

HB

303

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)
Date Referred to Committee: January 12, 1998

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Judiciary

Date of Committee Action: 4/30/98

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HB 303

HOUSE BILL NO. 303

EXTEND COUNCIL ON DOM.VIOL. & SEX.ASSAULT

"An Act extending the termination date of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; and providing for an effective date."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____ the same title
 a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): _____ (Dept)

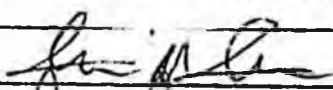
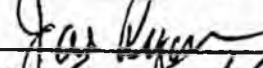
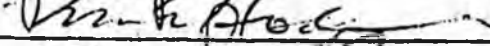
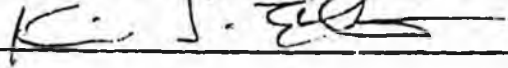
APPROVES PREVIOUS: _____ (Dept/Date)

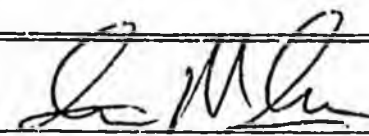
fiscal note(s) _____

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zero fiscal note(s) _____

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SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
	✓			
			✓	
	✓			
	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE 

04/30/98
08:05:35

LEGISLATIVE TELECONFERENCE NETWORK SYSTEM
PARTICIPANT LIST (TESTIFIERS ONLY)
TCN:80791 SCHEDULED FOR:04/30/98 08:00 TO 10:00
PUBLIC HEARING HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

LTN1150
BY:JNU
FOR:ALL

LOCATION: ANCHORAGE

HJR 45
HJR 45

KAREN
CHERYL

COWART
FRASCA

THE ALLIANCE

TESTIFY
TESTIFY

LOCATION: KODIAK

HB 303

MS

DIANA

BUFFINGTON

TESTIFY

REPRESENTATIVE KIM ELTON

HB 303

Extending the termination date of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Sponsor Statement

HB 303 extends the termination date of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault from June 30, 1998, to June 30, 2002.

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault was established in 1981 to provide for the planning and coordination of a full range of services to victims, their families, and perpetrators of violence and sexual assault in Alaska. The council's statutory responsibilities are:

- To develop, implement, maintain and monitor domestic violence, sexual assault and crisis intervention and prevention programs, including educational programs and school curricula;
- To coordinate services provided by the Departments of Law, Education, Public Safety, Health and Social Services, as well as other state agencies and community groups dealing with domestic violence and sexual assault;
- To provide technical assistance to state and local agencies and community groups, as requested;
- To develop and implement a standardized data collection system on domestic violence and sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention;
- To receive and dispense state and federal money and award grants and contracts to qualified local community entities for domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs;
- To oversee and audit domestic violence and sexual assault programs which receive federal and/or state grant money;

- To consult with the Dept. of Health and Social Services in the formulation of standards and procedures for the delivery of services to victims of domestic violence by health care facilities and practitioners;
- To consult with the Alaska Police Standards Council and other police training programs to develop training programs regarding domestic violence for police officers and for correction, probation, and parole officers;
- To consult with public employers, school districts, the Alaska Supreme Court and prosecuting authorities who are required to provide continuing education courses in domestic violence to employees;
- To make an annual report to the governor on the activities of the council, including recommendations for legislation.

The council's role and responsibilities have grown significantly since 1996. The state has imposed additional responsibilities and federal funding has increased substantially. This expansion of responsibilities is a reflection of a broadened understanding of the financial and social costs of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska communities in health care, corrections, police and court costs, as well as the long-term, negative effect on children who witness violence at home.

The 1997 legislative audit of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault found that the council serves a public need and operates in the public interest. The audit concluded that the council should be reauthorized and its termination date extended to June 30, 2002.

STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

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April 28, 1998

Representative Kim Elton
House of Representatives
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Elton:

This letter, as requested, is an update on the status of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in preparation for the House State Affairs Committee hearing on HB 303. As you know, Legislative Budget and Audit evaluated the Council in preparation for our sunset legislation. That report found three areas in which the Council was deficient. I am pleased to say the Council is meeting the timeline that we established in our December 1997 response to the Legislative Budget and Audit. Our accomplishments include:

- ◆ Hiring a permanent Statistical Technician I
- ◆ Completion of FY96 and FY97 data entry and analysis
- ◆ Completion and distribution of FY96 and FY97 Annual Reports
- ◆ Implementation of pilot sites for automated data collection project
- ◆ Current on on-site evaluations of all Council funded programs
- ◆ Evaluation of staffing needs for efficient implementation of statutory mandates (dependent on FY99 budget levels)

In addition to the Legislative Budget and Audit recommendations, the Council has been addressing the issues and concerns surrounding batterers' intervention services. The Council's overriding philosophy is that all services, both statewide and locally, must be conducted in a way that promotes the safety of victims and children while holding offenders accountable. Offender accountability must be part of a coordinated systemic response. This underlying premise is reflected in all Council activities.

The following Council initiatives are examples of the programs directed toward domestic violence offenders:

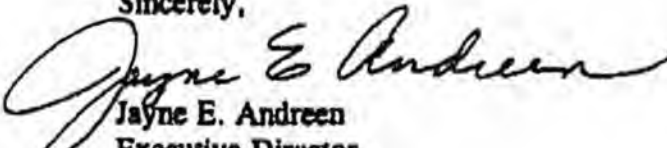
- ◆ Prison Batterers Program grants (RSA with the Department of Corrections)
- ◆ Community-based batterers' intervention program grants (State funds)
- ◆ Monitoring batterers' programs for compliance with Department of Corrections' Standards (RSA with the Department of Corrections)

- ◆ Training and model protocols for law enforcement, prosecution, court system and corrections to implement mandatory arrest, preferred prosecution, accountability of offenders (Federal funds)
- ◆ Coordinating Councils to respond consistently to domestic violence offenders (Federal funds)
- ◆ Misdemeanor pilot probation project to assess the impact of active monitoring of offenders after conviction (Federal funds)
- ◆ Central registry for protective orders (Federal funds)
- ◆ Assisting DYFS in identifying and responding to domestic violence in child abuse cases to ensure the protection of children in families experiencing domestic violence (Federal funds)
- ◆ Developing 11 regional trainings on domestic violence and child abuse to improve the intervention and coordinated response to domestic violence (Federal funds)
- ◆ Providing equipment to law enforcement, prosecution and court system to improve investigation, prosecution and victim safety while maintaining offender accountability (Federal funds)
- ◆ Provision of technical assistance to communities and local programs on how to develop a systemic response to victims and offenders (State funds)

In order to more fully evaluate and address the perceived lack of attention to domestic violence perpetrators, the Council recently formed a working committee to address batterers' and offender issues. This committee will look into the recommendations on offender issues that were made at the Domestic Violence Summit, as well as other issues that arise.

The Council fulfills a critical role in coordinating and improving Alaska's approach to domestic violence and sexual assault. With the many federal and state initiatives of the past three years, it is especially important that Alaska continue its comprehensive approach. The Council appreciates your support and concern about domestic violence and sexual assault, as evidenced by your introduction of HB 303 that extends the Council for an additional four years. These efforts are vital to improving the safety of victims and their children, while intervening in the cycle of violence and abuse.

Sincerely,


Jayne E. Andreen
Executive Director

cc: Council Members

**f a c s i m i l e
T R A N S M I T T A L**

To: The Honorable Jeanette James
Of: Alaska House of Representatives
Fax: 907-465-2381
Pages: 1, including this cover sheet.
Date: April 28, 1998

**RE HB 303 COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT SUNSET
EXTENSION**

I am writing to extend my support for this bill and ask that you help move it out of the House State Affairs Committee on Thursday. As you know, time is getting short and I can't help but worry about this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. All my info is below.

Thank you for your help.

From the desk of...

Sandy Semeniago
Executive Director
Women In Crisis - Counseling & Assistance
717 Ninth Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-452-2293
Fax: 907-452-2613

Reply Separator

Subject: fiscal notes
Author: Barbara_Cotting@legis.state.ak.us (Barbara Cotting) at CC2MHS1
Date: 4/28/98 1:22 PM

I have scheduled the following bills for hearing in House State Affairs Thursday, April 30, and need fiscal notes:

HB 303, Extend Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault	DPS
HCR 35, Establish Joint Task Force on Census/Redistricting	LAA
HJR 45, Biennial State Budget	REV

----- Original message header:
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>RCPT TO:<shari_kochman@gov.state.ak.us>
>DATA
>Received: from smtpmail1.legis.state.ak.us ([146.63.202.96]) by pop1.state.ak.us (Post.Office MTA v3.1.2 release (PO205-101c) ID# 0-44072U100L100S0) with ESMTPTP id AAA150 for <shari_kochman@gov.state.ak.us>; Tue, 28 Apr 1998 13:25:23 -0800
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>From: "Barbara Cotting" <Barbara_Cotting@legis.state.ak.us>
>To: "shari_kochman@gov.state.ak.us" <shari_kochman@gov.state.ak.us>
>Subject: fiscal notes
----- End of message header.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault



Alaska's Status Report 1996-1997

Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

BI-ANNUAL REPORT TO GOVERNOR TONY KNOWLES

By the
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

January 1, 1996 - December 31, 1997

State of Alaska
Department of Public Safety
Ronald L. Otte, Commissioner

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*Message from Bonnie Campbell, Executive Director, Violence Against Women
Office, Department of Justice*

Tough new laws are one way to reduce domestic violence and sexual assaults. Nothing sends a clearer message to a wife-beater - and Department of Justice statistics confirm that women are battered far more than men - than prosecuting and jailing other wife-beaters. New laws, however, are not the only answer.

Too many people continue to believe that domestic violence is a private matter between a couple, rather than a criminal offense that merits a strong and swift response. Even today, the victim of a domestic assault runs the risk of being asked, "What did you do to make your husband angry?" This question implies the victim is to blame for this abuse. People in our criminal justice system - police, prosecutors, judges and jurors - need to be educated about the role they can play in curbing acts of domestic violence.

Even when cases are brought, domestic crimes are difficult to prosecute. All too often victims are so terrorized that they fear for their lives if they call the police. Silence is the batterers' best friend. We have to end the silence and change our attitudes toward domestic crime. Neighbors must contact the police when they hear violent fights in their neighborhoods. Don't turn up the television to block out the sounds of the drunken argument next door. Call the police.

Teachers should be alert to signs that students have witnessed violence at home. Children who grow up in violent homes are more likely to become violent themselves.

Medical professionals who see the victims of violence need to ask them about these crimes. Too often, doctors or emergency room personnel accept the statement of fearful victims that their bruises or cuts are the result of household accidents or falls. When a woman with a black eye says that she fell and hit the doorknob, doctors and nurses must ask, "Did someone hit you?"

Members of the clergy need to become more involved as well. We just can't tell a batterer's spouse to "go home and make it work," as was done in the past. Sending a woman back to a battering husband often places her life at risk. Of course, we can't tell a woman who lives in a violent relationship what to do, but we can make a greater effort to let her know that there are options available for her and her children. Early intervention is crucial.

These crimes are serious. Experience shows that levels of violence in these relationships tend to escalate, and many police departments cite domestic violence as their number one problem. Tough laws and effective prosecutions, combined with education and a cooperative approach among law enforcement and social service agencies, will take time to be effective. Until then, we must take a greater role in reporting domestic abuse. Our efforts to break the silence can make a difference.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT – AN OVERVIEW

The domestic violence and sexual assault movements began at the grassroots level in the United States in the mid-1970's. Both movements evolved out of the need women saw as they began reaching out to each other and sharing their experiences. These women clearly identified that domestic violence and sexual assault were occurring to many more women than was ever realized. Working as volunteers, they reached out to each other, providing crisis intervention, safe housing and support. As these grassroots efforts became more organized, they saw a growing need to go beyond providing services to victims, to holding offenders accountable. This could best be done by using the civil and criminal justice systems, however, these systems were not effectively addressing these crimes.

“The women talk of the ‘monster lurking in the corner’ waiting to beat them, knife-wielding husbands who threaten to ‘O.J.’ them. They talk of incest, of being raped by acquaintances, husbands or relatives. They talk about the effects abuse will have on their children.” Fairbanks Daily News Miner Article

Alaska's history parallels much of what happened at the national level. In 1976,

a group of concerned women established the Alaska Women's Resource Center in Anchorage. They organized the first Alaskan conference on domestic violence, which focused attention on the need for services. As a result, the Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC) was established in Anchorage. By late 1977, other limited services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault were being provided in Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, and Nome. They operated primarily through volunteers and with some federal funds from the United States Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

By 1978, a statewide network of the community-based non-profit programs that were providing these services incorporated; it eventually became known as the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. In FY79, \$736,000 in state and federal funds was appropriated to the Network for allocation among the existing programs. This was the first funding for victim and batterer services in Alaska and helped to formalize the services that were being provided at the local level. In FY80, the federal funds expired, but state funding was increased to \$1,800,000, which was allocated by the Network to 16 locally-based programs.

In FY81, legislative concerns were expressed over the statutory basis of using a non-profit to award state funds. The Department of Health and Social Services, the Legislature, and the Network worked together to develop proposed legislation for authorization to administer grants-in-aid to domestic violence and sexual assault programs. The resulting legislation is AS 18.66, which established the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, effective October 24, 1981. Because of the need to improve coordination with the criminal justice system, the Council was located within the Department of Public Safety, thereby acknowledging that Alaska was establishing public policy that domestic violence and sexual

assault are issues of safety, and must be treated as serious crimes. Also in 1981, Alaska approved legislation that established civil relief for victims of domestic violence through Temporary Restraining Orders.

"It has been reported that over 58,000 men and women died in Vietnam. We erected a wonderful memorial to these citizens who died on foreign soil. During the same period of time, 54,000 women died on American soil as a result of domestic violence. Does it seem outrageous that our sisters are allowed to die in their homes and on our streets in a country that promotes human rights and freedom around the world? These silent women scream from the grave, not for a memorial, but for equal justice." Sue Christensen, Advocate, Bering Sea Women's Group.

Despite continuing efforts to address these problems, crimes of domestic violence and sexual assault continue at alarming levels. The crime rate against women in the United States continues to be significantly higher than in other countries. A woman is beaten every 9 seconds, and a reported 4,000 battered women are killed every year in the United States. The United States has a rape rate which is 13 times higher than England, nearly 4 times higher than Germany, and more than 20 times higher than Japan. According to a 1990 study compiled by the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, 25 million of all American women alive today either have been or will be raped at least once in their lifetime. Nationwide, more than one

million abused women seek medical assistance each year for injuries caused by abuse.

Some important information is found in the Bureau of Justice Statistics' National Crime Victimization Survey, August 1995.

- ◇ Women are attacked six times more often by intimate partners than were male victims of violence.
- ◇ Nearly 30% of all female homicide victims are known to have been killed by their former or current husbands or boyfriends, compared to 3% of male homicide victims.
- ◇ Past or current husbands and boyfriends commit more than 1,000,000 acts of violent crimes against women each year.
- ◇ Family members and acquaintances commit more than 2,700,000 violent crimes against women.
- ◇ A current or former intimate partner committed 26% of sexual assaults against women.
- ◇ The most dangerous time for a woman is when she separates from her partner; she is three times as likely to be attacked after she separates from the batterer than divorced women, and twenty-five times as likely as all married women.

Violence against women is a part of everyday life; women are assaulted in their homes, on the streets, in the workplace, at schools and on campuses. Although fear of crime is widespread in this country, polls indicate that women are twice as afraid as men to walk at night near their

"Go back to our traditional ways of gathering. Potlatches honoring one another. Look at the positive things. Think more of what we can do rather than what we can't."
Alaskan Native

homes. This illustrates the perceived vulnerability that limits women's lives in so many ways.

Violence against women must be examined in the social context, which shapes its dynamics, its acceptability and its meaning. Society in the United States is structured along the dimensions of gender: men as a class hold the majority of political, financial and legal power. In addition to being at a power disadvantage, a woman's concern for her personal safety impacts her basic economic and social choices. This extends not only to her choices in jobs, but in housing, education, community services and recreation. The costs of limitations imposed by gender-based violence, both on women personally, and on society at large, are difficult to assess. This is not a special interest concern, but a national problem of serious proportions.

Gondolf and Russell, noted authorities in the field of domestic violence, describe domestic abuse as a man's actions to destroy his partner's self esteem. Despite popular myths, there are no stereotypical batterers. They cross all racial, economic and religious lines. Men batter to control. Another common myth is that domestic violence victims somehow "provoke" their batterers. However, batterers are not forced to abuse their victims; they choose to use violence against those who are smaller and less capable to fight back: wives, girlfriends, and children. Experience has shown that most battering relationships do not end with one abusive episode. Lack of financial resources to live independently, threats and fear, as well as a desire to make the relationship work keep many victims in the relationship. Batterers are also careful to intimidate their victims into remaining silent. There are inadequate societal and systematic efforts to hold the offenders accountable for their behavior. Violence in these relationships generally becomes more frequent and severe, too often resulting in death.

"I can't remember a day that my momma ever looked my dad in the eye. She was scared all her life. She died scared." Yupik women describing her mother

In addition to societal concerns, there are many reasons for the high rate of violence against women in Alaska. Vast areas without a road system, rapid growth, a younger population and a seasonal economy contribute to this high rate. With the long winters and subsequent weather factors, many women and children are prohibited from leaving their small communities when their lives and safety are threatened by violence.

Cultural disruption has increased violence against women among Alaskan Native groups. Before the influence of western culture, violence against women was not the norm for Alaskan Natives, who lived a subsistence lifestyle, educated through oral tradition, and focused on communal needs. Traditional values have been undermined by cultural transition and have led to high suicide rates, chronic alcoholism, and increased violence against women and children.

A significantly higher percentage of Alaskan Native women are victimized by domestic violence and sexual assault. In many rural communities family violence, sexual assault and child sexual abuse are far too common. Many women leave the villages to live in more urban settings such as Anchorage, and are not equipped with the lifeskills that are required for urban lifestyles.

Women in Alaska face a much higher risk of homicide than women nationwide. Non-Native Alaskan women are killed 1.5 times more often (6.2 per 100,000) than the average for United States women (4.2 per 100,000) according to the University of Alaska Anchorage's Institute of Social and Economic Research. Native women are killed 4.5 times more often (19.1 per 100,000). Native Alaskans in small communities see more violent deaths than those in other Alaskan communities, and at rates as much as six times the national average. In 1990, 50% of female murder victims in Alaska were killed by their husbands or boyfriends. In 1995, 80% of homicides in Alaska were domestic violence related. In 1996, 4 of the 16 domestic violence related deaths in Alaska were children.

Alaska has consistently had one of the highest rates of sexual abuse per capita in the nation for the past decade, and the gap between the national average and Alaska is increasing. According to the Uniformed Crime Report for 1996, the Alaskan forcible rape rate is 2.2 times higher per capita than the national average.

"For battered women, keeping the family together at all costs sometimes means you will die trying." Sue Christensen, Bering Sea Women's Group, Nome.

Battered and sexually abused women are survivors of life-threatening experiences. Listening to women tell of their experiences from their own frames of reference gives a basis for understanding and the potential for ending the violence. Domestic violence and sexual assault victims who received services in FY97 report the following information about their experiences:

- ◇ 67% of domestic violence victims report being assaulted by a current husband or live-in partner. 11% were assaulted by a former husband or partner. 8% were assaulted by another family member.
- ◇ 75% of the battered women were abused more than once.
- ◇ 80% of the domestic violence victims report experiencing mental abuse. Of these, 89% reported an implied or verbal threat, 25% reported a threat of hurting others, 5% reported child abduction, and 12% reported deprivation of food, medicine and medical attention.
- ◇ 60% of the domestic violence victims reported physical abuse. Of these, 32% reported the destruction of property and/or pets, 86% reported use of physical force, and 16% reported that the batterer used a weapon or object in the assault. 10% reported some level of sexual abuse.
- ◇ 36% of domestic violence victims reported having injuries ranging from bruises to chronic and disabling injuries as a result of the most recent assault abuse.
- ◇ 11% of domestic violence victims received medical attention as a result of the most recent assault, while 40% of sexual assault victims reported receiving medical attention.
- ◇ 12% of sexual assaults were committed by a stranger.
- ◇ 24% of sexual assaults resulted in physical injuries to the victims.
- ◇ 15% of sexual assaults occurred in the victim's home, and 12% occurred in the perpetrator's home. 14% of the assaults occurred in a public place, place of work, or a vehicle.

Alaska, as elsewhere in the country, is beginning to look more closely at the impact that domestic violence has on children. Experts estimate between 3.3 and 10 million children annually witness domestic violence. Approximately 87% of children in homes with domestic violence witness the abuse. A 1997 audit by the Department of Health and Social Services found that approximately 60% of the child abuse and neglect reports received in Alaska involve families where there is also domestic violence. Children living in violent homes face a double danger. In addition to witnessing traumatic events, they are sometimes injured during the violence between the adults. The risk of child abuse is significantly higher when a parent reports an assault. Nearly 70% of men who abuse their partner also abuse their children.

"My little girl drew a picture of our family at home. All the windows were broken. She drew me laying on the ground and her dad with his fist raised. I asked her where she was. She said she was hiding in the house." Alaskan domestic violence survivor

The most effective way to impact these crimes of violence against women is to have a strong societal and criminal justice response that holds offenders accountable for their actions. Alaska has many positive responses and systems in place to address these crimes. Domestic violence and sexual assault community-based programs exist throughout Alaska. Each has evolved in response to the specific and unique needs of its area. The Alaska

State Troopers and the Anchorage Police Department have strong intervention-based protocols for responding to crimes against women, as does the Department of Law. The legislature has been very supportive by passing legislation that emphasizes the criminal nature of these offenses.

Yet, problems remain in effectively reducing these crimes. Alaska currently lacks adequate criminal justice resources to address domestic violence and sexual assault. The physical environment poses great challenges to the regional service systems. Front line Village Public Safety Officers and Health Aides are available for immediate response in some villages, but these providers do not have the authority and often lack the expertise to go beyond the initial stages of responding to domestic violence and sexual assault. Delays due to weather and travel constraints make it difficult for law enforcement officers to reach the villages promptly to conduct the necessary investigations. These delays mean many times the victim and the alleged perpetrator must remain in the village together, providing an additional strain on the victim and increasing her risk of further injury or death.

There are a number of problems in prosecuting sexual assault cases. Significant strides have been made in law enforcement's ability to collect physical evidence in recent years, but only if the evidence is collected in a timely manner. Due to shock or denial over the assault, victims may take days and even months to decide to report the crime, resulting in the loss of evidence.

Even when an offender is held accountable within the criminal justice system, most domestic violence cases result in misdemeanor convictions with little or no jail time. Alaska lacks consistent or effective oversight of misdemeanants on probation. Batterers' Intervention

Programs are resistant to providing monitoring of offenders, as this increases the cost of their operations.

“He pulled over and pushed me head down into his lap and forced me to perform oral sex on him. I begged him not to ejaculate in my mouth, but of course, he did anyway. He told me that I was beautiful and that I was wonderful and that he knew I wanted it. After that night, I couldn't sleep. I was only able to get two or three hours of rest at a time. I was so afraid to dream. I was raped at night, and I didn't want it to happen again in my dreams. I felt like I had no control over anything. Alaska had been a dream for me and my family, but now it is my nightmare.” Sexual assault

Concern about how the criminal and civil justice systems were handling domestic violence reached the national level in the late 1980's and early 1990's. Senator Joseph Biden of Delaware initiated legislation that would address domestic violence from the national perspective in the 1980's. In the early 1990's Congress became increasingly concerned about violent crime. It was then that the Violence Against Women Act was incorporated into the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. With bi-partisan support, these Acts were signed into effect in September 1994.

The Violence Against Women Act combines a series of federal sanctions and initiatives, and provides national, state and local resources to improve the effective response to crimes against women, primarily domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The Act includes:

- ◇ Federal penalties for domestic violence and sexual assault offenses
- ◇ S*T*O*P grants to improve law enforcement, prosecution and victim services
- ◇ Increased sexual assault prevention funds including designated programming for youth aged 11-19
- ◇ National Domestic Violence Hotline
- ◇ Mandatory arrest policies and grants
- ◇ Education/Prevention
- ◇ Data and research
- ◇ Strong emphasis on tribal courts/tribal responses
- ◇ Full faith and credit for protective orders, regardless of the jurisdiction

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges recognized the need for comprehensive legislation to fully address the problems of domestic violence. In 1991, the Council received funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to draft model codes for states to use in evaluating and updating their legislation. An advisory committee, consisting of leaders in the domestic violence field including judges, prosecutors, defense and family law attorneys, battered women's advocates, health care professionals, law enforcement, legislators, and educators, worked over three years to develop the Model Code. It has been designed to help protect the safety of victims and their children, while actively working to prevent future violence. The code emphasizes treating domestic violence as a crime through early and thorough intervention. Children's safety is a primary concern. Recognizing that the only truly

effective way we have of ending domestic violence is through strong locally-based community coordination, it encourages joint community efforts by a number of agencies and groups in intervening in this type of abuse.

"She's a former soldier with an associates degree in business administration and management. She lost all of her possessions when she left her boyfriend. When she told him that she was leaving him, he cut up her birth certificate, driver's license and other identification. He destroyed her clothes. He punched her in the mouth. She left with no money and only the blood-stained sweater, jeans, tennis shoes and the coat she was wearing."

Fairbanks Daily News Miner Article

During the 1996 legislative session, Governor Knowles lead Alaska's effort to fully assess our response to domestic violence by introducing an omnibus domestic

violence bill. The commitment of Alaskans to addressing these problems was revealed in the bi-partisan efforts that resulted in the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996. It incorporates approximately 85% of the model code into Alaska's statutes, and ensures that statewide policy will now be implemented throughout Alaska. The Act highlights include:

- ◇ Mandatory arrest of the principal physical aggressor in domestic violence cases and prohibit mutual arrests.
- ◇ Consideration by the court system and corrections of the victim's safety when sentencing offenders and establishing conditions of release.
- ◇ Expansion of the number of protective order condition violations that can be criminally prosecuted.
- ◇ Enforcement of protective orders from other jurisdictions.
- ◇ Establishment of an automated tracking system for protective orders.
- ◇ Increased training requirements for law enforcement on implementation of mandatory arrest, extended investigation and report writing.
- ◇ Increased victim notification requirements for criminal justice agencies about the status of the offender.
- ◇ Increased scrutiny of the impacts of domestic violence on children.

The Act went into effect on July 1, 1996. Due to extensive training, policy development and community awareness needs, the Council used several federal Violence Against Women Act grants to implement the Act. The Violence Against Women Act S*T*O*P Project incorporated a number of these needs into its second and third year plans. The Council also applied for and received a discretionary Rural Domestic Violence and Child

"If you have not been in the position of where, on a day to day basis you fear for your life, you'll never understand domestic violence. On a daily basis you live in constant fear - fear of leaving and fear of staying." Domestic violence victim as shared with the Fairbanks Daily News Miner.

Victimization Grant and a Grant to Encourage Mandatory Arrests.

On December 9 and 10, 1997, ninety-six Alaskans from all walks of life participated in the Governor's Domestic Violence Summit. The primary purpose of the Summit was to review and critique current policies and consider new ones. Governor Knowles opened the Summit, telling delegates that Alaska's Family can and must do better. The first day featured detailed discussion of the more difficult domestic violence issues facing Alaska. State and national experts made a series of presentations, examining Alaska's status from a civil and criminal perspective. The second day the delegates broke into eight focus groups to assess specific issues and to develop recommendations for improving Alaska's response. These eight groups were Victim Services, Children and Youth, Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Judiciary, Corrections, Batterers' Intervention Programs, and Training and Coordination.

Delegates generally agreed that Alaska has many accomplishments of which to be proud.

- ◇ Alaska has one of the most comprehensive statutory responses to domestic violence in the country.
- ◇ Alaska has listened to the voices of battered women and their advocates.
- ◇ Alaska has a dedicated group of people already involved in the systems combating domestic violence.
- ◇ Alaska has an educated Governor and Legislature who are willing to put partisan politics aside to address domestic violence.
- ◇ Alaska has regional shelters, and a systemic response to promote victim safety.
- ◇ Alaska has developed good standards for batterers' intervention programs.

While delegates cited the above strengths, there remains a significant amount of work to be done to better respond to domestic violence.

- ◇ Alaska needs more resources for shelters, transitional housing and victim services.
- ◇ The needs of rural Alaska must be addressed to more effectively respond to domestic violence in the bush and villages.
- ◇ Offenders need to be held more accountable for their violence.
- ◇ Better coordination of community responses will improve the effectiveness of Alaska's response.
- ◇ Alaska needs to pay more attention to how domestic violence affects children.

"He threw me outside the steam without any clothes. His friends chased me and when they caught up, they poured beer on me. They said it would make me smell better." Alaskan domestic violence victim

1996-1997 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The mission of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is to provide immediate safety and support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to reduce the incidence of these crimes in Alaska. The Council was established in 1981 as an administrative, policy-making body. It is composed of three public members appointed by the governor and representatives from the Departments of Public Safety, Law, Education, and Health and Social Services.

The purpose of the Council is to "provide for planning and coordination of services to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault or to their families and to perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to provide for crisis intervention and prevention programs." Its statutory duties include:

- ◇ funding and maintaining domestic violence and sexual assault programs;
- ◇ provision for planning of services to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, their families and perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault;
- ◇ coordination of domestic violence and sexual assault services provided by State agencies and community groups;
- ◇ development and implementation of a standardized data collection system; and
- ◇ provision of fiscal and technical assistance to domestic violence and sexual assault programs.

LOCAL FUNDING AND SERVICES

Addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, incest and child abuse requires an extensive range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of the victims and the local communities. For the most part programs funded by the Council are grass-roots organizations that have developed over the years in response to the local needs. These locally-based programs provide a broad range of services to the surrounding communities, including safe housing, crisis intervention, children's services, counseling and advocacy, batterers' programs, education and outreach, and community development.

Many clients contact the agency when they are experiencing a crisis situation resulting from domestic or sexual violence. The initial step is to conduct a lethality assessment to

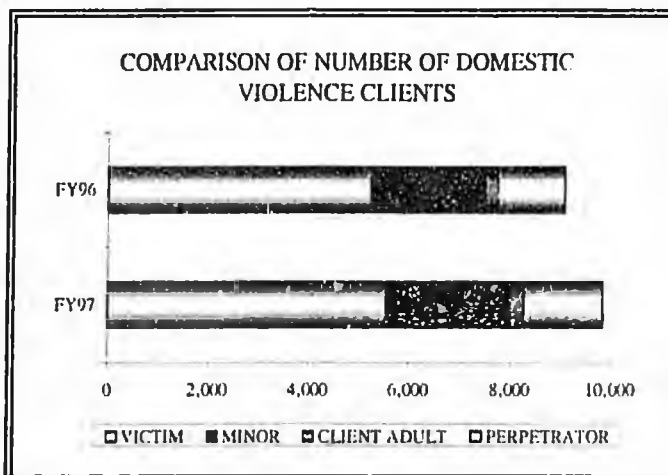
AND MAYBE MASHED
POTATOES I HEARD
HER SAY ---- MASHED
POTATOES TO GO WITH
OUR DINNER.
AND FOR TONIGHT THE WOMEN
ARE SHELTERED SAFE AND
WARM
AND WILL BE ABLE TO
EAT IN PEACE.
BUT TOMORROW ---- WHAT DOES
THE FUTURE HOLD FOR WOMEN
WHO HAVE BEEN BEATEN,
PUNCHED,
MASHED IN THEIR SOUL
BY SOMEONE THEY LOVE?
Beverly Bowers, Executive Director
Bering Sea Women's Group

determine the current level of danger for the victim. The top priority for any domestic violence and sexual assault agency is to provide **immediate safety** to victims. Two forms of safe housing are offered in Alaska: shelters, which house women and children for up to 60 days (depending on the program), and volunteer safe homes that will take women and children for a more limited period of time.

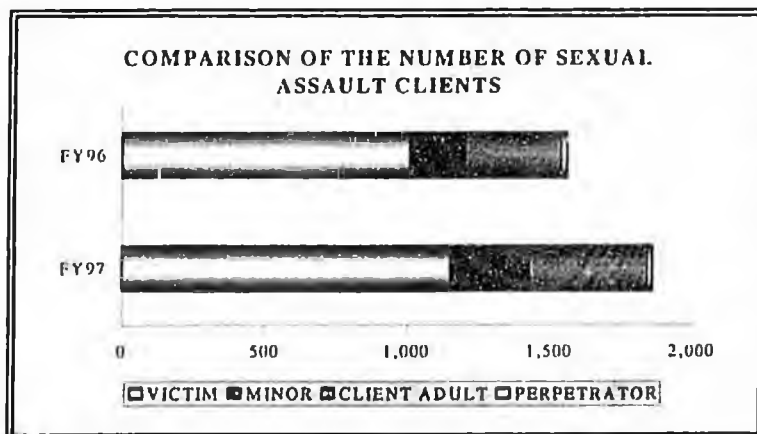
NIGHTS OF SAFETY		
Region	FY96	FY97
Anchorage/Mat-Su	18,808	16,348
Gulf Coast	6,085	5,147
Interior	6,256	7,394
Nothern	3,782	6,285
Southeast	11,689	10,816
Southwest	4,216	4,007
Total	50,836	49,997

Once the victim's immediate safety is assured, the programs are able to provide crisis intervention services. **Crisis intervention**

services cover a broad range of short and long term services. Individual and group counseling provides victims with emotional support and guidance to help them cope with a given domestic violence or sexual assault situation. It provides them with information on possible options so they can determine future goals and action. Advocacy to legal, medical, social, law enforcement and mental health agencies may be necessary to assist victims in dealing with the often complex and overwhelming systems that they face. Information and referral provides victims with the ability to effectively use



community resources to develop the best possible safety plan. Advocates are also available to accompany victims to medical, law enforcement and court events to assist them in



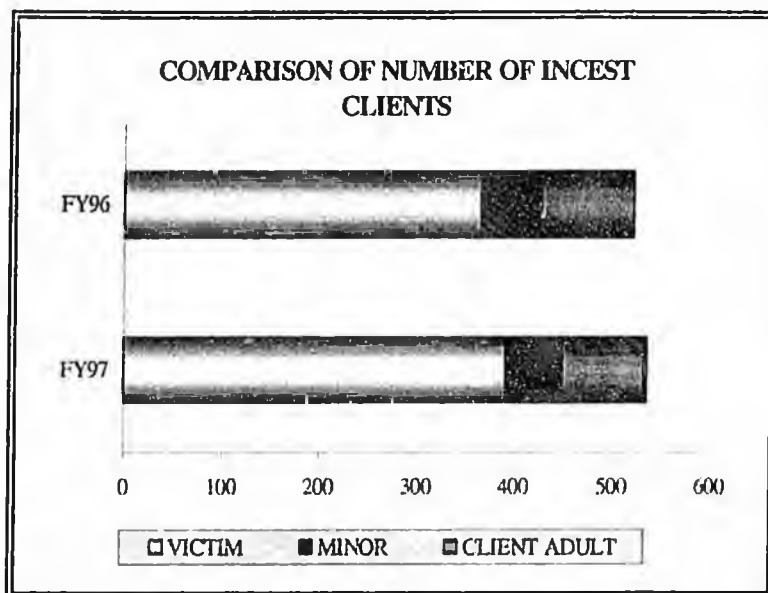
understanding the system. Twenty-four hour crisis lines are vital to ensure that victims can access services day or night. It is imperative that the victim has all the information and support that she needs to make the best decisions for herself and her children's safety.

Children are both primary and secondary victims of domestic and sexual violence. Family violence experts worry that children who live in domestic abuse homes are more likely to become batterers. Children learn that violence is an acceptable way to cope with stress or problems, and to gain control over another person. **Children's services** are necessary to break the cycle of violence, as well as to allow the victim

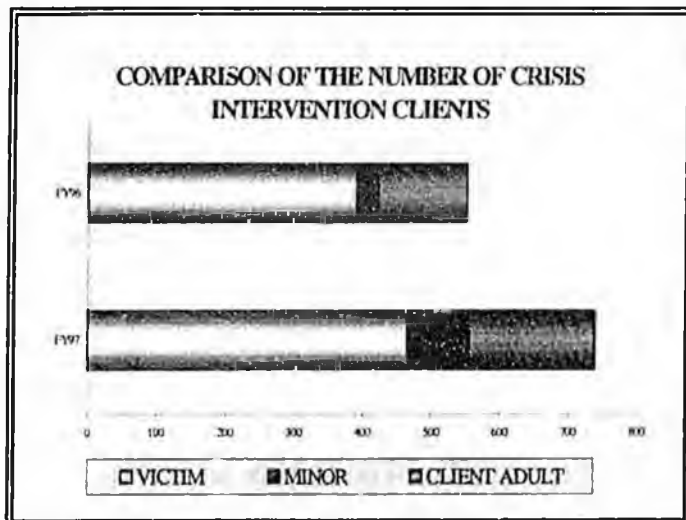
to have her children with her. Local program services for children can include childcare while the mothers receive services, crisis intervention and counseling, structured groups, personal safety education and information and referral specifically for children.

Community outreach, education and development are important functions of the domestic violence and sexual assault agencies. In order to prevent the continued cycles of violence, communities need to understand family and sexual violence.

Presentations are routinely made to schools, civic groups and the general public. Local programs also provide professional training to other service providers to improve the communities' overall ability to assess and intervene in these crimes.



Parenting education helps parents by encouraging them to learn effective disciplinary methods. Programs also provide technical assistance to community groups to help them design and provide services. Community-based task forces address the coordinated response to family and sexual violence. In recent years, some local programs have begun developing Court Watch programs, domestic violence task forces and Sexual Assault Response Teams.



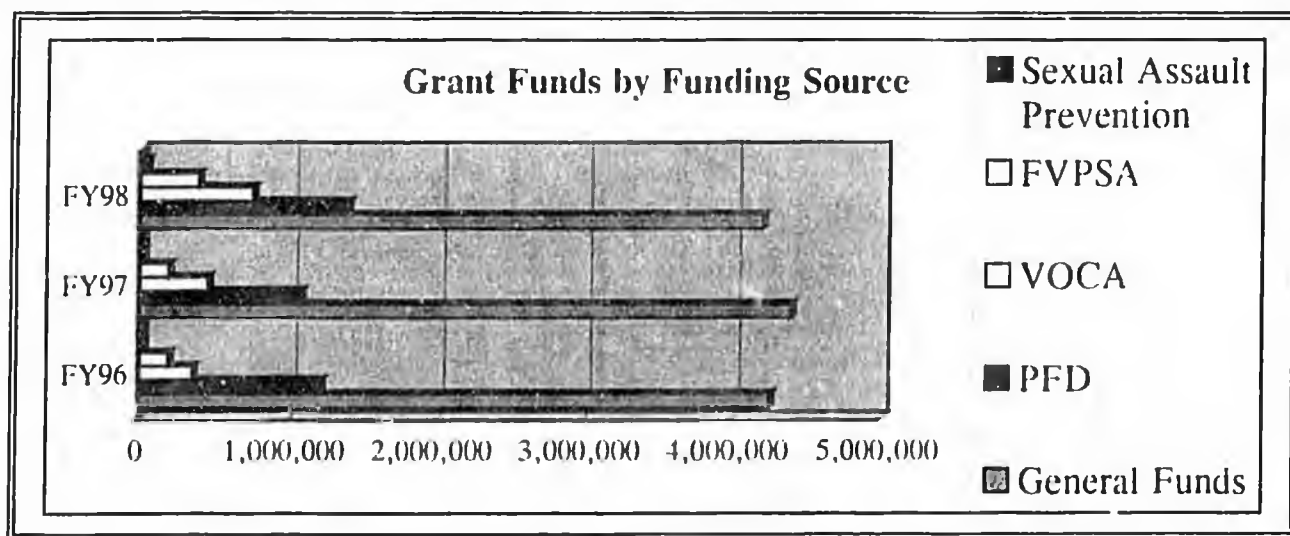
Batterers' intervention programs provide crisis assistance and group counseling services to domestic violence offenders that focus on the offenders' responsibility for the abuse. The primary focus of this type of service provision has to be on maintaining the victim's safety. It is vital that the program has strong coordination with local victim advocacy groups, law enforcement and criminal justice systems.

In FY96-97, the Council also funded **crisis intervention services for victims of other violent crimes**. These crimes include other types of assault, DWI and survivors of victims of homicide. These services are funded by the federal Victims of Crime Act and have specific requirements.

In FY96 and FY97, the Council funded 22 community-based programs to provide services to victims of domestic violence and their families. In FY96, 11,763 clients were served at the local level. This number increased in FY97 to 13,057, which represents an 11% increase. Of these clients 9,545 (FY96) and 10,436 (FY97) were victims and their children. They received a total 50,836 and 49,997 nights of safety, and a total of 104,914 and 136,012 client service contacts. The implementation of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act was cited for much of the increased client numbers, as victims are provided with more information about their rights and where to go for services. The decrease in safe nights is attributed to the increase in the number of arrests of domestic violence offenders, which means victims and their children did not have to leave home as often.

"I have never felt so lost or estranged from my fellow man as when my son David was murdered. No one knows how horrible a person feels when a loved one is taken through homicide. Some people treat you as if you have a deadly contagious disease, others ignore you. I felt totally lost and abandoned. Fortunately, I was referred to Victims for Justice. The support and understanding I have received and have been able to give at support group have had a significant positive impact on my ability to lead a semi-normal life." David's father

Grant funds for FY96 totaled \$6,004,401, including \$536,950 in Federal funds (\$346,950 from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and \$190,000 from the Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA)). In FY97 the amount of grant funds increased to \$6,128,130, including \$658,150 in Federal funds (\$450,150 from VOCA, \$190,000 from FVPSA, and \$18,000 from Sexual Assault Prevention). FY98 saw another increase in grant funds to \$6,784,045, including \$1,181,145 in Federal funds (\$754,145 from VOCA, \$384,000 from FVPSA, and \$43,000 from Sexual Assault Prevention). This represents a 2% increase in state funds over three years, and a 119% increase in federal funds.



PRISON BATTERERS PROGRAMS

Through a Reimbursable Services Agreement (RSA) with the Department of Corrections

Prison BATTERERS' Programs		
	FY96	FY97
Inmates	300	339
Contacts	2977	2840
Services	8566	9274

(DOC), the Council funded and monitored prison batterers' programs in Juneau, Fairbanks and Nome. The focus of these programs is to provide rehabilitative opportunities for inmates in correctional facilities who have been perpetrators of domestic violence. Under this grant program, 300 inmates received 2,977 service contacts in FY96 and 339 inmates received 2,844 service contacts in FY97.

SART/SANE SEED GRANTS

With one of the highest rates of sexual assault in the nation, Alaska needs an effective interagency response to sexual assault, both to apprehend offenders and to provide necessary support for victims. Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART) are multi-disciplinary, community-based teams that include emergency room nurses, law enforcement officers, prosecutors and victim advocates who work together to provide support to victims and gather forensic evidence. Strong interagency coordination decreases the trauma victims can experience after reporting the assault, and increases the likelihood of developing a prosecutable case.

In addition to the team response, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are trained to gather forensic evidence that has not been accessible in the past. Using a microscopic camera - a colposcope - trained nurses conduct the sexual assault exam, and are able to identify minuscule injuries that are a result of non-consensual sexual contact. The first team was developed in Homer in 1994, and has been successfully used in a number of sexual assault prosecutions. Anchorage initiated their SART team in November 1996. Fairbanks began a team in 1997, and many communities are developing teams. This requires extensive training, specialized equipment and coordination between law enforcement, prosecution, victim advocates and nursing staff.

"It's not easy to talk about rape, but I think it might make a difference to someone. Every time I tell my story, it helps me to put the blame and anger where it belongs - on the person who raped me." Sexual assault survivor

Recognizing that communities needed assistance with the start-up costs associated with developing a SART team, the Council awarded five community grants using Violence Against Women Act funds. Dillingham, Juneau, Sitka, Kenai and Palmer were awarded a total \$70,225 for training and equipment costs in FY98 to develop their local teams.

BATTERERS' INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

In the past few years, there has been a proliferation of programs offering services for batterers in response to the willingness of the courts to take a proactive stance in ordering offenders to counseling. For many victims, the most dangerous time is during separation from the perpetrator or when the perpetrator enters an intervention program. It is imperative that batterers' programs are based on a philosophy of holding offenders accountable, while placing the highest priority for victim safety. The Council developed standards in 1995, which were implemented for Council-funded programs.

Under the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996, community-based batterers intervention programs must meet the Department of Corrections' standards prior to accepting court referrals for offenders. Under this legislation, the Department of Corrections works with the Council in establishing the standards. The Department of Corrections adopted emergency regulations on July 1, 1996; these emergency regulations incorporated the Council's 1995 standards.

"I admit there were moments when I knew I was going to get hit. I could see him in that rigid mood. It would fill the whole house. So I would press at him a little to get it over with. Words were the only defense I had." Domestic violence survivor

Because no funds were available in the FY96 budget to oversee the approval process, the Council and Corrections worked with the Alaska Court System to identify an initial \$30,000 to staff this important function. In April 1997, the Council

hired a project coordinator to develop the application process. In August 1997, the Council informed the known 22 batterers' intervention programs of the process. To date 14 service providers have requested applications. One application has been completed, and one is pending. Additionally, two batterers' intervention programs were granted preliminary approval based on their compliance with Council standards as Council-funded programs.

In FY98's budget, the funding for the compliance process was included in the Department of Corrections' budget. Corrections provided these funds to the Council to continue this process. This person will provide assistance to local programs in their development of compliant programs.

The Department of Corrections and the Council worked to revise the initial regulations to incorporate the standards into the regulations. These regulations were released for public comment in October 1997. Corrections is currently reviewing the public comments and revising the regulations; the revised regulations will be submitted to the Council for its approval, prior to the finalization of the regulation process.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION

Under a Reimbursable Service Agreement with the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, the Council receives federal funds to specifically address sexual assault prevention activities. Under the Violence Against Women Act, the funds for these projects increased significantly in 1997. The federal act requires that at least 25% of the funds be designated for sexual assault prevention activities aimed at youth, aged 11 to 19 years old. The Council accomplished this through its regular grant process. Programs in Alaska have been funded to expand

existing youth prevention and education activities. Innovative practices were funded in 1997 to include peer group counseling programs, youth-generated community education programs, and youth retreats to learn about sexual assault.

In August 1997, the Council worked with the Division of Public Health and the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to develop a strategic plan for the use of future funds. Domestic violence and sexual assault programs around Alaska reviewed the draft plan, prior to its approval by the Council. The plan, which will be reviewed and revised on an annual basis, is as follows:

In FY98 the Council awarded \$43,000 to local agencies to provide sexual assault prevention services to youth. The Council will also hold a teleconference for local agencies to highlight innovative youth prevention activities.

The Council has contracted for statewide radio Public Service Announcements (PSA's). A committee has been formed to assess the focus of the campaign (reaching victims, community development, etc.) as well as write the scripts. In addition to the statewide airing, local programs will receive copies of the PSA's for airing on their local radio stations. The committee will also be responsible for selecting two specific brochure topics. The committee will develop the brochures, which the Council will then print and distribute around the state. Finally, the committee will be asked to assess what other types of media campaigns are important for Alaska to pursue, including the media format (e.g. television, newspapers). These ideas will be incorporated in future years.

The Council will assess the resources and needs for community development in the area of sexual assault prevention. A project coordinator will oversee this project, and work with

My life is full of the question "Why?"
I've been told time again, "It's okay to hurt, it's
okay to cry."

I try to be strong but bet the truth is—I want to
die.

So, when I feel that low I look to the sky,
Pray for the rain to wash away the pain,
And that truthfully keeps me sane and able to
maintain.

And I thank-you my friend for helping me in my
time of need.

You are doing a good deed.
We both know I will succeed.

17 year old rape survivor

victim service agencies to identify what services and resources currently exist, and begin preparing community development packets.

“We will work together for a healthy community, recreational activities to replace unfavorable partying. We will be aware of the cries for help and support the victim. We all must work together to combat violence. One person’s violent behavior effects the whole community. Violence will someday be wiped out.” Anonymous

As part of this whole project, baseline data will be developed to be used throughout the

course of this plan to determine the effectiveness of the project.

In **FY99**, the Council will continue both the sexual assault youth prevention grants to local programs, and the community development and public awareness phase. The media campaign will be expanded, based on the recommendations of the FY98 committee. The community development packets will also be completed. The packets will consist of step by step guidelines on how to organize a community to effectively respond to sexual assault. They will also include examples of grassroots and local projects that are currently being implemented throughout Alaska. A plan will be developed and implemented to advertise the existence of these packets, as well as for their distribution.

In **FY00** and **FY01**, the Council will build on the FY98 and FY99 plans and will continue the Youth Sexual Assault Prevention Grants and the community development project. The community development project will be expanded to include researching available funds for local communities to implement their sexual assault prevention and intervention activities. In addition, a mentoring/technical assistance component will be developed. A list will be generated of promising programs and projects around Alaska. Six to ten communities will be selected to receive technical assistance. Based on the specific needs of the community, staff/community residents from a promising program will be selected to travel to the requesting community for direct technical assistance and training.

COORDINATION/TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Council’s coordination role greatly expanded in 1996 and 1997. Three factors played a key role in this increase. First, the federal Violence Against Women Act places a strong emphasis on building a collaborative effort. Second, Alaska’s Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996 expands the Council’s role in consulting with the criminal and civil justice systems, health and social services, and education at both the state and local levels. Third, there has been a rising level of awareness throughout Alaska in the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault which has increased the number of requests for services from a larger number of people.

“How can I raise my son to be strong without being mean? Where is there a role model for him in my village?” Alaskan Native mother

In April 1995, Governor Knowles appointed the Council as the designated lead agency for the State's **Violence Against Women S*T*O*P (Services * Training * Officers * Prosecutors) Project**. The Council committed itself to developing a collaborative statewide effort of law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, victim advocates and service providers. This is being accomplished through the Violence Against Women Act Planning and Implementation Committee, which is co-facilitated by the Executive Directors of both the Council and the non-profit Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. In addition to the co-facilitators, committee members include the following:

- Three Victim Advocate Representatives
- Deputy Director, Alaska State Troopers
- Alaska Police Chiefs Association Representatives
- Deputy Attorney General, Department of Law, Criminal Division
- Two Alaska Court System Representatives
- Senior Staff Associate, Alaska Judicial Council
- Deputy Commissioner, Department of Health and Social Services
- Domestic Violence Specialist, Maternal, Child and Family Health
- Legislator
- Council Public Member
- Council Program Coordinator
- Violence Against Indian Women Grantee Representative
- Department of Corrections Representative

This committee, which meets on a quarterly basis, is responsible for assessing the effectiveness of Alaska's criminal justice and victim advocacy response to domestic violence and sexual assault. Through its process of information sharing and discussion, the Committee has identified some key issues that are incorporated in all aspects of the planning process. Because of the diverse cultural groups within Alaska, it is important that all attempts to improve the State's response are sensitive to Alaskan's many cultures. It is also vital that any work that is done, regardless of the discipline, must incorporate the victim's perspective in order to be as effective as possible. Education of the general public will be paramount to truly decreasing violence against women.

"A 41 year-old woman is undergoing reconstructive surgery after her boyfriend broke her jaw, cheekbones and eye socket and raped her during a four day rampage, according to Alaska State Troopers." Fairbanks Daily News Miner

To date, the Committee has developed three annual plans for use of the Violence Against Women Act S*T*O*P grant funds. Under the grant requirements, 25% of the funds must be designated for victim services, 25% for prosecution activities, and 25% for law enforcement. The remaining 25% or "fourth quarter" can be used for any of the above, as well as the judiciary.

Under the **Victim Services** plan, the Council awarded a grant to the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to implement the Violence Against Women S*T*O*P Legal Advocacy Project. The project provides training and legal consultation to victim advocates. Funds have been used to develop a legal options video for victims, as well as an update of the Legal Rights For Women Handbook. Scholarships were provided for victims, rural service providers and Alaska Natives to attend the statewide Conference to End Violence Against Women and Children that was held in October 1997. A pro bono referral service is currently being developed, as is a list of translators who will be available throughout Alaska to increase court accessibility of victims who speak English as a second language.

"I used to be one of those people who would say, "I don't know why they stay." I tried to leave and I got shot." Domestic violence survivor

The **Department of Law, Criminal Division, administers the Prosecution plan.** Funds have been used for training state and municipal prosecutors and paralegals. In 1996, the prosecutors and paralegals attended a three-day training on domestic violence; in 1997, they attended a three-day training devoted to sexual assault and stalking. A Paralegal Coordinator has been hired to provide better coordination and supervision of the paralegals to strengthen the link between victims and the prosecution offices. The coordinator revised brochures explaining the criminal justice system and the victim's rights. These brochures are being translated and will be available for distribution soon. Funds have also been used to improve computer links

"No one should be made to fear or be threatened for their life. It's not good to hurt someone, physically or mentally. It is good to see that domestic violence is being brought out. We need to talk and listen to each other. We were taught survival skills to face nature, weather and safety when hunting. Domestic violence and sexual assault is something we need to prepare for and know about." Alaskan Native man

between prosecution offices. Audio-visual equipment has been purchased to highlight and annotate pictures and documents during trials; with new domestic violence protocols that will result in many more photos taken of victims, this technology is important to show such things

as "before" and "after" photos. The Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals is developing a "brief bank" with model pleadings on a number of issues that arise frequently in domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases; use of these model pleadings is effective because individual prosecutors do not always have sufficient time to devote to researching and drafting comprehensive and persuasive pleadings, and it ensures that prosecutors are taking consistent positions across the state. A training video library is also being developed to provide additional training to attorneys, as well as orient victims and witnesses with the justice process.

The **Law Enforcement** plan is administered by the Alaska State Troopers (AST) for all law enforcement agencies in Alaska. It has centered on training officers across the state and implementing model protocols within the various police agencies. In working towards those primary goals, it is expected that police officers will better understand the dynamics of

domestic violence and will perform better case investigations. Through the adoption of model protocols, law enforcement will respond more consistently to domestic violence cases. Ultimately, and most importantly, victims of domestic violence will be better served. By the end of 1997, 744 law enforcement officers in Alaska had received the initial training. Because of the high turnover rate and isolation of Village Public Safety Officers and Village Police Officers, a training video will be developed to cover their initial orientation until they are able to attend the Training Academy. A Training Coordinator will contract with AST to oversee the implementation of this component. Plans also include the development of a user-friendly brochure that explains to domestic violence victims their rights under Alaska statute. Funds are being provided for a competitive grant process to allow local law enforcement agencies to purchase needed video and audio equipment for setting up interview/interrogation rooms.

"Thank you for all the help you have given this family. We are doing great. The peace we have today is worth more to us than any amount of gold. With gratitude..." Domestic violence survivor, mother of two children

Fourth Quarter funds under the Violence Against Women S*T*O*P project have been used in a variety of ways to address additional needs. Each year the Council has RSA'd funds to the **Judiciary** for training conferences for judges, magistrates, and court clerks; video equipment; updating the domestic violence benchbook; and supplying rooms dedicated for use by domestic violence victims at certain court houses. Funds were also designated for **Rural Sexual Assault Training**, which completed a project begun in 1995. Regional trainings for law enforcement, including VPSO's, health aids, prosecutors and victim advocates were provided at nine sites. The training was developed to encourage a team approach to sexual assault investigations, while increasing the awareness of needs of sexual assault victims. Fourth quarter funds were also designated for the **SART/SANE Seed Grants** described above. Because law enforcement and prosecution protocols require a greater level of investigation, the **Council and the Alaska State Troopers are jointly implementing the Polaroid Project**. Polaroid, in response to concerns about domestic violence, has developed a special kit to document domestic violence injuries and crime scenes. The Council has purchased 300 kits, which are being distributed to law enforcement, prosecution and victim advocacy agencies around the state.

Copies of the three plans are available upon request through the Council office.

The Council expanded its coordination efforts on children's issues when it received the federal **Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization** grant from the Department of Justice. This grant is being used for three purposes:

- ◇ Revise Alaska's 1987 Inter-departmental Child Sexual Abuse Agreement and expand it to include all forms of child abuse
- ◇ Provide funding to the Division of Family and Youth Services to rewrite their child abuse and neglect screening protocols to include screening and responding to domestic violence
- ◇ Conduct 11 regional trainings throughout Alaska on child abuse and domestic violence

The Council coordinates a multi-disciplinary Interdepartmental Child Abuse Agreement Working Group that began in April 1997. This group includes representation from the Departments of Health and Social Services, Public Safety, Law, Education, and Community and Regional Affairs. Designees provide additional representation from the Tribal/State Collaboration Group and the

"Thank-you for everything you have given me: Love, health, care, and food. I really love going to AWARE. Everyone makes me feel right at home...I've gotten over my problem. I hope that doesn't mean I have to graduate...Well, tah-tah for now. Your best friend." Eight year-old survivor of sexual abuse

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The Group, in addition to reviewing the existing 1987 Child Sexual Abuse Agreement, has surveyed local community groups that work on child abuse issues to learn what is effective and to identify Alaska's weaknesses in responding to child abuse. Work from the Child Protection Review Team that was established in August 1997 is being reviewed and incorporated into the agreement, which designates the roles in interagency coordination of state agencies. Model protocols for communities to use in developing local team efforts will be attached to the agreement.

The Council is also working with the Division of Family and Youth Services (DFYS) under this grant to establish clear policies and procedures so DFYS social workers can screen for and appropriately respond to child abuse cases where adult domestic violence is also present. This will bring DFYS into compliance with the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996.

The final project is the implementation of 11 regional trainings on domestic violence and child abuse. These trainings have two goals. They will incorporate basic information on domestic violence, child abuse, and the correlation of these two problems that negatively impact too many Alaskan families. They will also incorporate the development of local teams to respond to child abuse. Participants in these trainings will include victim advocates, health providers, law enforcement officers, social workers, Indian Child Welfare workers, prosecutors, assistant attorney generals, and educators.

Special efforts will be made to incorporate village providers and residents. The Council has awarded a Reimbursable Service Agreement to the Department of Health and Social Services, Section of Maternal, Child and Family Health to coordinate these trainings, based on their successful Alaska Domestic Violence Training Project. A steering committee is currently being developed to begin the planning for these trainings which will be completed in FY99.

The Council was awarded another discretionary federal **Grant to Encourage Mandated Arrest**. It is being used to implement several of the requirements of Alaska's 1996 Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act, and includes a five-pronged approach aimed at every component of the system that responds to a victim of domestic violence:

- ◇ Develop an automated registry for tracking protective orders; the registry will be accessible to the courts, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and probation officers
- ◇ Train police departments and rural Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs) in the mandatory arrest law, on policies to implement the law, and on the automated protective order registry (in conjunction with S*T*O*P funds)
- ◇ Give rural VPSOs and other small police departments the ability to gather evidence necessary for

"The worst incident happened on my son's 13th birthday. Things had been tense all week, and I'd been so careful to do everything perfectly, not to do anything to make my husband angry. After dinner that night, I brought my son's birthday cake out to him. I was singing "Happy Birthday", but my husband wouldn't sing with me. He said I wasn't singing loud enough, and this was more proof of what a bad mother I was. I sang louder, almost yelling, but it wasn't enough, and he hit me, twice, in the face. My son saw all of this.

I stayed home from work for a week until my black eye faded. That week I thought back and realized that I had changed my whole life for this man, to keep him from getting angry --- but he *still* abused me. That was when I realized that the abuse was *his* problem and *his* responsibility, and I was not at fault. I called AWAIC the next day." Alaskan domestic violence survivor

cases to be prosecuted through Polaroid Domestic Violence Kits.

- ◇ Design and implement a volunteer legal advocate corps in district attorneys' offices, through collaboration with victim service agencies
- ◇ Create a pilot program to supervise domestic violence misdemeanor probationers, which will be studied to develop recommendations on how best to ensure the compliance with court orders of domestic violence offenders.

While the Council received this grant, the majority of implementation has been designated to other State agencies. The central registry for protective orders is being implemented by the Department of Public Safety, as required by state statute. In addition to the actual development of software, the Department is overseeing a committee to develop policies on how the State will incorporate protective orders issued by tribal and outside jurisdictions. This is a requirement of both the Violence Against Women Act and state statute, and is important to ensure that victims are afforded continuous protection regardless of their physical location.

As described above, the Council is working with the Alaska State Troopers in disseminating the Polaroid Domestic Violence Kits to VPSOs as well as municipal law enforcement agencies. The training for VPSOs is being accomplished in conjunction with the law enforcement training under the S*T*O*P project.

The Department of Law is developing the volunteer corps of legal advocates, in consultation with the Council. It is recognized that the successful prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases is enhanced by strong coordination between the victims and the

prosecution offices. Volunteers will assist the Department of Law, Criminal Division in initiating and maintaining communication with victims. These services will be closely coordinated with local victim advocacy agencies to avoid a duplication of services, as well as to strengthen the support net available to victims.

The pilot probation project is being implemented by the Department of Corrections in the Mat-Su Valley. Alaska is one of a handful of states in which probation supervision is not provided to misdemeanants by any entity. Andrew Klein, Chief Probation Officer for the Quincy, Massachusetts District Court, a community known for its activist approach to domestic violence said, "Probation and parole procedures are often the weakest link in the criminal justice system. Batterers inevitably find that weak link and use it against their victims." There has been some resistance to the idea of providing probation supervision to misdemeanants, in large part due to the lack of resources for new programs. Cost is a valid concern. Alaska currently has about 3,600 felons on active probation supervision; the addition of 1,200 misdemeanor domestic violence offenders would increase the case load by one third. Because the success or failure of the pilot project will need to be effectively analyzed and

communicated to the public and the legislature, the Alaska Judicial Council is evaluating the project and will provide recommendations on how to increase offenders' compliance with court orders.

The Council provides domestic violence and sexual assault information to any State agency, group or individual requesting it. The Council and its staff understand the importance of assisting community groups and programs, particularly in rural areas, to better understand the issues, as well as to improve services to meet local needs. Technical assistance is provided through telephone calls, written materials, and on-site visits as travel resources permit. In addition to the coordination efforts required under the above grants, the Council and its staff worked with the following state and local agencies during 1996 and 1997:

- ◇ Alaska Court System in development of protective order forms
- ◇ Public Assistance in addressing welfare reform and the domestic violence exception
- ◇ Public Health in the development of Emergency Medical Services training on domestic violence
- ◇ Alaska Interdepartmental Committee for Young Children
- ◇ Alaska's Statewide Child Protection Team

Domestic violence
Ingrained, a part of me
Victimized
Since I can remember
Dysfunctional, so unfair
But family affairs
Are secretive
Raised to respect elders
Taught not to talk back
I kept alot of secrets
Sure was a bright kid
But this kid has grown
It's really hard to be emulous
When I realized, it could be broke
My children imitate
That's the only reason
I'm not a punching bag
I have feelings, real ones
So, don't tell me
One person cannot change
Dear God, I'm praying
It's okay to take time out
Focus and meditate
It's dignity and self-respect
I'd like to emulate
For my family and friends.

Anonymous

- ◇ Tribal/State Collaboration Group
- ◇ Department of Corrections - Victims' Coordination
- ◇ Maternal, Child and Family Health Domestic Violence Project
- ◇ Local law enforcement agencies on the implementation of the domestic violence law changes
- ◇ Numerous Native villages on their applications for federal Violence Against Women Act discretionary grants

STATEWIDE TELECONFERENCE

The Council holds a statewide teleconference each year to solicit input on an issue of concern in the areas of domestic violence and sexual assault. In 1996, the focus of the teleconference was on the pending Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act. In 1997, the topic was domestic violence and welfare reform.

TRAINING

As part of its contractual budget, the Council funded the travel for 44 victim advocates to attend a week-long legal advocacy training sponsored by the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The conference, which was part of the Legal Advocacy Project under the S*T*O*P project, focused on expanding the legal advocacy capabilities of locally-based victim advocates. The Council also subsidized the travel and per diem of victim advocates to attend the bi-annual domestic violence conference sponsored by the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in October, 1997.

The Council collaborated with Maternal Child and Family Health to develop a domestic violence and family preservation training module to be used as part of a certified training curriculum under the Tribal/State Collaboration Group.

"We are swimming through a river of change. We've spent the last decade standing on the river bank, rescuing women who are drowning. In the next decade, some of us have to go to the head of the river to keep women from falling in." Gloria Steinam

DATA COLLECTION

The Council is in the process of implementing the second phase of a three-phase Data Project to design a new system that will develop an adequate software program to provide the needed information on domestic violence and sexual assault. Currently, each program submits demographic and services provided forms on each client who receives services under the Council grants. The Council's Statistical Technician is responsible for entering tens of thousands of pages of data each year, which then provides the bulk of the Council's data base. Under the new system, each program will be responsible for inputting data on a monthly basis and submitting the information to the Council by either floppy disk or modem. This will

eliminate potential errors by the Council, as well as free existing staff time for more analysis and dissemination of information.

The Council has assessed the information needs of Alaska in order to improve our effective response. It is working with a committee of Council-funded program representatives to determine what data needs are currently unmet. Because the Council's data only reflect those people who chose to seek services at locally-based programs, any data collected will have its limitations. Once the plan is fully realized, computers will be purchased for each Council-funded program.

Why do men refer to coming on to a woman as hitting on her? Makes you wonder where they came up with that phrase.
Anonymous

A contract was awarded for the development of the new software package that will eventually be implemented in all Council-funded advocacy agencies. The software, based on the Council's current data collection, was completed in 1997, and five pilot sites were selected for implementation. The pilot sites were trained in the fall, 1997, and have been using the new data entry system since November. It is projected that all Council funded programs will be using the new system by September 1998.

CRITICAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES FOR ALASKA

Alaska is fortunate to have a system for addressing the pain and suffering caused by family and sexual violence. Over the past seventeen years there has been a growing awareness of the problems, and efforts have been made on both the State and local levels to address the concerns as they arise. Yet, the number of men, women and children in Alaska that are affected by these crimes continues to grow. It is only recently that society has begun to view domestic and sexual violence as serious criminal acts. In domestic violence and sexual assault cases where the victim knows the perpetrator, Alaskans still have a tendency to view it as a private, family matter. Even when a stranger (which is the rarest form of this crime) perpetrates the sexual assault, the victim is too often blamed rather than the perpetrator. Existing criminal justice, public health and assistance, and victim service efforts to end this problem have become fragmented due to a lack of resources. As elsewhere in the nation, we are not keeping pace with the level of violence that is affecting over one-fourth of all Alaskans.

“[She] decided to leave her abusive husband. He came home early and saw her packed bag. ‘He grabbed me by the back of the hair and beat me for four hours. He threw hot coffee in my face, he kicked me, slapped me. He was walking into the bedroom and I knew where he was going – to get his gun. He said, “I can’t live without you and I won’t let you live without me”’ [She] was running for the back door when the bullet pierced her knee. She kept going, walking a few steps then falling to the lawn, screaming yet crawling away from her husband...” Fairbanks Daily News Miner
Article

Sexual Assault Response

Alaska is making significant strides in responding to sexual assault. In developing the Sexual Assault Prevention Plan (see 96-97 Accomplishments), the planning committee assessed Alaska’s response to sexual assault. A number of strengths were identified that include:

- ◇ Alaska has a good system of regional medical advocacy
- ◇ There is an expanding number of SART/SANE teams
- ◇ Training is being provided to prosecutors and paralegals
- ◇ Many local and state groups are looking into the problem, including community teams, VAWA S*T*O*P, Legislature
- ◇ Strong law enforcement response, especially with sexual abuse of a minor
- ◇ Advocacy programs have bilingual staff
- ◇ Work in schools and with youth
- ◇ Local community education and prevention
- ◇ Coordination with statewide entities such as child health and family services

- ◇ Governor and administration are interested in sexual assault and supportive (historically and current)
- ◇ Good laws, compared with other states

However, the committee also identified that Alaska has a number of weaknesses in its response. Alaska needs to continue working on developing better coordinated policies and subsequent training for the criminal justice and human service systems. Much of this training and policy is currently mandated, but it has become a lower priority. There is significant concern that with the development

“...[She] does not stop wringing her hands while she talks about the rape...Her smooth Southern accent is interrupted by a stammer she didn't have before [he] attacked her ... as she lay in bed sick. She likens herself to a smashed Humpty Dumpty. 'My heart has been shattered. I, I, I, I can still feel his touch,' she said. When she talks about the rape her hands move faster and her stammer worsens. At 5'4", she weighs under 100 pounds - 21 pounds less than before the attack.” Fairbanks Daily News Miner Article.

of SART/SANE teams, the standards are being raised too high for the acceptance of cases for prosecution. This could result in fewer prosecutions of rural and bush sexual assaults where victims do not have access to SART/SANE exams. There also needs to be more funding for direct services throughout Alaska.

A problem that has existed for a long time is that even when a case is prosecuted, juries have a tendency to acquit. More education is necessary to refocus public thinking that victims are not somehow to blame for the rape. The committee recognizes that the most effective way to directly impact sexual assault is for communities to become actively involved in education, prevention and intervention activities. Funding cuts have reduced these efforts. There is a lack of resources for community initiatives, both in terms of financial and technical assistance. There is a high rate of sexual assault on college campuses, yet college age outreach and sexual assault prevention is lacking.

Through the Sexual Assault Prevention funds, the Council will work to develop resources for local communities to develop their own initiatives. It must, however, be recognized that with increased community awareness, more victims will come forward to report their assaults. Additional resources will be needed to respond to the projected increases in service requests and advocacy.

INCREASED ARRESTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

Many victims of domestic violence, as with other violent crimes, will frequently fight back in self-defense when they are being abused. Because of the nature of domestic violence, batterers will usually deny that they have assaulted their partner, or excused their violence by saying it was an accident

“It is far easier to assume there is something wrong with the victim than to learn what is wrong more deeply with the social system.” Anonymous

or self-defense, or that he needed to restrain the victim because she was drunk, high on drugs or hysterical. Victims on the other hand, will readily admit if they struck out, although it is usually in selfdefense. Law enforcement has traditionally looked at a single incident as an isolated event. When confronted with two people, one who denies assaultive behavior, and one who admits using physical force, the normal course for police is to arrest the person who admits to an offense.

With the passage of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996, law enforcement officers are now required to make a mandatory arrest if probable cause exists that a crime has occurred. Because of the above concerns, Alaska's statutes include a requirement that law enforcement officers must determine who is the principal physical aggressor. It is important to look at the current incident, as well as the history of violence and the potential for future abuse and injury. Other jurisdictions that have implemented mandatory arrest have found that it is necessary to institute clear policies and procedures on domestic violence cases, as well as extensive training.

Many of the victim service programs throughout Alaska reported an initial increase in the number of victims who were being arrested for domestic violence. In the past twelve months, most law enforcement agencies have provided their officers with domestic violence training through the Violence Against Women S*T*O*P project. As result of this training, the victim service agencies are reporting a reduction in the number of victims that are being arrested.

Yet, the numbers of arrests remain higher than what is indicated. Anne O'Dell, a retired police officer who started the San Diego

"Years ago, I knew a woman who used to be mentally and physically abused...[She] married a man from another village. She did not know his background...I was hired to go work in the village they had moved to... [She] was about eight months pregnant with two black eyes, swollen lips, bruised arms and legs--who knows where else...When her husband came home, I made an excuse to leave." Shelter advocate, Bering Sea Women's Group.

Domestic Violence Unit, is recognized as a national law enforcement leader and trainer. She states that arrest rates of women in domestic violence cases should never exceed 10%. Any arrest rates of women that exceed this level reflect an inappropriate interpretation of the mandatory arrest and principal physical aggressor. Continued education and policy development are needed to reduce the further victimization of women in domestic violence. Arrests rates of women in Alaska are not yet consistently available, yet they reportedly vary from 7% to 30%.

NEED FOR LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR VICTIMS

Battered women are often unaware of legal resources available to assist them in ending the violence. Alaska Legal Services, which has provided a significant portion of the legal

representation needed by domestic violence victims, has faced severe funding shortfalls in the past ten years. Most victims of sexual assault are also unaware of the complexities of criminal justice proceedings. Women throughout the state are under-represented in the legal system.

Another deficit in Alaska's response to domestic violence is the lack of long term housing for victims and their children. While regional shelters exist throughout Alaska, the time a victim is allowed to stay is limited from three weeks to two months. This varies throughout the state, based on size of the shelter and the utilization trends. However, it can take a woman who is leaving an abusive relationship months and sometimes years, to work her way through the civil and criminal justice systems, as well as to become economically self-sufficient. Transitional housing, independent living situations, usually with a higher security system than traditional apartments/houses, is sorely needed. In these facilities, rent is based on income, and provides the needed time for victims to attain a greater level of safety.

The lack of services in both of these key areas are consistently noted by locally-based programs as being a severe detriment to victims obtaining a safe and secure lifestyle for themselves and their children.

" I left my kids behind. He said he would kill them if I tried to take them. I believed him."
Domestic violence victim

RURAL SERVICES

Many people who live in rural areas do not have ready access to domestic violence and sexual assault programs. Services are available through long distance telephone calls, which is not the optimum. There are also fewer resources to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in rural areas than in larger communities. Police protection may be limited or nonexistent, and there are fewer trained health and social service professionals. The plight of victims of rape in a rural area is worsened because of the difficulty of conducting investigations and collecting evidence. Battered women do not always have the refuge of family and friends because they fear for other people's safety or they feel shame in letting other people know of their problems. Children who are victims of sexual assault do not have the necessary resources to help them deal with the trauma of the assault, the legal process and the after-effects.

Council-funded programs have developed rural service delivery to many communities in Alaska. This is accomplished by means of local safe home programs, access to 24-hour crisis lines, and travel to the shelters. Outreach to these communities often is limited to only one trip per year, making it difficult to educate the community on the issues of family and sexual violence, and the accessibility of services. Because of the high cost of air travel within the state, funding for client travel to shelters is quickly exhausted. Victims' safety is jeopardized when they are unable to leave the village.

Additional resources are always needed to ensure safety is provided to all victims within the state, regardless of locale. Additional federal resources are becoming available to tribes

throughout the country. It is important that the State and tribes work together to ensure these resources are accessed and used effectively to improve the safety of all Alaskan women and children.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUMMIT FINDINGS AND PLAN

During the Governor's Domestic Violence Summit in December 1997, the national and state experts, along with the 96 delegates identified some overall concerns with domestic violence in Alaska. Over the course of two days, Alaska's response to domestic violence was assessed.

On the second day of the Summit, delegates were broken into eight specific focus groups to provide an in-depth assessment of key areas of Alaska's response. Each focus group identified specific problems in their area, and proposed action plans to address these problems. A representative was appointed from each group to serve on an implementation review team to monitor the solutions and actions over the next year.

"He tells me that if I would keep my mouth shut, we would never fight and he would never hit me. I'm walking around in my own home in silence. Is this the life for me? We have to open our eyes to our violence in our villages."
Alaskan Native domestic violence victim

The following are the problems and solutions that were generated by the individual focus groups:

Victim's Services Focus Group

- ◇ Increase the accountability of batterers' behavior by implementing and enhancing enforcement standards.
- ◇ Ensure the immediate and long-term safety issues of victims and their children by enhancing services.
- ◇ Address inadequate education and public awareness by expanding educational programs and public information regarding domestic violence.

Children and Youth Focus Group

- ◇ Reduce the impact that violence has on children by strengthening Alaska civil and criminal statutes.
- ◇ Improve the training and funding of persons who work with minors through mandated, standardized and fully funded continuing education and regulation.
- ◇ Expand the resources for direct services to children victimized by domestic violence including: a 24-hour hot-line for youth; 24-hour safety response teams; locations specifically designed for safety of child victims of domestic violence; supervised visitation centers; Alaska Legal Services for child custody cases; and affordable and accessible mental health care.

Law Enforcement Focus Group

- ◇ Increase the number of law enforcement officers, troopers and VPSOs who are adequately trained and equipped to address domestic violence issues, with an emphasis on identifying the primary physical aggressor and mandatory arrest.
- ◇ Improve the coordinated community response by hiring a statewide coordinator and increasing collaboration between all relevant parties using existing infrastructures.
- ◇ Improve the consistent implementation of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act of 1996 by developing model statewide investigative policies, protocols, forms, and a training/implementation plan.

Prosecution Focus Group

- ◇ Enhance effective prosecutions, perpetrator accountability and victim safety by improving Alaska's criminal statutes to include: making it a crime to commit domestic violence in front of children; changing evidence rules to allow expert testimony; upgrading probation for misdemeanor offenders; reassessing sentencing; upgrading repeat misdemeanor offense to felony level; and criminalizing the violation of conditions of release.
- ◇ Increase the coordination within all parts of the system for more effective prosecutions, perpetrator accountability and victim safety. This will be done through development and implementation of model protocols, the creation and increased use of existing task forces, increased multi-disciplinary training on victim concerns and issues, and the coordination of victim access to resources, use existing resources and data.
- ◇ Determine the adequate number of prosecutors, victim/witness coordinators and misdemeanor probation officers; fund a volunteer coordinator position to maintain program; provide training and trainers; factor in the higher cost of prosecution based on 1996 law; provide for expert witnesses and witness travel.

Judiciary Focus Group

- ◇ Improve domestic violence victims' access to the court system through upgraded telecommunication systems in rural courts, providing protective order petitions in languages other than English, and using court-appointed interpreters.
- ◇ Make the protective order process more responsive to the needs of victims and children.
- ◇ Increase the meaningful and effective consequences for domestic violence crimes by strengthening the use of approved batterers' intervention programs, the use of pre-sentence reports and the assessment of the effectiveness of sentencing options.
- ◇ Increase judicial coordination with tribes to more effectively respond to domestic violence.

Corrections Focus Group

- ◇ Intervene in the cycle of violence by ensuring that programs for female inmates address issues of victimization for themselves and their children.

- ◇ Increase consistent victim notification and involvement of victims in parole decisions and community-based release.
- ◇ Increase the monitoring of probation and protective orders to hold offenders accountable and keep victims safe.

Batterers' Intervention Programs Focus Group

- ◇ Increase offender accountability through: certification of programs; monitoring of offenders by probation officers and intervention programs; ensuring jail time is ordered when offenders don't complete a court-ordered batterers' intervention program.
- ◇ Establish clear measures for effectiveness of batterers' intervention programs by determining outcome measures and developing on-going research tools.
- ◇ Increase the understanding of what is and is not effective and how batterers' intervention programs fit into the process of breaking the cycle of violence through interdisciplinary training.

Training and Coordination Focus Group

- ◇ Create a central clearinghouse that includes curriculums, maintains information on current training, and is accessible through a website or bulletin board.
- ◇ Increase public awareness about the extent and impact of domestic violence through a public awareness campaign that creates a public investment in solutions.
- ◇ Ensure the existing mandates for training and policies are implemented.
- ◇ Create a multi-disciplinary task force to identify and address the specific and pressing issues of domestic violence in rural Alaska.

"My father was a good man. He made a decision early on to not be like his father. He never laid a hand on my mom." Native Alaskan woman

COUNCIL STAFFING

The Council has consistently used less than 5% of its total budget for administrative costs. With the increased responsibility under the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996, as well as the increases in programs and projects, the Council has been unable to keep pace with the statutory responsibilities. As cited in the 1997 Legislative Budget and Audit report, the Council is in need of additional staffing to provide adequate oversight of grants, as well as to provide the increased level of coordination and consultation needed to ensure Alaska has a comprehensive response to domestic violence and sexual assault. The Council has requested an increase of \$60,000 in combined State and federal funds to provide 1.5 new staff positions. This still leaves the Council's administrative costs a 4.67% administrative cost rate.

Project/Intent	Cost	% of Budget
Regular Grants for Victim Services	6,959,500	79.48
Community-based Batterers Intervention Program Grants	60,000	.69
Prison Batterers Program Grants	108,700	1.24
Special Projects - VAWA, Mandatory Arrest, RDV/CV	1,123,900	12.84
Batterers' Intervention Program Standard Approval	65,000	.74
Training Funds for Locally-based Programs	30,000	.34
General Administration	409,400	4.67
TOTAL	8,756,500	1.00

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

FUNDED PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND GRANT AMOUNTS

APPENDIX A

<u>COMMUNITY / PROGRAM</u>	<u>SERVICES PROVIDED</u>	<u>FY96</u>	<u>FY97</u>	<u>FY98</u>
<u>ANCHORAGE</u>				
Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC) Jan MacClarence, Executive Director 100 West 13th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 279-9581 Fax: 279-7244	Domestic violence: shelter, crisis line, advocacy, counseling, children's services, batterers' counseling, elder abuse services, prevention/education	\$713,700	\$726,260	\$785,900
Alaska Women's Resource Center (AWRC) Diane Heard, Executive Director 111 W. 9th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 279-6316 Fax: 276-6754	Domestic violence: crisis intervention, advocacy, counseling, prevention/education	\$159,400	\$162,210	\$193,200
Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) Trisha Gentle, Executive Director 1057 W Fireweed, Suite 230 Anchorage, AK 99503 Phone: 276-7279 Fax: 278-9983	Sexual assault: crisis line, advocacy, counseling, children's services, elder abuse services, prevention/education	\$318,572	\$324,180	\$380,400
Victims for Justice (VFJ) Janice Lienhart, Executive Director 619 East Fifth Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 278-0977 Fax: 258-0740	Survivors of homicide victims and violent crime victims: crisis intervention, advocacy, education & support/counseling	\$32,700	\$33,280	\$71,900

COMMUNITY / PROGRAM**SERVICES PROVIDED****FY96****FY97****FY98****BARROW**

Arctic Women In Crisis (AWIC)
Jeanne Cross, Coordinator
P. O. Box 69
Barrow, AK 99723
Phone: 852-0261
Fax: 852-0315

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
shelter, crisis line, advocacy,
counseling, children's program,
rural outreach, prevention/education

\$233,429 \$237,540 \$237,540

BETHEL

Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC)
Nancy O'Mara, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1537
Bethel, AK 99559
Phone: 543-3455
Fax: 543-3752

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
shelter, crisis line, counseling,
children's services, rural outreach,
prevention/education, client
advocacy

\$498,250 \$520,960 \$559,900

CORDOVA

Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC)
Nancy McWilliams, Administrative Director
P.O. Box 863
Cordova, AK 99574
Phone: 424-5674
Fax: 424-5673

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
safe homes, crisis line, counseling,
advocacy, prevention/education

\$40,360 \$41,070 \$48,070

COMMUNITY / PROGRAM	SERVICES PROVIDED	FY96	FY97	FY98
<u>DILLINGHAM</u>				
Safe And Fear-Free Environment (SAFE) Ginger Baim, Executive Director P.O. Box 94 Dillingham, AK 99576 Phone: 842-2320 Fax: 842-2198	Domestic violence/sexual assault: shelter, crisis line, counseling, children's program, rural outreach, prevention/education	\$268,650	\$273,380	\$314,400
<u>EMMONAK</u>				
Emmonak Women's Shelter (EWS) Lenora (Lynn) Hootch, Executive Director P.O. Box 207 Emmonak, AK 99581 Phone: 949-1434 Fax: 949-1718	Domestic violence/sexual assault: shelter, crisis intervention	\$98,377	\$100,110	\$145,724
<u>FAIRBANKS</u>				
Women In Crisis-Counseling & Assistance (WIC-CA) Sandy Samaniego, Executive Director 717 9th Ave. Fairbanks, A. 99701 Phone: 452-2293 Fax: 452-2613	Domestic violence/sexual assault: shelter, crisis line, advocacy counseling, children's services, elder abuse services, rural outreach, prevention/education	\$604,900	\$615,550	\$660,500

COMMUNITY / PROGRAM	SERVICES PROVIDED	FY96	FY97	FY98
<u>HOMER</u>				
South Peninsula Women's Services (SPWS) Laurentia Chamblee, Executive Director 3776 Lake Street, Suite 100 Homer, AK 99603 Phone: 235-7713 Fax: 235-2733	Domestic violence/sexual assault: safe homes, crisis line, advocacy, children's program, counseling, rural outreach, prevention/education	\$205,100	\$208,710	\$244,000
<u>JUNEAU</u>				
Aiding Women from Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE) Annette Coggins, Executive Director P.O. Box 020809 Juneau, AK 99802-0809 Phone: 586-6623 Fax: 586-2479	Domestic violence/sexual assault: shelter, crisis line, advocacy, counseling, children's services, elder abuse services, rural outreach, prevention/education	\$431,450	\$439,050	\$482,430
Tongass Community Counseling Center (TCCC) Bridget Crawford, Executive Director 222 Seward Street, Suite 202 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 586-3585 Fax: 586-3241	Domestic violence: batterers' counseling, children's services, prevention/education	\$59,600	\$63,110	\$60,000

<u>COMMUNITY / PROGRAM</u>	<u>SERVICES PROVIDED</u>	<u>FY96</u>	<u>FY97</u>	<u>FY98</u>
<u>KENAI/SOLDOTNA</u>				
Kenai/Soldotna Women's Resource and Crisis Center (K/SWRCC) Brenda Wieffering, Executive Director 325 Spruce Street Kenai, AK 99611 Phone: 283-9479 Fax: 283-5844	Domestic violence/sexual assault: shelter, crisis line, advocacy, elder abuse, counseling, children's programs, prevention/education	\$335,000	\$340,900	\$391,000
<u>KETCHIKAN</u>				
Women In Safe Homes (WISH) Gigi Pilcher, Executive Director P.O. Box 6552 Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone: 225-0202 Fax: 225-2472	Domestic violence/sexual assault: shelter, crisis line, advocacy, counseling children's services, rural outreach, prevention/education	\$433,324	\$440,950	\$489,900
<u>KODIAK</u>				
Kodiak Women's Resource and Crisis Center (KWRCC) Letitia Raub, Executive Director P.O. Box 2122 Kodiak, AK 99615 Phone: 486-6171 Fax: 486-4264	Domestic violence/sexual assault: shelter, crisis line, advocacy, counseling, children's services, rural outreach, prevention/education	\$241,400	\$245,650	\$259,100

COMMUNITY / PROGRAM**SERVICES PROVIDED****FY96****FY97****FY98****NOME**

Bering Sea Women's Group (BSWG)
Beverly Bowers, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1596
Nome, AK 99762
Phone: 443-5491
Fax: 443-3748

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
shelter, crisis line, advocacy,
counseling, children's services, rural
outreach, prevention/education

\$397,950 \$404,960 \$414,100

PALMER

Valley Women's Resource Center (VWRC)
Kathleen Rogge, Acting Director
403 South Alaska Street
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 746-4080
Fax: 746-1177

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
shelter, crisis line, advocacy,
counseling, children's services,
prevention/education

\$357,000 \$363,290 \$411,900

SEWARD

Seward Life Action Council (SLAC)
Melissa Stone, Executive Director
Virginia Hawick, DV/SA Coordinator
P.O. Box 1045
Seward, AK 99664
Phone: 224-5257
Fax: 224-7081

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
safe homes, crisis line, advocacy,
counseling

\$51,714 \$54,230 \$74,230

COMMUNITY / PROGRAM**SERVICES PROVIDED****FY96****FY97****FY98****SITKA**

Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV)
Christine McCloud, Executive Director
P.O. Box 6136
Sitka, AK 99835
Phone: 747-3370
Fax: 747-3450

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
shelter, crisis line, advocacy,
counseling, children's services, rural
outreach, prevention/education

\$268,513 \$273,240 \$297,830

UNALASKA

Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and
Family Violence (USAFV)
Desiree Ortega, Executive Director
P.O. Box 36
Unalaska, AK 99685
Phone: 581-1500
Fax: 581-4568

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
shelter, crisis line, counseling,
advocacy, prevention/education

\$95,500 \$97,180 \$119,021

VALDEZ

Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV)
Debra Pexa, Executive Director
P.O. Box 524
Valdez, AK 99686
Phone: 835-2980
Fax: 835-2981

Domestic violence/sexual assault:
shelter, counseling, crisis line, client
advocacy, children's services,
prevention/education, rural outreach

\$159,512 \$162,320 \$203,000

PROGRAM STATISTICS

APPENDIX B

REGIONAL DEFINITIONS

In order to obtain a consistent level of comparison, the Council's program statistics are broken out into regions. These regions, as defined below, are consistent with the Kids Count and Community and Regional Affairs statistical information. Client statistics are reflected in the region where the program the provided the services is located.

ANCHORAGE/MATANUSKA-SUSITNA REGION

AWAIC-ANCHORAGE
AWRC-ANCHORAGE
STAR-ANCHORAGE
VFJ-ANCHORAGE
VWRC-PALMER

GULF COAST REGION

AVV-VALDEZ
CFRC-CORDOVA
K/SWRCC-KENAI
KWRCC-KODIAK
SLAC-SEWARD
SPWS-HOMER

NORTHERN REGION

AWIC-BARROW
BSWG-NOME

SOUTHEAST REGION

AWARE-JUNEAU
SAFV-SITKA
TCCC-JUNEAU
WISH-KETCHIKAN

SOUTHWEST REGION

EWS-EMMONAK
SAFE-DILLINGHAM
TWC-BETHEL
USAFV-UNALASKA

INTERIOR REGION

WICCA-FAIRBANKS

Program Data Definitions

Victim: A victim is a person who has had a domestic violence, sexual assault, incest or other violent crime incident directed toward them as the primary target. Children who have been abused themselves are considered victims. If the abuse was directed towards another person (i.e. the mother), then the child is considered a minor child.

Perpetrator: A perpetrator is a person who directs an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, incest, or other violent incident towards another person.

Client Adult: A person 18 years of age or over receiving services as a result of a domestic violence, sexual assault, or incest incident directed towards another person who is a relative neighbor, friend, etc.

Minor Child: A person under 18 years of age receiving services as a result of a domestic violence, sexual assault, or incest incident directed towards another person, usually the mother.

Domestic Violence: Domestic violence includes physical abuse, threats, emotional or verbal abuse, or destruction of property or pets which is perpetrated by the victim's spouse/partner, former spouse/partner, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, or someone living in the same dwelling as the victim, or has been in a dating, courtship and/or engagement type relationship.

Sexual Assault: Sexual assault and abuse occur when actual or attempted sexual penetration or sexual contact occurs without the victim's consent. Sexual harassment and other sexual exploitation are also included in this issue.

Incest: Incest is sexual abuse by a parent, sibling, or other household member in a position of authority over a child. People included in this category are parents, stepparents, parent's partners, siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents, guardians, and foster parents.

Crisis Intervention: Crisis Intervention is clients who receive services to help them deal with violent crimes other than domestic violence, sexual assault and incest. This includes victims of DWI, survivors of victims of homicide, and assaults where the perpetrator is not a family or household member, or partner/lover.

Clients Served by Region - FY96

ISSUE / CLIENT TYPE	Anchorage/ Mat-Su	Gulf Coast	Interior	Northern	Southeast	Southwest	Total
CRISIS INTERVENTION							
CLIENT ADULT	22	60	0	10	28	9	129
MINOR	5	3	3	0	21	1	33
PERPETRATOR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VICTIM	299	13	4	13	54	6	389
UNKNOWN	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL CI CLIENTS	327	76	7	23	103	16	552
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE							
CLIENT ADULT	8	37	13	15	36	140	249
MINOR	856	243	258	220	435	243	2,255
PERPETRATOR	698	9	149	108	356	3	1,323
VICTIM	1,899	828	678	588	883	357	5,233
UNKNOWN	5	4	0	1	2	2	14
TOTAL DV CLIENTS	3,466	1,121	1,098	932	1,712	745	9,074
INCEST							
CLIENT ADULT	53	7	14	0	19	1	94
MINOR	16	6	13	0	23	4	62
PERPETRATOR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VICTIM	218	46	18	2	75	6	365
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL IN CLIENTS	287	59	45	2	117	11	521
SEXUAL ASSAULT							
CLIENT ADULT	189	26	12	6	48	54	335
MINOR	59	5	12	26	57	35	194
PERPETRATOR	0	0	0	21	0	1	22
VICTIM	485	87	45	68	181	143	1,009
UNKNOWN	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL SA CLIENTS	734	118	69	121	286	233	1,561
UNKNOWN							
CLIENT ADULT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MINOR	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
PERPETRATOR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VICTIM	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
UNKNOWN	24	5	2	10	6	3	50
TOTAL UNK CLIENTS	25	5	3	11	8	3	55
TOTAL CLIENTS	4,839	1,379	1,222	1,089	2,226	1,008	11,763
NIGHTS SAFETY	18,808	6,085	6,256	3,961	11,689	4,216	51,015
SERVICES PROVIDED	43,381	49,857	16,282	32,720	30,006	14,779	187,025
FUNDING LEVEL	\$1,581,372	\$1,033,086	\$604,900	\$631,379	\$1,192,887	\$960,777	\$6,004,401

Clients Served by Region - FY97

ISSUE / CLIENT TYPE	Anchorage/ Mat-Su	Gulf Coast	Interior	Northern	Southeast	Southwest	Total
CRISIS INTERVENTION							
CLIENT ADULT	12	57	0	15	20	77	181
MINOR	7	0	2	3	50	29	91
PERPETRATOR	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
VICTIM	370	15	6	12	52	10	465
UNKNOWN	2	0	0	0	1	0	3
TOTAL CI CLIENTS	392	72	8	31	123	116	742
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE							
CLIENT ADULT	24	38	10	14	32	160	278
MINOR	892	213	269	255	458	371	2,458
PERPETRATOR	986	12	342	116	113	1	1,570
VICTIM	1,924	958	641	709	951	357	5,540
UNKNOWN	6	0	3	0	3	2	14
TOTAL DV CLIENTS	3,832	1,221	1,265	1,094	1,557	891	9,860
INCEST							
CLIENT ADULT	39	16	7	0	20	1	83
MINOR	24	5	11	2	9	7	58
PERPETRATOR	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
VICTIM	190	59	16	25	95	6	291
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL IN CLIENTS	255	81	34	27	124	15	536
SEXUAL ASSAULT							
CLIENT ADULT	265	36	4	4	43	63	415
MINOR	149	9	5	10	56	46	275
PERPETRATOR	0	2	0	15	1	0	18
VICTIM	573	97	73	87	198	124	1,152
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
TOTAL SA CLIENTS	987	144	82	117	298	234	1,862
UNKNOWN							
CLIENT ADULT	0	1	0	0	0	3	4
MINOR	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
PERPETRATOR	1	0	0	3	0	0	4
VICTIM	3	0	0	0	1	0	4
UNKNOWN	25	1	1	9	2	4	43
TOTAL UNK CLIENTS	31	2	1	12	3	8	57
TOTAL CLIENTS	5,497	1,520	1,390	1,281	2,105	1,264	13,057
NIGHTS SAFETY	16,348	5,147	7,394	6,285	10,816	4,007	49,997
SERVICES PROVIDED	50,538	61,953	17,684	76,113	31,881	14,948	253,117
FUNDING LEVEL	\$1,609,220	\$1,052,880	\$615,550	\$642,500	\$1,216,350	\$991,630	\$6,128,130

Services Provided by Region - FY96

Region / Service Provided	Anchorage/ Mat-Su	Gulf Coast	Interior	Northern	Southeast	Southwest	Total
FUNDING LEVEL	\$1,581,372	\$1,033,086	\$604,900	\$631,379	\$1,192,887	\$960,777	\$6,001,401
CONTACTS	31,563	19,745	11,442	13,022	22,464	6,678	104,914
NIGHTS SAFETY	18,808	6,085	6,256	3,961	11,689	4,216	51,015
ADVOCACY							
EMPLOYMENT	48	654	5	107	310	240	1,364
HOUSING	352	1,586	63	107	462	356	2,926
DAY CARE	17	153	3	36	47	47	303
SOC. SERV.	87	365	27	19	113	62	673
MED. ACCOMP.	132	155	10	61	52	68	478
OTHER MED.	66	883	15	91	296	81	1,432
FINANCIAL	244	1,028	12	134	297	229	1,944
EDUCATION	98	546	15	126	155	112	1,052
OTHER	227	1,361	50	21	306	100	2,065
TOTAL	1,271	6,731	200	702	2,038	1,295	12,237
LEGAL ASSISTANCE							
LEGAL EDUCATION	348	591	580	299	291	784	2,893
TRO	627	862	647	134	464	362	3,096
DIVORCE	177	475	157	37	81	121	1,048
CHILD CUST.	213	580	260	62	153	166	1,434
LAW ENF. ADV.	166	379	172	120	159	117	1,113
LEGAL ADV.	268	610	318	201	298	219	1,914
COURT SERV.	134	369	234	130	374	196	1,437
CRIME COMP.	187	101	11	15	27	10	351
OTHER	64	323	202	53	69	40	751
TOTAL	2,184	4,290	2,581	1,051	1,916	2,015	14,037
COUNSELING							
INDIVIDUAL	13,891	12,946	3,151	8,831	9,535	3,610	51,964
GROUP	15,454	2,358	2,484	1,335	6,174	1,222	29,027
CRISIS	2,982	1,084	1,094	1,317	947	350	7,774
PARENTING	456	501	887	351	551	112	2,858
FAMILY	220	757	241	539	307	119	2,183
OTHER	650	1,555	2,890	441	1,104	83	6,723
TOTAL	33,653	19,201	10,747	12,814	18,618	5,496	100,529
COUNSULTATION							
TOTAL	1,339	12,491	850	6,673	3,819	2,155	27,327
OTHER							
TRANSPORT	1,079	496	69	730	1,111	1,354	4,839
CHILD CARE	239	186	1,337	1,818	1,569	1,935	7,084
DFYS REPORT	218	129	157	126	68	48	746
FOLLOW-UP	1,358	4,696	34	701	405	302	7,496
SAFETY CHECK	1,746	1,021	127	7,696	309	152	11,051
OTHER	294	616	180	409	153	27	1,679
TOTAL	4,934	7,144	1,904	11,480	3,615	3,818	32,895
GRAND TOTAL	43,381	49,857	16,282	32,720	30,006	14,779	187,025

Services Provided by Region - FY97

Region / Service Provided	Anchorage/ Mat-Su	Gulf Coast	Interior	Northern	Southeast	Southwest	Total
FUNDING LEVEL	\$1,609,220	\$1,052,880	\$615,550	\$642,500	\$1,216,350	\$991,630	\$6,128,130
CONTACTS	33,570	22,816	13,138	39,169	20,724	6,595	136,012
NIGHTS SAFETY	16,348	5,147	7,394	6,285	10,816	4,007	49,997
ADVOCACY							
EMPLOYMENT	107	1,290	6	245	251	150	2,049
HOUSING	416	2,156	39	308	620	327	3,866
DAY CARE	24	168	5	40	45	33	315
SOC. SERV.	99	362	29	80	118	101	789
MED. ACCOMP.	234	179	40	218	79	69	819
OTHER MED.	140	1,833	16	731	354	72	3,146
FINANCIAL	325	1,299	25	232	216	225	2,322
EDUCATION	460	841	5	388	215	104	2,013
OTHER	202	3,731	45	84	614	101	4,777
TOTAL	2,007	11,859	210	2,326	2,512	1,182	20,096
LEGAL ASSISTANCE							
LEGAL EDUCATION	601	539	344	435	275	822	3,016
TRO	581	989	482	389	471	352	3,264
DIVORCE	287	363	65	72	78	65	930
CHILD CUST.	387	495	170	141	109	160	1,462
LAW ENF. ADV.	220	656	100	134	161	118	1,389
LEGAL ADV.	367	912	468	239	303	261	2,550
COURT SERV.	307	418	259	241	249	250	1,724
CRIME COMP.	188	193	13	18	24	27	463
OTHER	136	445	48	51	121	63	864
TOTAL	3,074	5,010	1,949	1,720	1,791	2,118	15,662
COUNSELING							
INDIVIDUAL	12,682	15,078	3,846	18,436	10,527	2,898	63,467
GROUP	17,919	2,396	3,542	1,670	4,234	1,663	31,424
CRISIS	3,588	1,042	1,206	1,180	951	490	8,457
PARENTING	542	991	558	515	916	231	3,753
FAMILY	542	607	421	939	988	205	3,702
OTHER	826	1,135	2,723	448	1,622	80	6,834
TOTAL	36,099	21,249	12,296	23,188	19,238	5,567	117,637
COUNSULTATION							
TOTAL	2,186	16,911	1,153	9,960	4,340	2,085	36,635
OTHER							
TRANSPORT	811	415	50	1,455	2,075	1,360	6,166
CHILD CARE	56	116	1,396	4,701	1,175	2,048	9,492
DFYS REPORT	213	77	126	91	63	44	614
FOLLOW-UP	2,379	4,007	32	407	174	306	7,305
SAFETY CHECK	3,392	1,502	288	31,417	313	204	37,116
OTHER	321	807	184	848	200	34	2,394
TOTAL	7,172	6,924	2,076	38,919	4,000	3,996	63,087
GRAND TOTAL	50,538	61,953	17,684	76,113	31,881	14,948	253,117

Appendix C

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT ALASKA LAWS

Through the years, the Legislature and Executive Branch have enacted innovative legislation and policies to address domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska. Following is a summary of many of the laws enacted in Alaska that are related to domestic violence and sexual assault.

AS 18.66.010-18.66.90. COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT.

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault was established in the Department of Public Safety to provide for planning and coordination of services to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, their families and perpetrators, and to provide for crisis intervention and prevention programs. The Council was established through the efforts of many dedicated parties, particularly the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, which is a professional organization of domestic violence/ sexual assault agencies.

The Council's mandates are to:

- develop, implement, maintain and monitor domestic violence, sexual assault and crisis intervention and prevention programs, including educational films and school curricula on the cause, prevention and treatment of domestic violence and sexual assault;
- coordinate services provided by the Departments of Law, Education, Public Safety, Health and Social Services and other State and community agencies and provide technical assistance as requested;
- develop and implement a standardized data collection system;
- conduct public hearings and studies on issues relating to violence and crisis intervention and prevention;
- receive and dispense State and federal money and award grants and contracts from appropriations for the purpose to qualified local community entities for domestic violence, sexual assault and crisis intervention and prevention programs;
- oversee and audit domestic violence, sexual assault and crisis intervention and prevention programs that receive money from the Council;
- provide fiscal and technical assistance to plan, organize, implement and administer domestic violence, sexual assault, crisis intervention and prevention programs; and
- adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of the law.

SUMMARY OF LAWS PERTINENT TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT 1997

AS 09.10.060 and AS 09.10.140. RECOVERY OF DAMAGES FOR SEXUAL ABUSE. A victim of sexual abuse may take action for recovery of damages for an injury or condition suffered as a result of the sexual abuse against the perpetrator within three years after the injury. If the victim is under the age of majority or incompetent due to mental illness, the time of disability or minority is not part of the time limit. If a disability exists, the time period an action may be brought is extended no longer than two years after the disability ceases. An action may be brought more than three years after the victim reaches the age of majority if the action is brought within three years after the victim discovered that one act of sexual abuse or the series of acts caused the injury or condition.

AS 09.60.070. ATTORNEY FEES FOR VICTIMS OF SERIOUS CRIMINAL OFFENSES. A person who has been injured or damaged, or the estate of a person who has died, may sue the offender for full reasonable attorney fees in a civil action or a wrongful death action if the injury, damage, or death resulted from a serious criminal offense. Sexual assault in any degree, sexual abuse of a minor in any degree, and a crime involving domestic violence, as defined in AS 18.66.990 are included in the list of serious criminal offenses.

AS 11.41.100. MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE. A person commits murder in the first degree when he/she intentionally causes the death of any person. It is also first degree murder if a person knowingly and with extreme indifference to the value of human life, engages in a pattern or practice of assault or torture of a child under the age of 16 that results in the death of the child. A person "engages in a pattern or practice of assault or torture" by inflicting serious physical injury to the child in at least two separate acts, and one of the acts results in the death of the child. Murder in the first degree is an unclassified felony.

AS 11.41.110. MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE. A person commits second degree murder when he/she intends to cause serious physical injury to another person that results in death. It is also second degree murder if a victim is killed as a result of arson, kidnapping, or sexual assault in the first or second degree. Murder in the second degree is an unclassified felony.

AS 11.41.130. CRIMINALLY NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE. Criminally negligent homicide is a result of a person causing another's death through criminal negligence. It is a class C felony.

AS 11.41.200. ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE. A person commits assault in the first degree when that person recklessly causes serious physical injury to another by means of a dangerous instrument. It is also considered first degree assault if the person intends to cause the serious physical injury, or the person knowingly engages in behavior that shows extreme indifference to human life and the action results in serious physical injury. Assault in the first degree is a class A felony.

AS 11.41.210. ASSAULT IN THE SECOND DEGREE. A person commits assault in the second degree when that person causes physical injury to another by means of a dangerous instrument. It is also considered third degree assault if the person recklessly causes the serious physical injury both either a single act or repeated assaults. Assault in the second degree is a class B felony.

AS 11.41.220. ASSAULT IN THE THIRD DEGREE. A person commits assault in the third degree when that person recklessly places someone in fear of imminent fear of serious physical injury by means of a dangerous instrument, or causes physical injury to another by means of a dangerous instrument. It is also considered second degree assault if the person intends to place another person in fear of death or serious physical injury to the person or the person's family member through repeated threats to cause death or serious physical injury. Assault in the third degree is a class C felony.

AS 11.41.220. ASSAULT IN THE FOURTH DEGREE. A person commits assault in the fourth degree when that person recklessly causes physical injury to another, or by words or other conduct recklessly places another person in fear of imminent physical injury. Assault in the fourth degree is a class A misdemeanor.

AS 11.41.260. STALKING IN THE FIRST DEGREE. A person commits the crime of stalking in the first degree if the person commits stalking in the second degree as a violation of a protective order, or a condition of release. It is also stalking in the first degree if the victim is under 16 years of age, or the defendant possessed a deadly weapon at the time of the offense. Stalking in the first degree is a class C felony.

AS 11.41.270. STALKING IN THE SECOND DEGREE. A person commits the crime of stalking in the second degree if the person knowingly engages in a course of conduct that recklessly places another person in fear of death or physical injury, or in fear of the death or physical injury of a family member. Stalking in the second degree is a class A misdemeanor.

AS 11.41.410. SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE. Sexual assault in the first degree can be committed in one of three ways: 1) engaging in sexual penetration without consent of the victim; 2) attempting to engage in sexual penetration without consent of the victim and causing serious physical injury; 3) engaging in sexual penetration with someone the defendant knows is mentally incapable and is legally entrusted to the defendant's care; or, 4) engaging in sexual penetration with a person who the offender knows is unaware that a sexual act is being committed and the offender is a health care worker; and the offense takes place during the course of professional treatment of the victim. First-degree sexual assault is an unclassified felony.

AS 11.41.420. SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE SECOND DEGREE. Sexual assault in the second degree can be committed in one of four ways: 1) engaging in sexual contact without consent; 2) engaging in sexual contact with someone who the offender knows is mentally incapable and is legally entrusted to the offender's care; 3) engaging in sexual penetration with a person who the offender knows is mentally incapable or incapacitated or unaware that a sexual act is being committed; or 4) engaging in sexual contact with a person who the offender knows is unaware that a sexual act is being committed, the offender is a health care worker, and the offense takes place during the course of professional treatment of the victim. Second-degree sexual assault is a class B felony.

AS 11.41.425. SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE THIRD DEGREE. A person commits sexual assault in the third degree by engaging in sexual contact with a person the offender knows is mentally incapable,

incapacitated or unaware that a sexual act is being committed. Sexual assault in the third degree is a class C felony.

AS 11.41.432. DEFENSES. It is a defense to a crime charged under AS 11.41.410 (a)(3), 11.41.420 (a)(2), 11.41.420(a)(3), or in 11.41.425 that the offender is mentally incapable or married to the person and neither party has filed with the court for a separation, divorce, or dissolution of the marriage. Except as provided in the above, it is not a defense that the victim was, at the time of the alleged offense, the legal spouse of the defendant.

AS 11.41.434-440. SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR. There are four degrees of sexual abuse of a minor. Sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree can be committed in one of three ways: 1) a person who is 16 years of age or older engages in sexual penetration with someone under 13 years of age or aids, induces, causes or encourages a person under 13 to engage in sexual penetration with another person; 2) a person 18 years of age or older engages in sexual penetration with a person under 18 years of age and the offender is the victim's natural parent, step-parent, adopted parent or legal guardian; or, 3) a person 18 years of age or older, engages in sexual penetration with a person who is under 16 years of age and who is residing in the same household as the offender and the offender has authority over the victim or the offender occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim. Sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree is an unclassified felony.

Sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree can be committed in one of five ways: 1) when a person who is 16 or older engages in sexual penetration with a person who is 13, 14, or 15 and at least 3 years younger than the offender, or aids, induces, causes or encourages such a person to engage in sexual penetration with another; 2) sexual contact between a person 16 or older and a person under 13 or a person 16 or older induces, causes or encourages a person under 13 years of age to engage in sexual contact with another; 3) sexual contact between a person 18 or older and a person under 18 and the offender is the victim's natural parent, step-parent, adopted parent or legal guardian; 4) a person 16 or older aids, induces, causes or encourages a person under 16 to engage in prohibited sexual acts to produce child pornography (as defined in AS 11.41.455 (a)(2)-(6)); or 5) being 18 years of age or older, the offender engages in sexual contact with a person who is under 16 years of age and the victim is residing in the same household as the offender and the offender has authority over the victim or the offender occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim. Sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree is a Class B felony.

Sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree is sexual contact between an offender 16 or older and a victim 13, 14, or 15 who is at least 3 years younger than the offender or sexual penetration between an offender who is at least 18 years old and occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim who is at least three years younger than the offender and is 16 or 17 years old. Sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree is a class C felony.

Sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree is sexual penetration or contact between an offender under 16 and victim under 13 who is at least 3 years younger than the offender or sexual contact between an offender who occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim and is at least 18 years of age with a person 16 or 17 who is at least three years younger than the offender. Sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree is a class A misdemeanor.

AS 11.41.445. GENERAL PROVISIONS. In a prosecution under AS 11.41.434-440 it is a defense that, at the time of the alleged offense, the victim was the legal spouse of the defendant, unless the offense was committed without the consent of the victim.

AS 11.41.450. INCEST. A person commits incest if, being 18 or older, the person engages in sexual penetration with a person who is related, either legitimately or illegitimately. Incest is a class C felony.

AS 11.41.455. UNLAWFUL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR. Exploitation includes using a child under 18 as the subject of pornographic material. It is also unlawful exploitation if a parent, legal guardian, or

person having custody or control of a child under 18 permits the child to engage in the conduct that is defined as pornography. Unlawful exploitation of a minor is a class B felony.

AS 11.41.460. INDECENT EXPOSURE. If the offender intentionally exposes his or her genitals to another with reckless disregard for the effect that act has on others, it is considered indecent exposure. Indecent exposure before a person under 16 years of age is a class A misdemeanor. Indecent exposure before a person 16 years of age or older is a class B misdemeanor.

AS 11.46.320-330 and AS 11.46.350. CRIMINAL TRESPASS. A person commits the crime of criminal trespass by entering or remaining upon premises or in a propelled vehicle in violation of a domestic violence protective order.

AS 11.56.740. VIOLATING A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER. The crime of violating a protective order occurs when the person subject to the order containing provisions listed in AS 18.66.100(c)(1)-(7), knowingly commits or attempts to commit a violation of that provision. Violations are a class A Misdemeanor.

AS 11.56.745. INTERFERING WITH A REPORT OF A CRIME INVOLVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. A person, other than the victim, commits the crime of interfering with a report of a crime involving domestic violence if the person knowingly interferes with another person who is reporting or attempting to report a crime involving domestic violence to a law enforcement agency. This offense is a class A misdemeanor.

AS 11.56.840. FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER. A person required to register under AS 12.63.010 who knowingly does not register, file written notification of a change of address, or does not file an annual statement concerning changes to information given at the time of registration is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

AS 11.61.127. POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY. It is a class A misdemeanor to possess materials that visually or aurally depicts conduct described in AS 11.41.455(a) if the person possessing the materials knows that it was produced using a child under 18 years of age who engaged in the conduct. This does not apply to persons providing plethysmograph assessments in the course of a sex offender treatment program meeting minimum standards of the Department of Corrections.

AS 11.61.200. MISCONDUCT INVOLVING WEAPONS IN THE FIRST DEGREE. Among other things, a person commits the crime of misconduct involving weapons in the first degree if the person trespasses by entering or remaining unlawfully on premises or in a propelled vehicle in violation of a domestic violence restraining order and during the violation is in possession of a deadly weapon other than an ordinary pocketknife. The crime of misconduct involving a weapon in the first degree is a Class C felony.

AS 11.81.335. USE OF DEADLY FORCE IN SELF DEFENSE. A person may use deadly force on another person when the use of nondeadly force is justified under AS 11.81.330; and the person reasonably believes the use of deadly force is necessary for self defense against death, serious physical injury, kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, sexual assault in the second degree, or robbery in any degree.

AS 12.10.020(c). TIME LIMITATIONS ON PROSECUTION. Even if the general time limitation has expired, a prosecution under AS 11.41.410 - 11.41.455, AS 11.66.110-130, or former AS 11.41.430, for an offense committed against a person under the age of 18, may be commenced at any time.

AS 12.25.030. GROUNDS FOR ARREST BY PRIVATE PERSON OR PEACE OFFICER WITHOUT A WARRANT. A peace officer without a warrant may arrest a person when the officer has probable cause to believe that the person has either in or outside of the presence of the officer, committed a crime, whether a

misdemeanor or felony, involving domestic violence; has committed the crime of violating a protective order; or has violated a condition of release for cases involving stalking or domestic violence. An officer may also arrest if the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person has committed a crime under or violated conditions imposed as part of that person's release conditions before trial on misdemeanor stalking charges. However, unless there is a lawful reason for further detention, if the person is under the age of 18, the person will be cited for the offense and released to the person's parent, guardian, or legal custodian.

AS 12.30.027. RELEASE IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES. Before ordering release prior to or after trial, or pending appeal, of a person charged with or convicted of a crime involving domestic violence, the court shall consider the safety of the alleged victim or other household member. A court may not order or permit a person released to return to the residence of the alleged victim or the residence of a petitioner who has a protective order. When a person is released from custody, efforts must be made to provide the victim with a copy of the conditions of release. A person arrested for a crime involving domestic violence may not be released from custody until the person has appeared in person or telephonically.

AS 12.40.110. HEARSAY EVIDENCE IN PROSECUTIONS FOR SEXUAL OFFENSES. In a prosecution for an offense under AS 11.41.410-440 or AS 11.41.455, hearsay evidence of a statement made by a child who is the victim of the offense may be admitted into evidence before the grand jury if: 1) circumstances indicate its reliability; 2) the child is under 10; 3) additional evidence is introduced to corroborate the statement; and 4) the child testifies at the grand jury proceedings or will be available to testify at the trial.

AS 12.45.045. EVIDENCE OF PAST SEXUAL CONDUCT. In trials of sexual assault in any degree, sexual abuse of a minor in any degree, unlawful exploitation of a minor, or an attempt to commit any of these crimes, evidence of the alleged victim's previous sexual conduct is not admissible nor will reference be made to it unless a defendant applies for an order of the court. The court shall conduct a hearing in camera to determine if value of evidence outweighs the probability of undue prejudice, confusion of the issues or invasion of the victim's privacy. Sexual conduct of the alleged victim occurring more than one year before the date of the offense charged, is considered inadmissible, unless there is pervasive showing to the contrary.

AS 12.45.046. TESTIMONY OF CHILDREN IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS. In a criminal proceeding under AS 11.41 that involves the prosecution of an offense committed against a child under the age of 16 or witnessed by a child under the age of 16, the court may appoint a guardian ad litem for the child and/or may order that the child's testimony be taken by closed circuit TV or through one-way mirrors if the court determines that the testimony by the child would result in the child's inability to effectively communicate. The law lists the factors to be considered in determining whether to use closed circuit TV or one-way mirrors, who may be in the room with the child testifying and who may question the child. The law also discusses other ways to safeguard the child testifying in a courtroom from emotional harm or stress.

AS 12.45.0 PRIVILEGE RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT COUNSELLING. Confidential communications between a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault and a victim counselor are privileged under AS 18.66.200 - 18.66.250.

AS 12.45.120. AUTHORITY TO COMPROMISE MISDEMEANORS FOR WHICH A VICTIM HAS CIVIL ACTION. Although compromising a misdemeanor by civil remedy is allowed in certain instances, it is prohibited when the crime was committed against a spouse, former spouse, certain relatives, a member of the social unit comprised of those living together in the same dwelling, or a person who previously lived in a spousal relationship with the defendant.

AS 12.55.045. PAYMENT OF CRIMINAL FINES AND RESTITUTION. Restitution may be paid to a victim or other person injured by the offense, to a public, private or non-profit organization that has is or will be providing counseling, medical or shelter services to the victim or other persons injured by the offense.

AS 12.55.101. ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF PROBATION FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRIMES. Before granting probation to a person convicted of a crime involving domestic violence, the court shall consider the safety and protection of the victim and any member of the victim's family.

AS 12.55.148. JUDGMENT FOR SEX OFFENSES. When a person is convicted of a sex offense, the written judgment by the Court must include the requirements to register under AS 12.63.010.

AS 12.55.155. FACTORS IN AGGRAVATION AND MITIGATION. The court will consider in sentencing if the offense was a felony and was committed against a spouse, a former spouse, or a member of the social unit comprised of those living together in the same household; or as specified in AS 11.41.410 - 11.41.455 involving the same or another victim. In a conviction for assault or attempted assault or for homicide or attempted homicide, if the defendant acted in response to domestic violence perpetrated by the victim against the defendant and the domestic violence consisted of aggravated or repeated instances of assaultive behavior, the court may consider this in sentencing and may mitigate the presumptive term.

AS 12.61.010 - 12.61.020. CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS. These sections delineate victims' rights regarding presence at trials, notices of pending hearings and actions, presentence reports, sentencing, protection from harm and threat of harm, compensation, medical assistance, notification and comment upon prisoner parole and release, notification to victim of prisoner's escape, and sets out duties of prosecuting attorneys to victims. Victims have the right to be present during any proceeding in the prosecution and sentencing of that the defendant has the right to be present, including being present during testimony, even if the victim is likely to be called as a witness. This right of the victim to be present also includes all hearings and procedures where the offense was alleged committed by a juvenile.

AS 12.61.050. AUTOMATED VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM. The Department of Corrections is to establish a victim notification system that automatically provides crime victims with notice by telephone when there is a change in the status of their offender. The system must also allow crime victims to initiate phone calls to the notification system.

AS 12.61.100-150. CONFIDENTIALITY OF VICTIM AND WITNESS INFORMATION. These sections prohibit the unnecessary disclosure of the identities, addresses and telephone numbers of victims of or witnesses to crimes. Documents related to a crime in the custody of a public official may not be made available unless the residence, business address and telephone numbers of victims and witnesses have been deleted. When a defendant is represented by counsel, a victim's or witnesses' telephone number and address may be released to counsel, but the court will order the defendant's counsel not to disclose the information to the defendant. If the defendant is proceeding without counsel, and the court finds the defendant may pose a continuing threat to the victim, the court shall specify a person to receive the information about the address and phone number of a victim or witness. This person shall be ordered not to disclose the information to the defendant and the defendant shall meet or speak with the victim or witness in the presence of that person. A person representing the defendant when contacting the victim, must clearly inform the victim of the person's identity and association with the defendant. The person must also inform the victim the he/she does not have to talk to the person unless the victim wishes and that the victim may have a prosecuting attorney or other person present during an interview. Unless the court determines the information is relevant, a victim or witness may not be required to provide addresses or telephone numbers in response to questioning in open court. This law also provides for other protection of a victim's identity, address or phone numbers during and after the court process.

AS 12.63.010. REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS AND RELATED REQUIREMENTS. A convicted sex offender physically present in Alaska must register within seven days after being released from a State correctional facility or after conviction for a sex offense if there is no jail term. A convicted sex offender from out of state must register within 14 days after coming to Alaska, but has only seven days to register if the State is serving as the probation or parole officer for another state or was released from an out-of-state prison where they were serving a term for a sex offense conviction in Alaska.

Convicted sex offenders are required to register at the State Trooper post or municipal police department closest to where they are living at the time of registration. Registration information includes the offender's name, address, place of employment, date of birth, sex offense convictions for which the registration requirements have not expired, the dates of those convictions, the place and court of sex offense convictions, all aliases used, and driver's license number. Law enforcement officials will take a complete set of the offender's fingerprints and a photo.

If the offender moves within the state after having registered, they must give written notice of the new place of residence to the nearest Trooper post or municipal police department within ten days of having moved. Convicted sex offenders required to register must also provide an annual written statement to the Department of Public Safety as to changes to the registry information or stating that there are no changes to that information.

AS 12.63.020. DURATION OF SEX OFFENDER DUTY TO REGISTER. A person convicted of two or more sex offenses must register for their lifetime. Persons with one sex offense conviction must register for 15 years following their unconditional discharge from that conviction.

AS 14.30.360. PERSONAL SAFETY CURRICULUM. Each school district in the state shall be encouraged to conduct a program in health education for kindergarten through grade 12. Among other things, the program should include instruction in personal safety, including the identification and prevention of child abuse, abduction, neglect, sexual abuse and domestic violence. The State Board shall establish guidelines for a health and personal safety education program. Personal safety guidelines shall be developed in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

AS 18.05.037. FETAL HEALTH EFFECTS. The Department of Health and Social Services shall make information about fetal alcohol effects and the fetal health effects of chemical abuse and battering during pregnancy available to public hospitals, clinics and other health facilities for distribution to their patients.

AS 18.65.087. CENTRAL REGISTRY OF SEX OFFENDERS. The Department of Public Safety is responsible for maintaining a central registry of convicted sex offenders. Information received for the registry shall be forwarded to the central registry within five working days. The information contained in the registry is confidential, and may not be publicly disclosed except the offender's name, photo, place of employment, date of birth, the crime for which they were convicted, date of convictions, place and court of conviction, and the length of sentence. If the conviction is for an offense identified as "incest", the offense may only be disclosed as "felony sexual abuse of a minor".

AS 18.65.300. ORDER FOR BLOOD TEST; DISCLOSURE OF RESULTS. This statute permits victims of sexual assault to petition the court for blood testing of the alleged perpetrator to determine the communicable disease status of the perpetrator. The law also establishes guidelines for how the testing occurs and how the test results are conveyed to the victim. It provides for counseling and information for the victim on the status of her/his potential for exposure to communicable diseases. A court may not order a test under this section; 1) before seven days after the defendant or minor's arrest; 2) after the entry of a disposition favorable to a defendant; or 3) if the defendant is convicted or adjudicated delinquent or in need of aid, after 90 days after the issuance of the judgement and sentence or of the judgement in a juvenile action.

AS 18.65.510. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING. All law enforcement training programs must include training in domestic violence. The training must cover: 1) laws relating to cases involving domestic violence; 2) techniques for handling domestic violence incidents to promote the safety of the victim and the officer and reduce the likelihood of recurrence; 3) the investigation and management of cases involving domestic violence and report writing for those cases; 4) organizations in the state that offer aid or shelter to victims of domestic violence; 5) procedures applicable in the prosecution of cases involving domestic violence; 6) protective orders; 7) victim notification requirements; and (8) the subjects set out in AS

18.66.310 (d). The training program must be developed in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and interested individuals and organizations assisting victims of domestic violence.

AS 18.65.515. DUTIES OF PEACE OFFICER IN A CRIME INVOLVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. A peace officer investigating a crime involving domestic violence will protect the victim and any member of the victim's family and prevent further violence by providing various types of assistance to victims. This may include transportation to safety and obtaining medical treatment, and/or assisting the victim in removing personal belongings. Law enforcement officers will provide victims with a notice of their rights and services that are available to victims of domestic violence. If a peace officer investigating a crime involving domestic violence determines that it is necessary to protect the victim or the victim's family from domestic violence or to protect the officer or the public during the investigation, the officer may seize a deadly weapon in plain view. If the alleged offender possessed or used a deadly weapon in the domestic violence, the peace officer may seize all deadly weapons owned, used, possessed, or within the control of the alleged perpetrator. If the weapon is not needed as evidence in a criminal case, the law enforcement agency will make the weapon available for pickup by the owner of the weapon within twenty-four hours.

AS 18.65.520. NOTIFICATION TO VICTIMS. A peace officer investigating a crime involving domestic violence will orally and in writing inform the victim of the rights of victims of domestic violence and the services available to them. If the victim of domestic violence does not understand English, the police officer is to make efforts to inform the victim of the services and rights specified in a language the victim understands.

AS 18.65.530. MANDATORY ARREST FOR CRIMES INVOLVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, VIOLATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS, AND VIOLATION OF CONDITIONS OF RELEASE. A peace officer, with or without a warrant, will arrest a person if the officer has probable cause to believe the person has, within the previous 12 hours, committed a crime involving domestic violence, violated a protective order or a condition of release. If a peace officer receives complaints of domestic violence from more than one person arising from the same incident, the officer shall evaluate the conduct of each person to determine who was the principal physical aggressor. If the officer determines that one person was the principal physical aggressor, the other person or persons need not be arrested. In determining whether a person is a principal physical aggressor, the officer shall consider prior complaints of domestic violence; the relative severity of the injuries inflicted on each person; the likelihood of future injury from domestic violence to each person; and whether one of the persons acted in defense of self or others. A peace officer is not required to make an arrest if the officer has received authorization not to arrest from a prosecuting attorney within that jurisdiction. When investigating a crime involving domestic violence, a peace officer may not threaten or suggest the possible arrest of all persons involved in the same incident in a way that would discourage requests for intervention by law enforcement in domestic violence incidents. A peace officer who does not make an arrest after investigating a complaint of domestic violence, or who arrests two or more persons based on the same incident, will describe in writing the reasons for not making an arrest or for arresting more than one person.

AS 18.65.540. CENTRAL REGISTRY OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS. The Department of Public Safety will maintain a central registry of protective orders. The registry will include the names of the petitioner and respondent, their dates of birth, and the conditions and duration of the order.

AS 18.65.705. QUALIFICATIONS TO OBTAIN A PERMIT TO CARRY A CONCEALED HANDGUN. A person is not qualified to receive and hold a permit to carry a concealed handgun if the person has been convicted within the last five years, or is currently charged under a complaint, information, indictment, or presentment of a crime involving domestic violence, or is currently the respondent to a protective order.

AS 18.65.735. SUSPENSION OF PERMIT. The department shall immediately suspend a permit to carry a concealed handgun if a permittee is arrested for or formally charged with a crime that would disqualify the permittee under AS 18.65.705.

AS 18.65.755. PLACES WHERE A PERMITEE MAY NOT CARRY A CONCEALED HANDGUN. Included in this list of prohibited places are facilities providing services to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.

AS 18.66.010 – 18.66.060. COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT. The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is within the Department of Public Safety. The purpose of the council is to provide for planning and coordination of services to victims, their families and perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault, as well as to provide for crisis intervention and prevention programs.

AS 18.66.100. PROTECTIVE ORDERS: ELIGIBLE PETITIONERS; RELIEF. A person who is or has been a victim of a crime involving domestic violence may file a petition in the district or superior court for a protective order against a household member. If the court finds by a preponderance of evidence that the respondent has committed a crime involving domestic violence against the petitioner, regardless of whether the respondent appears at the hearing, the court may order any relief through a variety of provisions. The provisions are in effect until further order of the court. Any of the following may be included in a protective order: prohibits the respondent from communicating directly or indirectly with the petitioner; remove and exclude the respondent from the residence of the petitioner; direct the respondent to stay away from the residence, school, or place of employment of the petitioner or any specified place frequented by the petitioner or any designated household member; prohibit the respondent from entering a propelled vehicle in the possession of or occupied by the petitioner; prohibit the respondent from using or possessing a deadly weapon if the court finds the respondent was in the actual possession of or used a weapon during the commission of domestic violence; direct the respondent to surrender any firearm owned or possessed by the respondent if the court finds that the respondent was in the actual possession of or used a firearm during the commission of the domestic violence; request a peace officer to accompany the petitioner to the petitioner's residence to ensure that the petitioner safely obtains possession of the petitioner's residence, vehicle, or personal items; and is able to safely remove a vehicle or personal items from the petitioner's residence; award temporary custody of a minor child to the petitioner and may arrange for visitation with a minor child if the safety of the child and the petitioner can be protected; if visitation is allowed, the court may order visitation under the conditions provided in AS 25.20.061; give the petitioner possession and use of a vehicle and other essential personal items, regardless of ownership of the items; prohibit the respondent from consuming controlled substances; require the respondent to pay support for the petitioner or a minor child in the care of the petitioner if there is an independent legal obligation of the respondent to support the petitioner or child; require the respondent to reimburse the petitioner or other person for expenses associated with the domestic violence, including medical expenses, counseling, shelter, and repair or replacement of damaged property; require the respondent to pay costs and fees incurred by the petitioner in bringing the action under this chapter; order the respondent, at the respondent's expense, to participate in a program for the rehabilitation of perpetrators of domestic violence that meets the standards set by the Department of Corrections under AS 44.28.020 (b), or treatment for the abuse of alcohol or controlled substances, or both; order other relief the court determines necessary to protect the petitioner or any household member.

If the court issues a protective order under this section, it will make reasonable efforts to ensure that the order is understood by the petitioner and by the respondent, if present; and have the order delivered to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for expedited service

AS 18.66.110. EX PARTE AND EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE ORDERS. A person who is a victim of a crime involving domestic violence may file a petition under AS 18.66.100, and request an ex parte

protective order. If the court finds that the petition establishes probable cause that a crime involving domestic violence has occurred and it is necessary to protect the petitioner from domestic violence, the court shall issue a protective order. An ex parte protective order expires 20 days after it is issued unless dissolved earlier by the court at the request of either the petitioner or the respondent and after notice and, if requested, a hearing.

A peace officer, on behalf of and with the consent of a victim of a crime involving domestic violence, may request an emergency protective order from a judicial officer. The request may be made orally or in writing based upon the sworn statement of a peace officer, and in person or by telephone. If the court finds probable cause to believe that the victim is in immediate danger of domestic violence based on an allegation of the recent commission of a crime involving domestic violence, the court ex parte shall issue an emergency protective order. An emergency protective order expires 72 hours after it is issued unless dissolved earlier by the court at the request of the petitioner. A court may not deny a petition for an ex parte protective order filed under this section solely because of a lapse of time between an act of domestic violence and the filing of the petition.

AS 18.66.120. MODIFICATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS. Either the petitioner or the respondent may request modification of a protective order. If a request is made for modification of an ex parte protective order under AS 18.66.110, the court will schedule a hearing in three days' notice or less. The court shall schedule a hearing within 20 days after the date the request is made, unless the court finds that the request is without merit and denies the request without further hearing. If a request for a modification is made under this section and the respondent raises an issue not raised by the petitioner, the court may allow the petitioner additional time to respond.

AS 18.66.130. SPECIFIC PROTECTIVE ORDERS. If a respondent in a protective order is prohibited from communicating with the petitioner, excluded from the residence of the petitioner, or ordered to stay away from the petitioner, an invitation by the petitioner to communicate, enter the residence or vehicle, or have other prohibited contact with the petitioner does not waive or nullify any provision in a protective order. A court may not grant protective orders against the petitioner and the respondent in the same action; may not order parties into mediation or refer them to mediation for resolution of the issues arising from a petition for a protective order.

AS 18.66.140. FILING AND ENFORCEMENT OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS ISSUED IN OTHER STATES. A certified copy of an unexpired protective order issued in another jurisdiction may be filed with the clerk of court in any judicial district in this state. These protective orders have the same effect and must be enforced in the same manner as a protective order issued by a court of this state. When such a protective order is filed with the court, the court will have the order delivered to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for entry into the central registry of protective orders under AS 18.65.540.

AS 18.66.150. FORMS FOR PETITIONS AND ORDERS, FEES. The Alaska Court System, after consulting with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and other interested persons and organizations, will prepare forms for petitions, protective orders, and instructions for their use by a person seeking a protective order under this chapter. The forms must conform to the Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure, except that information on the forms may be filled in by legible handwriting. The office of the clerk of each superior and district court will make available to the public the forms a person seeking a protective order may need and instructions for the use of the forms. The clerk will provide assistance in completing the forms and filing the forms. Filing fees may not be charged in any action seeking only the relief provided in this chapter.

AS 18.66.170. NOTIFICATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. The court will send a copy of the protective order to the appropriate local law enforcement agency. Each law enforcement agency will establish procedures to inform peace officers of protective orders. Peace officers will use every reasonable means to enforce a protective order issued or filed under this chapter.

AS 18.66.200 – AS 18.66.220. DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION EXCEPTIONS AND WAIVERS. A victim or victim counselor may not be compelled, without appropriate consent, to give testimony or to produce records concerning confidential communications for any purpose in a criminal, civil, legislative, or administrative proceeding. A victim or victim counselor may not be compelled to provide testimony in a civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding that would identify the name, address, location, or telephone number of a safe house, abuse shelter, or other facility that provided temporary emergency shelter to the victim, or the name, address, or phone number of the victim's counselor, unless the court or hearing officer determines it is relevant and necessary to the case.

The privilege does not apply to reports of suspected child abuse or neglect; evidence that the victim is about to commit a crime; a proceeding that occurs after the victim's death; a communication relevant to an issue of breach by the victim or victim counselor of a duty arising out of the victim-victim counselor relationship; a communication that is determined to be admissible hearsay as an excited utterance under the Alaska Rules of Evidence; a child-in-need-of-aid proceeding; a communication made during the victim-victim counselor relationship if the services of the counselor were sought, obtained, or used to enable anyone to commit or plan a crime or to escape detection or apprehension after the commission of a crime; or a criminal proceeding concerning criminal charges against a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault where the victim is charged with a crime under AS 11.41 against a minor; or in which the physical, mental, or emotional condition of the victim is raised in defense of the victim.

AS 18.66.300. STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR HEALTH CARE IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES. The Department of Health and Social Services will adopt standards and procedures for the delivery of services to victims of domestic violence by health care facilities and practitioners of the healing arts and personnel in those facilities. The standards and procedures will be formulated in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Department of Commerce and Economic Development, private agencies that provide services for victims of domestic violence, and persons with expertise in providing health care and other services to victims of domestic violence. The Department of Health and Social Services will make available to health care facilities and practitioners of the healing arts and personnel in those facilities a written notice of the rights of victims of domestic violence and the services available to them. The notice shall be substantially similar to the notice provided in AS 18.65.520(a).

AS 18.66.310. CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, COURT SYSTEM EMPLOYEES AND FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS. Employers of state or local public employees, including employees of public schools, will, in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, provide continuing education in domestic violence for the public employees who are required by law to report abuse or neglect of children under AS 47.17.020. The administrative director of the Alaska Court System will, in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, provide continuing education in domestic violence for judicial officers and court clerks who have contact with parties involved in domestic violence. The Department of Law and other prosecuting authorities in the state will, in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, provide continuing education in domestic violence for prosecuting attorneys and other employees who have contact with persons involved in domestic violence. The continuing education must include information on: the nature, extent, and causes of domestic violence; procedures designed to promote the safety of the victim and other household members; resources available to victims and perpetrators of domestic violence; and the lethality of domestic violence.

AS 18.66.990. DEFINITIONS. Domestic violence and a crime involving domestic violence mean one or more of the following offenses or attempted offenses by a household member against another household member: all crimes against the person under AS 11.41, burglary, criminal trespass, arson or criminally negligent burning, criminal mischief, terroristic threatening, violating a domestic violence order, or harassment. Household members include: current and former spouses; people who have or currently are

living together; people who have been or are in a dating relationship; people who have been or are engaged in a sexual relationship; relatives to the fourth degree of consanguinity by blood, adoption; people who are currently or formerly related by marriage; or persons who have a child together, minor children of the above listed relationships.

AS 18.67.010 -180. VIOLENT CRIMES COMPENSATION BOARD. This statute permits payment of compensation to victims of crimes that caused personal injury or death. Among other requirements, the applicant must have cooperated with law enforcement to further prosecution in order to receive compensation. In addition, the applicant must submit reports, if reasonably available, from all physicians or surgeons who have treated or examined the victim in relation to the injury for which compensation is claimed. Identifying information about the applicants is confidential, and may not be released by the board.

AS 18.68.010-030. SEXUAL ASSAULT EXAMINATION KITS, INVESTIGATION PROTOCOLS AND TRAINING. The Departments of Public Safety and Law will develop and distribute uniform sexual assault examination kits, develop a manual of protocols governing the distribution and use of the examination kits, and develop and implement training in the use of protocols and kits. This does not prohibit the introduction in court of evidence obtained without the use of a sexual assault examination kit.

AS 22.15.100. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF DISTRICT JUDGE AND MAGISTRATE. Each district judge and magistrate has the power to issue a protective order in cases involving domestic violence as provided in AS 18.66.100 - 18.66.180.

AS 25.20.061. VISITATION IN PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING DOMESTIC. If visitation is awarded to a parent who has committed a crime involving domestic violence, against the other parent or a child of the two parents, within the five years preceding the award of visitation, the court may set conditions for the visitation.

AS 25.20.065. VISITATION RIGHTS OF GRANDPARENTS. When determining whether to grant rights of visitation between a grandparent and grandchild, the court will consider whether there is a history of child abuse or domestic violence attributable to the grandparent's son or daughter who is a parent of the grandchild.

AS 25.20.080 and AS 25.24.060. MEDIATION OF CHILD CUSTODY AND DIVORCE. The court may not order or refer parties to mediation in a proceeding concerning divorce, custody or visitation of a child if a protective order is in effect. The court may not order or refer parties to mediation if a party objects on the grounds that domestic violence has occurred between the parties unless the victim of the alleged domestic violence agrees to the mediation; and the court advises the parties that each party has the right to not agree to mediation and that the decision of each party will not bias other decisions of the court.

A mediator who receives a referral or order from a court to conduct mediation section will evaluate whether domestic violence has occurred between the parties. A mediator may not engage in mediation when either party has committed a crime involving domestic violence unless: 1) mediation is requested by the victim of the alleged domestic violence, or proposed by the court and agreed to by the victim; 2) mediation is provided by a mediator who is trained in domestic violence in a manner that protects the safety of the victim and any household member, taking into account the results of an assessment of the potential danger posed by the perpetrator and the risk of harm to the victim; and 3) the victim is permitted to have in attendance a person of the victim's choice, including an attorney.

AS 25.20.090(8) and AS 25.24.150. FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN MAKING CHILD CUSTODY DETERMINATIONS. Evidence of domestic violence, child abuse, or child neglect in the proposed custodial household or a history of violence between the parents are factors that the court must consider in making child custody determinations.

AS 25.20.110. MODIFICATION OF CHILD CUSTODY OR VISITATIONS. In a proceeding involving the modification of an award for custody of a child or visitation with a child, a finding that a crime involving domestic violence has occurred since the last custody or visitation determination is a finding of change of circumstances under this section.

AS 25.23.180. TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF PERPETRATORS OF CERTAIN SEXUAL OFFENSES. The relationship of parent and child may be terminated by a court order on grounds that the parent committed an act constituting sexual assault or sexual abuse of a minor under the laws of this state or a comparable offense under the laws of the state where the act occurred that resulted in conception of the child and that termination of the parental rights of the biological parent is in the best interests of the child.

AS 25.24.140. ORDERS DURING ACTION. During divorce or dissolution proceeding, a spouse who is a victim of domestic violence is entitled to necessary protective orders.

AS 25.24.150(7). JUDGEMENTS FOR CUSTODY. The court shall determine custody in accordance with the best interests of the child. In determining the best interests of the child the court shall consider any evidence of domestic violence, child abuse, or child neglect in the proposed custodial household or a history of violence between the parents;

AS 25.24.210 and AS 25.24.220. HEIGHTENED JUDICIAL SCRUTINY IN DISSOLUTIONS WHEN THERE IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. The petition must state whether any of the following has been issued or filed during the marriage by or regarding either spouse as defendant, participant, or respondent: a criminal charge of a crime involving domestic violence; a protective order. During the dissolution hearing, the court shall use a heightened level of scrutiny of agreements if there is evidence that the couple has a history of domestic violence.

AS 28.05.048. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION. Notices of sex offender registration requirements are to be displayed at offices where the public may apply for a driver's license, identification card, or vehicle registration.

AS 28.15.046. LICENSING OF SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS. A school bus drivers license may not be issued to an applicant who has been convicted of any of the following offenses within 20 years of the time of application: sexual abuse of a minor in any degree under AS 11.41.434 - 11.41.440; sexual assault in any degree under AS 11.41.410 or 11.41.420; incest under AS 11.41.450.

AS 33.16.120. RIGHTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS IN CONNECTION WITH PAROLE. The parole board will inform a victim of a crime involving domestic violence at least 30 days in advance of a scheduled hearing to review or consider discretionary parole for a prisoner. The board will inform the victim of any decision to grant or deny discretionary parole or to release the prisoner under AS 33.16.010 (c). If the prisoner is to be released, the victim will be notified of the expected date of the release, the geographic area in which the prisoner will reside, and any other information concerning conditions of parole that may affect the victim. The victim will also be informed of any changes in the conditions of parole that may affect the victim. The board will send the notice required to the last known address of the victim.

AS 33.16.150. CONDITIONS OF PAROLE. In addition to other conditions of parole imposed under this section, the parole board may impose as a condition of special medical, discretionary, or mandatory parole for a prisoner serving a term for a crime involving domestic violence: any of the terms of protective orders under AS 18.66.100 (c)(1) - (7); (2) a requirement that, at the prisoner's expense, the prisoner participate in and complete, to the satisfaction of the board, a program for the rehabilitation of perpetrators of domestic violence that meets the standards set by the department under AS 44.28.020 (b); and any other condition necessary to rehabilitate the prisoner. The board will establish procedures for the exchange of

information concerning the parolee with the victim and for responding to reports of nonattendance or noncompliance by the parolee with conditions imposed under this subsection.

AS 33.20.080. BOARD OF PAROLE INVESTIGATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR CLEMENCY.

If requested by the victim of a crime against a person, a crime involving domestic violence, or arson in the first degree, the board will send notice of an application for executive clemency submitted by the state prisoner who was convicted of that crime. The victim may comment in writing to the board on the application for executive clemency. The board will send the notice required under this section to the victim's last known address. The victim's address may not be disclosed to the applicant for executive clemency or the applicant's attorney.

AS 33.30.011. SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAMS IN PRISON. This establishes minimum standards for sex offender treatment programs offered to persons who are committed to the custody.

AS 33.30.012. NOTICE OF RELEASE, PAROLE, COMMUNITY PLACEMENT, WORK RELEASE PLACEMENT, FURLOUGH, OR ESCAPE OF SEX OFFENDER. The Department of Corrections will complete registration of sex offenders no later than 10 days before the offender's release from an Alaska correctional facility. The Department of Corrections will send a written notice of the release, parole, community placement, work release placement, or furlough to law enforcement officials in the community or area in which the inmate will live. If a convicted sex offender escapes from a correctional facility, the Department of Corrections will immediately notify municipal police and State Troopers closest to where the inmate lived prior to their arrest and conviction.

AS 33.30.013. NOTIFICATION TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS. A domestic violence victim is to be notified by the Department of Corrections if the offender escapes from custody or is released to the community on a furlough, on an early release program, or for any other reason. As part of the notice under this section, the commissioner will send the victim a photograph of the offender if the victim has specifically requested it in writing. The photograph must have been taken within three weeks of the offender's release or, if the offender escapes from custody, must be the most recent photograph in the commissioner's possession. The photograph is for the victim's personal use, and the victim may not make copies of the photograph for distribution to others. An offender who is released will be notified that a photograph has been sent to the victim under this subsection.

AS 33.30.101. FURLOUGHS. A prisoner convicted of a crime involving domestic violence may be released on furlough only under conditions that would protect the victim of domestic violence or other household members.

AS 33.30.111. PRERELEASE FURLOUGHS. If a prisoner convicted of a crime involving domestic violence is being considered for a prerelease furlough, notice will be sent to the last known address of the victim. The victim may comment in writing on the commissioner's intention to release the prisoner on a prerelease furlough. The notice must include the expected date of the furlough and any other information concerning the furlough that may affect the victim.

AS 33.30.161. ELIGIBILITY TO SERVE TIME IN A CORRECTIONAL RESTITUTION CENTER. Prisoners are not eligible to serve time in a correctional restitution center if they have been convicted or are serving a sentence for any crime involving violence or the use of force, custodial interference in the first or second degree, or violating a protective order.

AS 44.28.020. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS BATTERERS STANDARDS. The department will, with the approval of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, adopt standards, by regulation, for rehabilitation programs for perpetrators of domestic violence as defined in AS 18.66.990.

For purposes of AS 12.55.101, AS 18.66.100 (c), and AS 33.16.150, and the department will determine whether a program meets the standards.

AS 47.17.020. PERSONS REQUIRED TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE. The following persons are immediately required to report suspected harm, by other than accidental means, through physical injury or neglect, mental injury, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or maltreatment of children to the nearest office of the Department of Health and Social Services if, in the performance of their occupational duties, they have reasonable cause to suspect a child has suffered harm: practitioners of the healing arts; school teachers and school administrative staff members of public and private schools; social workers; peace officers, and officers of the Department of Corrections; administrative officers of institutions; child care providers; paid employees of domestic violence and sexual assault programs and crisis intervention programs; paid employees of an organization that provides counseling or treatment to individuals seeking to control their use of drugs and alcohol.

If it is not possible to report harm to the Department of Health and Social Services and immediate action is necessary for the well-being of the child, the report of harm shall be made to a peace officer.

AS 47.17.022. TRAINING. A person employed by the State or by a school district is a mandated child abuse reporter and must receive training on the recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect. Each department and school district that must comply will file a copy of its training curriculum and materials with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

AS 47.17.023. REPORTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY. A person who, in the course of processing or producing visual or printed matter, suspects that the matter depicts a child engaged in prohibited sexual acts to produce child pornography shall immediately report this to the nearest law enforcement agency.

AS 47.24.010. REPORTS OF HARM TO VULNERABLE ADULTS. The following persons are required to report to the Department of Administration's central information and referral service for vulnerable adults (the Division of Senior Services) within 24 hours if in the course of their professional duties they believe that such a vulnerable adult is suffering from abandonment, exploitation, abuse, neglect, or self-neglect: licensed health care provider; mental health professional; pharmacist; administrator of a nursing home, residential care or health care facility; caregiver; guardian or conservator of the vulnerable adult; police officer; village public safety officer; village health aide; social worker; member of the clergy; staff of a project funded by the Department of Administration for the provision of services to older Alaskans, the Department of Health and Social Services, or the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; an employee of a personal care or home health aide program; EMT or paramedic in a mobile intensive care program; or a caregiver of a vulnerable adult. If the person making the report cannot immediately contact the Division of Senior Services and there is imminent risk of serious physical harm, the report may be made to a police officer or village public safety officer.

AS 47.27.015. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EXCEPTION TO THE ALASKA TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. Current or recent victims of domestic violence may receive ATAP benefits beyond the sixty month limit if the physical, mental, or emotional well-being of the victim would be endangered by a strict application of the time limit.

I'm free from the man
who once battered my face.

Free from the fear,
that quickened its pace.

Free from the pain,
that was burning inside.

Free from the hurt,
I thought would never subside.

Free from his anger,
his fist that was strong.

Free from the wondering,
of where I went wrong.

Free from his power, his control,
night and day.

Free from me thinking,
he'll change, so I'll stay.

Free everlasting, free evermore,
I'm free from the man,

When I walked out the door.

Anonymous survivor - Sitkans
Against Family Violence
newsletter

Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
Alaska Department of Public Safety
PO Box 111200
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1200

Representative Kim Elton
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 400
JUNEAU, AK 99801-1182

REPRESENTATIVE KIM ELTON

MEMORANDUM

March 3, 1998

TO: Rep. Jeannette James, Chair
House State Affairs Committee

FROM: Rep. ~~Kim Elton~~

RE: HB 303, extending the sunset date for the Council on Domestic
Violence and Sexual Assault.

I would like to request a hearing for HB 303, extending the sunset date for the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, before the House State Affairs Committee. Currently, the council is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 1998. HB 303 extends that date to June 30, 2002.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

*ask Gail -
Mike said OK
4/3/98
See Jud for comparison -
Carmel said OK 1/10.*

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 303

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: _____
 Title: _____ BRU: _____
 _____ An Act extending the termination date of the _____ Component: _____
 Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual _____
 Sponsor: _____ Assault; and providing for an effective date. _____
 Requester: _____ COMPONENT SERIAL NO. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ _____

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Alaska State Affairs
 Division: Legislation
 Approved by Commissioner: _____
 Agency: _____

Phone: _____
 Date: _____
 Date: 4/30/98

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