

What is Family Violence?

The law in Tasmania states family violence can be any of the following, carried out by a person (directly or indirectly) against their current or former spouse or partner:

- assault (including sexual assault)
- threats, coercion, intimidation or verbal abuse
- abduction
- stalking
- attempting or threatening to commit any of the above.

Family violence offences also include:

- economic abuse
- emotional abuse or intimidation (including coercive control)
- harm to an animal to intimidate, cause fear or control a spouse or partner
- any damage caused by a person to any property owned by a spouse or partner or affected child
- breaching the conditions of a Family Violence Order or Police Family Violence Order.

For more information, please go to the *Family Violence Act 2004* or www.safeathome.tas.gov.au

About Safe at Home

Safe at Home is the Tasmanian Government's integrated criminal justice response to family violence.

It involves five government agencies and a range of non-government services working together to address the risk and safety needs of victim-survivors and their children, while holding offenders responsible for their family violence behaviour.

The objectives of the Safe at Home service system are to:

- ✓ improve the safety and security for adult and child victim-survivors of family violence in the short and long term
- ✓ ensure that offenders are held accountable for family violence as a public crime and change their offending behaviour
- ✓ reduce the incidence and severity of family violence in the longer term
- ✓ minimise the negative impacts of contact with the criminal justice system on adult and child victim-survivors.

Safe at Home is underpinned by the *Family Violence Act 2004*.



safeathome.tas.gov.au



Safe at Home

Are you affected by family violence?

You are **not** alone

Department of Justice



Getting Help

Help is available through the Family Violence Response and Referral Line.



1800 633 937

The Family Violence Response and Referral Line is operated by the Tasmania Police radio room. It provides information and referrals to help callers access the full range of response, counselling, information, and support services offered through Safe at Home.

In all emergencies ring Triple Zero (000).

Counselling Support



Family violence can have a lasting impact on victim-survivors, their children and other members of the family.

Safe at Home provides counselling support for adults and children who have been affected by family violence through the Family Violence Counselling and Support Service (call 1800 608 122).

Counselling support is also available through non-government organisations located throughout Tasmania, as well as national services that provide telephone and online support.

Support in Court



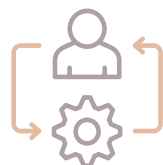
The Court Support and Liaison Service (call 1300 663 773) is a free service for victim-survivors of family violence and is available through Safe at Home. Staff can provide information and referrals to victim-survivors, and support before, during and after the Magistrates Court process.

For support with Supreme Court matters, the Witness Assistance Service (call 6165 3600) provides information about court and legal processes, liaison and debriefing, and can assist with victim impact statement preparation.

For free legal representation and advice:

- Tasmania Legal Aid (call 1300 366 611)
- Women's Legal Service Tasmania (call 1800 682 468)

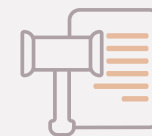
Offender Rehabilitation



Offenders of family violence can be sentenced by the courts to attend rehabilitation programs as part of their sentence, or as part of their Family Violence Order.

After an incident, offenders can access the Men's Referral Service which offers counselling, information and referral to men's behaviour change programs supporting them to develop the skills to change harmful behaviours and build respectful relationships.

About Family Violence Orders



A Family Violence Order (FVO) is made by the court and places restrictions on what the respondent (alleged offender) is allowed to do. It can include any conditions that the court thinks will prevent further family violence.

An application for an FVO may be made by:

- ✓ a police officer
- ✓ a person affected by family violence (including children)
- ✓ any person the court allows to apply.

Police Family Violence Orders

A Police Family Violence Order (PFVO) is issued by a police officer.

Breaches of FVOs or PFVOs

If the respondent (alleged offender) breaches any of the conditions on a FVO or PFVO, they may be arrested and charged with breaching the order.

Changing a FVO or PFVO

An application must be made to the Magistrates Court to vary, extend or remove a FVO or PFVO.

For more information about Safe at Home services go to:

safeathome.tas.gov.au

