma and its impact on the system of justice, prosecutors in Milwaukee County began using jailhouse telephone recordings and other evidence to prosecute defendants who use threats of violence or intimidation to try to influence witness testimony and case outcomes. This publication explores this practice and includes a DVD highlighting both the problem and the response. It is part of the Judicial Oversight Demonstration Initiative's four-part series Enhancing Responses to Domestic Violence.

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