

## **PLANNING YOUR SAFETY WITH COURT ORDERS, THE POLICE AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**

- Request personal information about you be removed from any court orders wherever possible
- Keep numerous copies of any court orders. Carry a copy with you all times
- Give a copy of any court orders to your employer, your school and/or your children's school, or child care provider
- Advise my neighbours, friends, boss, co-workers, and teachers that you have these court orders and request that they call police if they see the abuser. Provide a picture and/or description of the abuser and his vehicle. Contact your lawyer, the police, a shelter, or other 24 hour service for women if you have any questions about the court orders
- Notify police of every infraction of a court order and request an occurrence number each time
- Keep a detailed journal of every suspected or known contact from the abuser. Include date, time, what happened and who else witnessed it if there was one
- Call 911 or your police emergency number if you need immediate assistance. The abuser has threatened to or is hurting me, or if you feel that he is going to hurt you
- If the abuser has been arrested, contact the investigating officer, Victim Support Line or Victim/Witness Assistance Program to find out when their bail hearing is and if the abuser is released, what their bail conditions will be
- Ask Victim/Witness Assistance Program to provide you with a copy of the abuser's bail papers. The bail conditions generally outline what the abuser can and can not do i.e. no direct or indirect contact with the victim, or not to be within 500 metres of the victims address
- Ask the police for their recommendations about alarm systems.
- Ask the police for a referral to the SupportLink Program
- Request that the police put a Special Address System Report on your address. This will include important information describing the abuser and his vehicle, if he uses drugs or alcohol, has a history of violence, or access to weapons.

- Take a support person with you if you are meeting with a police officer or an attorney
- If you are not feeling satisfied with the response from the police, you can ask to speak to a supervisor or you can make a complaint with the Professional Standards Section.

**NOTES:**