

Local Domestic Violence Shelters

Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA)

24 Hour Hotline: (800) 355-8547



Mary Rubloff YWCA Harmony House

Phone: (561) 640-9844

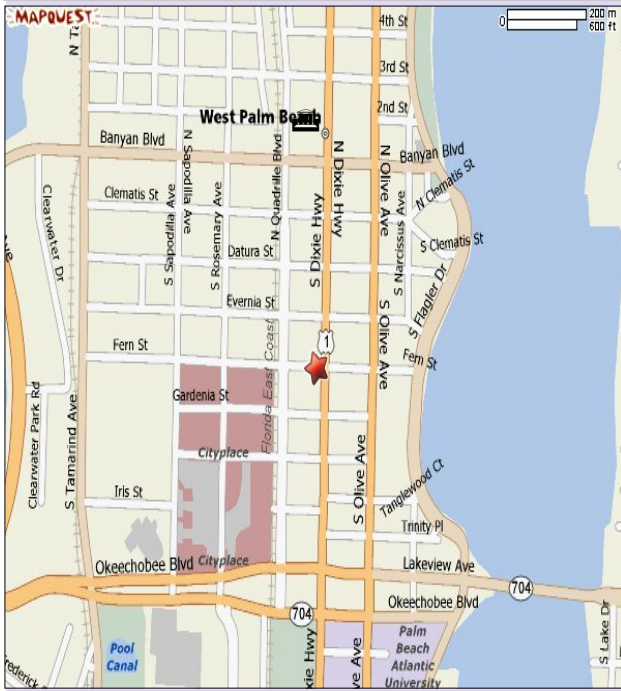


Florida Resource Center for Women & Children, Inc.

Phone: (561) 848-8383

The Legal Aid Society is located at 423 Fern Street in West Palm Beach. The entrance to our office is on Fern Street between Dixie Highway and Quadrille Boulevard.

Our office is 4 blocks south of the main Palm Beach County Courthouse on Dixie Highway and two blocks east of CityPlace.



The Domestic Violence Project

Legal Aid Society
of Palm Beach County, Inc.
423 Fern Street, Suite 200
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Please call Monday — Friday
9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

(561) 655-8944 Ext. 238

Toll-free: (800) 403-9353

Ext. 238

Fax: (561) 655-5269

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The Domestic Violence Project

Injunction Enforcement



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www.legalaidpbc.org

Legal Aid's **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT** serves victims of domestic violence in Palm Beach County. Our goal is to provide high quality, free legal services to empower victims of domestic violence and to ensure their safety.

How to enforce an Injunction for Protection?

Injunctions for Protection (commonly called “restraining orders” or “protection orders”) are court orders that protect victims from violence and contact (at home, at work, in-person, by telephone, email, text message and via third-party). This brochure is designed to inform petitioners what constitutes a violation as well as what steps to take to enforce the violation.

How an Injunction is violated?

An injunction is violated when the respondent does any action prohibited by the court order for protection. Examples of violations include, but are not limited to, when respondent:

- ◆ Refuses to leave the shared home
- ◆ Comes within 500 feet of your home, school, work or other specified place, family member or household member.
- ◆ Willingly and intentionally comes within 100 feet of your car
- ◆ Calls, texts, emails, contacts through social media or otherwise tries to contact you directly or indirectly, unless specified in the order
- ◆ Destroys any of your personal property
- ◆ Refuses to give up firearms and ammunition

What to do if an Injunction is violated?

Step 1: Be safe and follow a safety plan.

Step 2: Be prepared and plan for potential violations by having a camera ready and by saving text messages, voice messages, or any other communications from the respondent.

Step 3: Call 911 and local law enforcement officers immediately.

Step 4: Collect evidence of the violation. Have any pictures, witnesses, text messages, voice messages, or emails available for law enforcement officers. Keep copies for yourself.

What remedies are available for Violations ?

If the violation results in an arrest, respondent will be held in custody until brought before the court. If the respondent is not arrested but a violation did occur, you can enforce the injunction by filing an Affidavit of Violation with the Clerk.

Once the Affidavit of Violation is filed, the respondent can be charged with civil or criminal contempt which can include a fine or imprisonment. The court may also refer the case to the state attorney's office to prosecute as a criminal violation under Fla. Stat. 741.31

How do I get an Affidavit of Violation?

Request an affidavit at the Domestic Violence Clerk's Office at any Palm Beach County Courthouse.

Affidavit of Violation (cont'd)

The form may also be found at:

http://www.flcourts.org/gen_public/family/forms_rules/index.shtml.

Complete and submit the form to the Clerk. When preparing the affidavit, bring duplicate copies of all evidence. Submit one copy to the clerk and keep one for your records.

Will an attorney represent me?

Once a court date is set, contact the attorney who represented you at the injunction hearing.

There are no income requirements to qualify for Legal Aid's Domestic Violence Project. However, we will not represent alleged batterers, convicted domestic abusers or prior domestic violence respondents.

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Se habla español!