

THE NEW JERSEY

ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM



**Increased Safety for Victims
of Domestic Violence, Stalking,
Sexual Assault, and the
Reproductive Health Community**

1-877-218-9133

DCF.ASKACP@dcf.nj.gov

Operated by the Division on Women

Safety Planning

Participants of the Address Confidentiality Program may need to develop a safety plan. This involves examining different aspects of their lives and determining what may compromise their safety. An important thing to remember is that the ACP is only one part of a safety plan.

When developing a safety plan one may consider:

- Talking with the local domestic violence program. They will be able to provide you with information on community resources as well as ideas to help you establish a safety plan.
- Limiting the number of people who are aware of their actual address.
- Including strategies to address technology including Caller ID and the Internet, which could be used to obtain information about their location.
- Changing their name and/or Social Security number.



**To locate your local
Domestic Violence Program
call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

1-800-572-SAFE (7233)

609-392-2990 TTY

(Translators available in any language)

**To locate your local
Sexual Violence Program
contact New Jersey Coalition
Against Sexual Assault
call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

1-800-601-7200

Address Confidentiality Program

1-877-218-9133

THE NEW JERSEY ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM

Program Description

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) was established in 1998 by law to safeguard and protect the physical address of victims of various forms of violence. Abusers use many strategies to locate their victims and in many cases, may use public records to obtain addresses. This program limits the ability of an abuser to access information that would reveal the location of an ACP participant.

ACP provides participants with a legal substitute address and a mail forwarding service to applicants' actual location. This substitute address may be used when creating new records with state or local government agencies, such as a driver's license, and in place of any home, work, or school addresses.

All local, county, and state public agencies are required by law to utilize this substitute address in place of the physical address. Although the law does not require private businesses to accept a substitute address, private businesses are encouraged to prevent the disclosure of any unique identifying information that may jeopardize a participant's safety.

In 2019, the Address Confidentiality Act was amended to expand its program eligibility. In addition to victims of domestic violence, victims of sexual violence, stalking, and reproductive health patients and providers may also be eligible to enroll in the program. (See N.J.R.S.47:4-1 et seq. for more information.)



Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the New Jersey Address Confidentiality Program, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a victim of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, or a reproductive health patient or provider; and
- Experienced threats or violent acts and fears for their safety; and
- Relocated or is willing to relocate to an address unknown to the abuser; and
- At least 18 years of age, or an emancipated minor, or a parent/ guardian acting on behalf of a minor or an incapacitated person; and
- Reported the domestic violence, sexual violence, or stalking to a law enforcement agency or court. Note, however, there is no requirement of documentation such as a restraining order or a police report.

Application Process

Upon a determination of eligibility, the ACP process the application and issue an ACP authorization card. This authorization card serves as proof of participation in the program and must be produced upon request to state or local government agencies.

