

COURT-CLERGY CONFERENCE 2019

Topic: Domestic Violence –Family

**Speakers: Hon. Cindy Davis, San Diego County Superior Court
Hon. Enrique Camarena, San Diego County Superior Court**

What are three main points that the clergy should know about this subject?

- Protection in the form of an “Emergency Protective Order” can be requested immediately from the police when they are on-scene with a victim reporting domestic violence. The order expires after 5 court days or 7 calendar days, whatever occurs first.
- Victims still need to go to court to file a request for a Restraining Order. There are clinics at the courthouse to assist them but clergy can also assist with the paperwork in advance – all of which can be downloaded. Google “PKT006.PDF” to get the packet of forms and information.
- Victims will need to participate in the process – ensuring the alleged abuser is served the court hearing papers and coming to court on the hearing date.

What are three ways in which clergy can help their congregants?

- Encourage domestic violence victims to trust the court process and help them navigate it.
- Counsel the victim to ensure they follow through once the process is started.
- Assist the victim in completing the forms and accompany them to court if they need the support.

Two websites where clergy can go to learn more:

- <http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-domesticviolence.htm>
California State Court’s Website
- <http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov> then go to “family” then “domestic violence”
San Diego Superior Court website

Contact names, phone numbers and email addresses if clergy have questions:

- Family Justice Center - (619) 533-6000
- San Diego City Attorney's Office (Domestic Violence Unit) - (619) 533-5544
- San Diego County District Attorney's Office -
Family Protection Division (Domestic Violence and Child Abuse)- (619) 531-4040