

※ Please enlarge the space of each section as necessary.

Country and target area of study	Queensland Government
Your name and title	Kylie Stephen - Director
Reporting date	2018

I. Outline of the legal protection for domestic violence victims and their children

- ※ Including the legal definition of domestic violence in your target area of study
- ※ Including names of laws or regulations

Broadly, under Queensland law, domestic violence includes behavior that is physically, sexually, emotionally, psychologically or economically abusive, threatening, coercive or aimed at controlling or dominating another person through fear.

The *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012* (the Act) aims to provide safety and protection for people in relevant relationships who are victims of domestic and family violence.

In October 2016, the Queensland Parliament passed a range of amendments to the Act to better protect victims of domestic and family violence and their families, hold perpetrators to account for their actions and support the delivery of integrated service responses.

See <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2012-005> and <https://publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/domestic-and-family-violence-resources/resource/2e418216-57a3-4712-b24d-ad00e02ab6f5>

II. Protection for domestic violence victims in case of emergency

1 Emergency shelters for protecting domestic violence victims and their children

(1) Outline

DVConnect provides confidential advice and counselling as well as referral to crisis accommodation for women and children escaping domestic and family violence and can be contacted on 180 811 811 see <http://www.dvconnect.org/womensline/about-womens-refuges/>

Refuges (also called shelters) provide a place of safety for women and children escaping domestic and family violence in their homes or community.

Most refuges in Queensland receive government funding to provide temporary supported accommodation and other support services to women and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Some other places offer domestic and family violence accommodation services without receiving government funding. These are known as self-funded refuges.

A key action in the Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2020 Action Plan that accompanies the Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027 is to improve housing outcomes for women and children escaping domestic and family violence by constructing shelters and replacing or renewing shelters.

See

<http://www.hpw.qld.gov.au/Housing/PartnershipInitiatives/DomesticFamilyViolence/Pages/default.aspx>

(2) Names of shelters in your target area of study, contact information, how to apply for their support(please give names of 3 shelters)

Placement in a refuge can be arranged by contacting DVConnect Womensline on 1800 811 811. In order to maintain security and safety, the location and details of refuges are confidential and not available to the public.

A counsellor at DVConnect would work on the principle of getting women to the nearest safe refuge available following a risk assessment process. Refuges places are, unfortunately, in high demand, and spaces offered are determined by vacancies currently available. See

<http://www.dvconnect.org/womensline/about-womens-refuges/>

(3) Requirements for receiving their assistances(for each shelter picked up in item(2))

See <http://www.dvconnect.org/womensline/about-womens-refuges/>

(4) Programs and services(for each shelter picked up in item(2))

Individual programs and services not listed as individual shelters not included at (2) for confidentiality reasons. Additional information re services provided is included at

<http://www.dvconnect.org/womensline/about-womens-refuges/>

(5) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners (including assistance of interpreter, etc.) (for each shelter picked up in item(2))

Refuges are sensitive to different cultures and religions and will, where ever possible, accommodate the needs of people to participate in their religion.

Where privacy and security is assured, counsellors will also link people to culturally specific services where people can obtain interpreter services and phone or face to face support in such things as legal and immigration matters.

Refuges are also sensitive to dietary needs to different cultures and they can, for example, take people to culturally specific food outlets like butchers and supermarkets.

(6) Any other useful information related to shelters

See <http://www.dvconnect.org/womensline/about-womens-refuges/>

2 Handling of abusers by the police

(1) Names of police in your target area, contact information, how to contact, etc.

Queensland Police Service. In an emergency contact 000 for all other non-urgent or general queries contact Policelink 131 444.

(2) Police procedures when they are notified of domestic violence

Police will attend an incident and conduct an investigation, they will take the appropriate action. This may include making an application for a domestic violence order on behalf of the victim and ensuring that they are protected from further acts of domestic violence.

(3) Police procedures when they were notified that restraining order or any other orders are not followed by abusers

Police will conduct an investigation of the alleged breach and if appropriate commence

proceedings. Depending on the nature of the incident, police may take the respondent into custody and may oppose bail. Police may also apply for a variation of the current domestic violence order if the situation warrants it.

(4) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners (including assistance of interpreter, etc.)

Where possible, police will obtain an interpreter to assist in communicating with victims to obtain their version of events and to ensure that the victim is protected using the relevant legislation.

Victims who are immigrants/foreigners are also offered a Police Referral which includes 23 categories with over 450 support services, including agencies such as DV Connect and Victim Assist Queensland who may assist with financial assistance for victims of acts of violence.

3 Support for domestic violence victims by the police

(1) Contents of the support for victims offered by the police

Police will ensure that victims are offered referrals to the appropriate support agencies including domestic violence support services. Police can assist victims getting to and from emergency accommodation, and will offer assistance during the court process.

(2) How to obtain a copy of bill of complaints or reports at the police

Police will provide victims with a copy of their statement at the conclusion of preparing it. For a copy of a QPRIME report (this is the Queensland Police Services computer generated document) victims need to contact the CITEC Confirm hotline on 07 3222 2700 or +61 7 3222 2700 or 1800 773 773. There is a fee associated with this. Further details available at www.confirm.citec.com.au

(3) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners (including assistance of interpreter, etc.)

If required police will arrange for an interpreter to assist victims when they are providing statements to Police.

(4) Any other useful information related to support for victims offered by the police

When police attend an incident, under the 'Charter of Victim Rights' they are required to offer the victim referral services for support. The QPS has established Police Referrals which includes 23 categories with over 450 support services, including agencies such as DV Connect and Victim Assist Queensland for financial assistance for victims of 'acts of violence'. Initially, police may make two referrals for support services and financial assistance, though they may enter additional referrals to assist victims with court support and victim impact statements.

4 Any other information related to protection for domestic violence victims in case of emergency

Mensline is a free, confidential telephone counselling, referral and support service established just for men. It is a Queensland wide service that operates between the hours of 9am and midnight, 7 days a week see <http://www.dvconnect.org/mensline/about-mensline/>

Government and community action in responding to the recommendations of the 'Not Now, Not Ever' report and the ongoing media and community focus on domestic and family violence has resulted in

increased demand for perpetrator intervention programs.

III. Independence support for domestic violence victims

1 Medical insurance system

(1) Outline

Medical insurance and Medicare do not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government. Please contact the Australian Government for more information, or visit:

<https://www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/health/health-insurance> and

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/medicare>

Address:

Medicare

GPO BOX 9822

In you capital city

2 Living expense support

(1) Outline

Financial assistance may be provided to eligible victims who have been injured by an act of violence in Queensland.

If the application is approved, assistance can be provided to help cover some or all of the costs associated with recovery. These costs may include:

- medical and counselling costs
- travel costs to attend medical and counselling appointments
- safety and security costs
- replacement of clothing damaged during the crime
- crime scene cleaning costs
- loss of earnings (up to \$20,000—special conditions apply)
- other reasonable expenses to help recover from an injury
- legal costs incurred in applying for assistance (up to \$500—special conditions apply)
- funeral costs (up to \$8,000)

See

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime/financial-assistance>

Victims of domestic violence can access brokerage funds by contacting a specialist domestic and family violence service. Following a risk and needs assessment, brokerage may be provided to assist with issues such as transport or accommodation costs, living expenses or daily needs such as purchasing food, nappies or toiletries.

(2) Names of organizations in charge, contact information, how to apply for the support in your target area of study

Financial assistance can be applied for from Victim Assist Queensland if a person has been a victim of an act of violence in Queensland. This includes domestic and family violence.

Financial assistance must be applied for within 3 years of the act of violence.

See

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime/financial-assistance/type-of-financial-assistance-available>

(3) Requirements for application

Many people can be impacted by a violent crime.

Support is offered through Victims Assist Queensland to support 4 types of victim. Different types of victims can apply for different financial assistance.

- Primary victim: someone who is directly injured as a result of the act of violence.
- Witness secondary victim: someone who is injured because they saw or heard the act of violence.
- Parent secondary victim: the parent or primary carer of a victim (who is under 18) injured as a result of becoming aware of the act of violence. This may include the victim's parents, carers, step-parents, co-parents, foster parents, kinship carer, or any other person responsible for the day-to-day care of the child. However, it does not include a person acting in place of a parent on a temporary or short-term basis.
- Related victim: close family members and financial dependants of a person who has died as a direct result of the act of violence. This may include the person's partner/spouse, child, brother/sister, or parent. A person who, under Aboriginal tradition or Torres Strait Island custom, is regarded as a close family member may also be considered.

Funeral assistance may also be offered to the person responsible for paying of the funeral of someone who died as a direct result of violence.

(4) Contents of their support

See

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime/financial-assistance/victims-categories>

(5) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Interpreter assistance is available.

(6) Any other useful information related to the living expense support

See

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime/financial-assistance/victims-categories>

3 Childcare support

(1) Outline

See

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime/financial-assistance/victims-categories>

(2) Names of organizations in charge, contact information, how to apply for the support in your target area of study

Kids Helpline can be contacted on 1800 55 1800 for help. Kids Helpline is a free and confidential telephone and online counselling service for young people aged between 5 and 25 – this is not a child care service but a support service for children that may be experiencing domestic and family violence.

The Queensland Government also fund domestic and family violence services that provide a range of assistance such as counselling and support to people affected by domestic and family violence, including children.

See <https://www.qld.gov.au/youth/family-social-support/young-people-domestic-family-violence>

(3) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Interpreter assistance is available.

4 Housing support

(1) Outline

Social housing is available as a safety net to vulnerable people who are assessed as having the greatest need. Applicants must meet all of the eligibility criteria to receive social housing see <https://www.qld.gov.au/housing/public-community-housing/eligibility-applying-for-housing>

(2) Names of organizations in charge, contact information, how to apply for the support in your target area of study

Housing Service Centres see

<https://www.qld.gov.au/housing/public-community-housing/housing-service-centre>

(3) Requirements for application

See <https://www.qld.gov.au/housing/public-community-housing/check-your-eligibility>

(4) Contents of their support

<https://www.qld.gov.au/housing/public-community-housing/types-of-houses-provided>

(5) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

See <https://www.qld.gov.au/help/languages>

(6) Any other useful information related to the housing support

See <https://www.qld.gov.au/housing/public-community-housing/eligibility-applying-for-housing>

5 Employment support and vocational training

(1) Outline

The Queensland Government provides access to vocational education and training (VET) subsidised training and skilling incentives for those experiencing domestic and family violence. The *2017-18 Annual VET Investment Plan* continues to provide an avenue for disadvantaged Queenslanders including those experiencing domestic and family violence, to access subsidised training opportunities through programs such as *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* (SQW), Certificate 3 Guarantee and Higher Level Skills.

The Queensland Government also works with the VET sector to increase the delivery of existing approved units of competency related to domestic and family violence. The Queensland Training subsidies List includes a subsidy for both the Certificate IV and Diploma in Child, Youth and Family Intervention, which may provide a pathway to employment or further education that could be relevant for particular roles within the sector.

The Skilling Queenslanders for Work (SQW) initiative is a key initiative under the *2017-18 Annual VET Investment Plan*. SQW funds community-based organisations to deliver tailored assistance to eligible participants to help them gain the skills and qualifications needed to secure employment.

SQW is one of the initiatives that forms part of The Queensland Women's Strategy – Community Implementation Plan that outlines the Government's vision for women and girls with input from the community, business and government. Since 2016-17, women re-entering the workforce has been a key target group under SQW. The participation rate under SQW, by women including those experiencing family and domestic violence, continues to be over 50 per cent.

(2) Names of organizations in charge, contact information, how to apply for the support in your target area of study

For more information regarding VET subsidised training and skilling incentives as well as SQW, please contact the Department at www.training.qld.gov.au and telephone 1300 369 935.

(3) Requirements for application

Please refer to above contact details, where assistance will be provided including enquiries directed to department appropriate teams including eligibility requirements as well as how and when organisations can apply.

(4) Contents of their support

Please refer to www.training.qld.gov.au.

(5) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

An interpreter service is available, please refer to www.training.qld.gov.au and telephone 1300 369 935.

(6) Any other useful information employment support and vocational training

Domestic and family violence leave is available as part of the Queensland Employment Standards provisions of the Industrial Relations ACT 2019 (Qld) (the Act) for employees who have experienced domestic and family violence and as a result, require leave.

Domestic and family violence leave may be paid or unpaid depending on how much leave is taken and the way in which the employee is employed.

Full-time employees, who are not casuals, are entitled to a maximum of 10 days paid domestic and family violence leave per year.

Part-time employees are entitled to a proportion of the full-time entitlement based on hours worked (pro rata).

A long term casual employee* is entitled to a maximum of 10 days unpaid domestic and family violence leave per year. A short term casual employee is entitled to a maximum of two days unpaid domestic and family violence leave per year.

For more information, please visit

<https://www.treasury.qld.gov.au/fair-and-safe-work/industrial-relations/qld-industrial-relations-framework/domestic-and-family-violence-leave/>

6 Visas

(1) Measures to help victims apply for visas or renew the period of stay in your target area of study when the victims who are immigrants/foreigners cannot expect assistance from abusers (including special visa issued for domestic violence victims, etc.)

Immigration and visas do not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government. Please contact the Department of Home Affairs on 131 881 for more information, or visit: <https://homeaffairs.gov.au/about/corporate/information/fact-sheets/38domestic>

7 Support provided by domestic violence victim support centers/social agencies

(1) Outline

Domestic and family violence services provide a range of assistance such as counselling and support to people affected by domestic and family violence, including children.

Queensland Government funds a range of support services for victims and perpetrators of Domestic and Family Violence including:

- Counselling for adults and children
- Statewide helplines – Womensline, Mensline, Sexual Assault helpline
- Court support
- Behaviour change programs for perpetrators
- Women's shelters and mobile support services

Many also have information and programs available for people who use domestic and family violence in relationships.

See

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/getting-support-health-social-issue/counselling-support-advice>

(2) Names of organizations in charge, contact information, how to apply for the support in your target area of study (please give names of 3 organizations)

See

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/getting-support-health-social-issue/counselling-support-advice>

(3) Requirements for receiving their assistances(for each organization picked up in item (2))

Requirements for receiving assistance is dependent on the type of service received. More information about services can be found at

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/getting-support-health-social-issue/counselling-support-advice>

(4) Programs and services(for each organization picked up in item (2))

Programs and services for each organization is dependent on the type of organization/service being delivered. More information about services can be found at

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/getting-support-health-social-issue/counselling-support-advice>

(5) Treatment for victims who are immigrants/foreigners (including assistance of interpreter, etc.) (for each organization picked up in item (2))

Queensland government funds the Immigrant Women's Support Service, a specialist service

response for immigrant and refugee women from non-English speaking background and their children who have experienced domestic and/or sexual violence.

More information can be found at: <http://www.iwss.org.au>

Interpreter assistance is available for Queensland government services.

8 Any other information related to independence support

NA

IV. Legal process regarding domestic violence

1 Protective measures for domestic violence victims

※ Including orders that prohibits the abuser from approaching the victim, and victim's children or relatives, an order that obliges the abuser to vacate the residence shared as the main home with the victim, etc.

(1) Outline (please specify your target area of study)

When police officers arrive at a domestic violence incident their first priority will be the safety of the people involved.

A police officer has the power to enter a residence when the officer reasonably suspects domestic violence is occurring or has occurred before the officer's arrival and search the premises. This ensures that any people remaining at the property are safe from an further harm and violence and also to obtain any evidence necessary to ensure appropriate action is taken.

The parties are likely to be separated so they are able to speak to the police privately. The police officer may ask the aggrieved, the respondent, or any witnesses to the incident, a number of questions about the relationship between the parties, the history of domestic violence and for an account of the incident being investigated.

Police may require the name and address of any person involved in a domestic violence incident, including witnesses.

At the conclusion of the investigation, should a police officer reasonably believe that domestic violence has been committed and it is necessary to seek protection for persons affected by domestic violence, police can make application for a protection order or issue a police protection notice (which includes an application for a protection order). The police protection notice provides immediate protection for persons affected by domestic violence.

Further, if the police officer reasonably suspects that domestic violence has been committed by the respondent and there is a danger that the respondent will cause personal injury or property damage they may take the respondent into custody. The respondent may be detained to enable police to complete an application for a protection order, issue a police protection notice, or apply to a magistrate for a temporary protection order. If the safety of the aggrieved is of concern, or police reasonably believe the respondent is intoxicated to an extent that they are incapable of understanding the documentation to be served, this detention period may be extended.

<https://www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/dv/default.htm>

The Queensland Courts has established a page on its website which contains a large amount of information on domestic and family violence and the court process. Information is included on:

- What is domestic violence
- What a domestic violence order is
- Having an order made against you
- Access to domestic and family violence court forms including:
 - Applying for a domestic violence order
 - Varying a domestic violence order
 - Court safety form – to provide for safety measures when arriving at court, at court and leaving court
- Videos on the domestic violence court process – six videos available in seven languages and Auslan
- List of supported services available
- Information on specialist domestic and family violence courts which are operating in some locations

(2) Necessary time to obtain the orders

In the first instance the matter should be brought before the Court within five days but no later than 28 days. Once the matter is before the Court the process then becomes dependent on the parties involved. For example, the Respondent may not agree to an order in which case a hearing has to be set, usually around two months from the initial court day but some as late 12 months from the initial court date due to scheduling issues etc.

(3) Term of validity of the orders

Queensland orders can last up to five years and if breached the respondent can face criminal charges. Orders can have a single condition that the respondent be of good behaviour towards the victim and not commit Domestic Violence or it can have numerous conditions, including conditions that the respondent is to leave the home, have no contact with the victim and is not to locate the victim.

(4) How to start legal process

Police after conducting an investigation can apply if it is necessary to the Court for a Domestic Violence Order. Some victims choose not to involve the Police and will apply for a Domestic Violence Order themselves. Victims can attend their local Courthouses or Domestic Violence Service for assistance in completing the application.

(5) Whether appointing a lawyer is mandatory or not

A lawyer is not mandatory in Domestic Violence Application proceedings. If the application is made by the police, then the police will represent the victim throughout the process. Private applicants will represent themselves but they can ask police to assist them in the process.

2 Possible countermeasures expected to be taken by the abuser when a victim takes protective measures described in 1

- ※ Including an appeal against the orders described in 1, filing a petition for a non-exeate order, lodging a complaint against the victim on the ground that the victim also used violence on the abuser, etc.

(1) Outline (please specify your target area of study)

It is not uncommon when police take out an application for a protection order that the respondent may

apply for a cross order at the same time.

(2) Term of validity of the countermeasures

The matter has to proceed through the Court at the same time as the Police application.

(3) Measures that can be taken by the victim against the countermeasures by the abuser

<https://www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/dv/default.htm>

3 Legal process for claiming living expense to the abuser

(1) Outline (please specify your target area of area)

If living expenses are sought to support children, this is called 'child support'. Child support is a family law matter which comes under the responsibilities of the Australian Government. Family law does not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government.

For information about seeking Child Support payments, please visit:

<http://www.familycourt.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fcoaweb/family-law-matters/property-and-finance/child-support/>

For information about legal matters and processes, please visit either:

- Queensland Law Society (<https://www.qjs.com.au/Home>), or
- Legal Aid Queensland (<http://www.legalaid.qld.gov.au/Home>)

Financial assistance can be applied for from Victim Assist Queensland if a person had been a victim of an act of violence in Queensland. This includes domestic and family violence.

Financial assistance must be applied for within 3 years of the act of violence.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime/financial-assistance/type-of-financial-assistance-available>

(2) Necessary time to obtain the orders

Please see above.

(3) Term of validity of the orders

Please see above.

(4) How to start legal process

Please see above.

(5) Whether appointing a lawyer is mandatory or not

Please see above.

(6) Useful information for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Please see above.

(7) Any other useful information related to measures for claiming living expense to the abuser(including administrative measures to claim living expense to the abuser)

Please see above.

4 Divorce process involving domestic violence victim

(1) Outline (please specify your target area of study)

In Australia, Divorce is a family law matter which comes under the responsibilities of the Australian Government. Family law does not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government.

For more information about getting divorced, please visit:

<http://www.federalcircuitcourt.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fccweb/family-law-matters/divorce-and-separation/divorce/divorce>

(2) General trend of the legal decision about child custody in divorce process involving domestic violence victim

Please see above.

(3) General trend of the legal decision about the residence of the child in divorce process related to domestic violence victims

Please see above.

(4) General trend of the legal decision about the childcare expenses in divorce process related to domestic violence victims

Please see above.

(5) General trend of the legal decision about visitation in divorce process related to domestic violence victims

Please see above.

(6) Useful information for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Please see above.

(7) Any other useful information related to divorce process involving domestic violence victim

Please see above.

5 Legal process for child custody modification

(1) Outline (please specify your target area of study)

Child custody matters come under the jurisdiction of the Family Court of Australia. These matters do not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government.

For more information on applying to change an existing order, please visit:

<http://www.federalcircuitcourt.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fccweb/family-law-matters/parenting/applying-to-change-an-existing-order/>

(2) How to start the legal process for child custody modification

Please see above.

(3) Whether appointing a lawyer is mandatory or not

Please see above.

(4) General trend of the legal decision about child custody modification

Please see above.

(5) Useful information for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Please see above.

(6) Any other useful information related to legal process for altering child custody

Please see above.

6 Legal process for getting permission to move to another place with children

(1) Outline (please specify your target area of study)

Family law relocation and travel matters come under the jurisdiction of the Family Court of Australia. These matters do not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government.

For more information about family law relocation and travel, please visit:

<http://www.federalcircuitcourt.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fccweb/family-law-matters/parenting/relocation-and-travel>

(2) How to start the legal process for getting permission to move to another place with children

Please see above.

(3) Whether appointing a lawyer is mandatory or not

Please see above.

(4) General trend of the legal decision related to moving to another place with children

Please see above.

(5) Useful information for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Please see above.

(6) Any other information related to moving to another place with children

Please see above.

7 Legal process for changing visitation schedules

(1) Outline (please specify your target area of study)

Parenting orders come under the jurisdiction of the Family Court of Australia. These matters do not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government.

For more information about parent orders where there is a disagreement between the parents, please visit:

<http://www.federalcircuitcourt.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fccweb/family-law-matters/parenting/if-you-cant-agree-on-arrangements/>

(2) How to start the legal process for changing visitation schedules

Please see above.

(3) Whether appointing a lawyer is mandatory or not

Please see above.

(4) General trend of the legal decision about changing visitation schedules

Please see above.

(5) Useful information for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Please see above.

(6) Any other useful information related to legal process for changing visitation schedules

Please see above.

8 Retaining a lawyer

(1) How to find a lawyer with expertise in dealing with domestic violence

In Australia, domestic violence matters are dealt with under both criminal (Queensland) and Family (Australian) law. Family lawyers and criminal lawyers should be able to provide advice on domestic violence matters.

Legal Aid Queensland (LAQ) provides free legal information on the LAQ website, by telephone, or

face to face at one of the 14 offices and various community access points across Queensland. LAQ also provides legal advice, representation, and specialist services.

Contact LAQ for more information at <http://www.legalaid.qld.gov.au/Home>

For more information on obtaining a lawyer, please visit:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/legal-mediation-and-justice-of-the-peace/legal-advice-and-investment/legal-information-and-advice>

(2) How to find a lawyer who is good at foreign languages

An Australian Translating and Interpreting Service is available for lawyers to use when working with non-English speaking clients.

(3) How to ask a lawyer

For more information about lawyers, please contact:

- Queensland Law Society (<https://www.qls.com.au/Home>), or
- Legal Aid Queensland (<http://www.legalaid.qld.gov.au/Home>)

(4) General information about lawyer fee

Please see above.

(5) Legal aid

Please visit Legal Aid Queensland (<http://www.legalaid.qld.gov.au/Home>)

(6) Useful information for victims who are immigrants/foreigners

Please see above.

(7) Any other useful information related to retaining a lawyer

Please see above.

9 Any other useful information related to legal process regarding domestic violence

Community Organisations and Community Legal Services which may be of use to immigrant women experiencing domestic violence:

- Immigrant Women's Support Service: www.iwss.org.au/
- Refugee and Immigration Legal Service: <http://www.rails.org.au/>
- Women's Legal Service Queensland: <https://wlsq.org.au/>
- Caxton Legal Centre Inc: <https://caxton.org.au/>

V. Information for domestic violence victims preparing to return to your country based on the 1980 Hague Convention

※ A typical case is supposed where a domestic violence victim, who removed children without consent of the abuser, is preparing to return to the country of habitual residence with children after relevant proceedings in accordance with the 1980 Hague Convention.

1 How to know whether an arrest warrant is out against the victim before he/she returns to the country of habitual residence

※ Including measures to obtain official or reliable information about the arrest warrant other than asking the abuser

International family law does not come under the responsibilities of the Queensland Government. Please contact the International Family Law Section of the Australian Government Attorney General's Department

for more information, or visit:

<https://www.ag.gov.au/FamiliesAndMarriage/Families/InternationalFamilyLaw/Pages/HagueConventionOnTheCivilAspectsOfInternationalChildAbduction.aspx>

Address:

International Family Law Section
Attorney-General's Department
3-5 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

2 Measures to terminate criminal proceedings against the domestic violence victim before he/she returns to the country of habitual residence

※ Including registering or enforcing orders which may be made by the foreign court when it made return order, any other legal or administrative measures, etc.

NA

3 Measures to secure accommodation, financial support, etc., for a domestic violence victim before he/she returns to the country of habitual residence

※ Including registering or enforcing orders which may be made by the foreign court when it made return order, any other legal or administrative measures, etc.

Please see above

4 Any other useful information for a domestic violence victim preparing to return to your country based on the 1980 Hague Convention

Please see above

VI. Any other relevant information

See additional resources/information at:

<https://publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/domestic-and-family-violence-resources>

<https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/not-now-not-ever>