



# Definition of Domestic Violence/Abuse for Civil Protection Orders

## Revised 2020

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## Definitions of Domestic Violence/Abuse for Civil Protection Orders

The definitions of abuse vary from state to state. There are, however, some similarities in the actions that are considered abusive in all of the statutes. Physical violence and the threat of physical violence is included in every states' statute. While some states are very precise in their definitions of abuse in regard to the physical and non-physical actions that abuse is comprised of and the parties that are involved, other states include only basic definitions that are more open to broad interpretation.

### **Sexual Assault, Stalking, Strangulation and Harassment**

Most statutes include some form of sexual assault while only two include strangulation. Twenty-four states and territories include stalking within their definitions of abuse (Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia). Fourteen states recognize various forms of harassment as abusive (Alabama, Alaska, Illinois, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, the Northern Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Utah, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia).

### **Cyber-stalking and harassment**

As technology changes and advances, so do methods of abuse. Some states have moved towards including cyber-stalking and harassment via technology in defining abuse in 2020. As of 2020, Mississippi, New Jersey, and Rhode Island are the only states with cyber-abuse in their statutory definitions of abuse. In California, New Mexico, and Oklahoma the definition of abuse includes harassment via telephone calls.

### **Pet Abuse**

Nine out of the states and territories include violence towards household animals in their definitions of abuse (Alaska, Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Utah, and Wisconsin). Utah added § 77-6-1(4)(b), aggravated animal cruelty, to its definition of abuse in the most recent version of its protection order code.

### **Person's Eligibility for Relief**

Each of the definitions of abuse also define the people that are eligible for relief as victims of domestic abuse. While every state includes some kind of romantic, spouse or intimate partner relationship, some states have a specific provision for a "Dating Relationship." These provisions often explicitly state that they do not include "casual" or "ordinary business" relationships. These states also give the courts discretion to determine the extent to which the dating relationship was substantive based on the length, nature, frequency and date of termination of the relationship. South Carolina is the only state that uses language specific to male/female relationships.

Outside of intimate partner relationships, every state also includes some family relations in the statutory definition, ranging from child-parent relations to in-laws. Ten states include grandparents and elders who are being abused in the statutes (Arizona, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia). Only two states (Illinois and Wisconsin) include people with disabilities who rely upon caregivers in their definitions sections. In looking at the types of relationships that are honored from state to state, spousal relations are the most commonly included. Child abuse is also frequently mentioned in the definitions, likely because of the vulnerable position of minors in relation to their parents and other adult figures in their lives.

### **Changes Within the Past Year**

From 2019 to 2020, there were few major statutory changes in the definition of "Abuse." Among these were the specifications regarding Alabama's use of "Dating Relationships" as sexual/romantic only (Ala. Code §30-5-2 (3)), the addition of economic abuse in the Maine statute (19-A M.R.S. § 40002 (3-B)), the inclusion of minor children related by blood or marriage as eligible family members in Rhode Island (R.I. Gen. Laws §15-15-1 (4), (7)), and the addition of animal cruelty as a form of abuse in Utah (Utah Code Ann. § 77-36-1 (4)(b)).

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STATE	DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/ ABUSE AND QUALIFYING RELATIONSHIPS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER
ALABAMA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ALA. CODE § 30-5-2(1),(4),(7)</u></p> <p>In this chapter, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:</p> <p>(1) Abuse. An act of <b>domestic violence</b> committed against a <b>victim*</b>, which is any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Arson. Arson as defined under Sections 13A-7-40 to 13A-7-43, inclusive.</li> <li>b. Assault. Assault as defined under Sections 13A-6-20 to 13A-6-22, inclusive.</li> <li>c. Attempt. Attempt as defined under Section 13A-4-2.</li> <li>d. Child abuse. Torture or willful abuse of a child, aggravated child abuse, or chemical endangerment of a child as provided in Chapter 15, commencing with Section 26-15-1, of Title 26, known as the Alabama Child Abuse Act.</li> <li>e. Criminal coercion. Criminal coercion as defined under Section 13A-6-25.</li> <li>f. Criminal trespass. Criminal trespass as defined under Sections 13A-7-2 to 13A-7-4.1, inclusive.</li> <li>g. Harassment. Harassment as defined under Section 13A-11-8.</li> <li>h. Kidnapping. Kidnapping as defined under Sections 13A-6-43 and 13A-6-44.</li> <li>i. Menacing. Menacing as defined under Section 13A-6-23.</li> <li>j. Other conduct. Any other conduct directed toward a <b>plaintiff**</b> covered by this chapter that could be punished as a criminal act under the laws of this state.</li> <li>k. Reckless endangerment. Reckless endangerment as defined under Section 13A-6-24.</li> <li>l. Sexual abuse. Any sexual offenses included in Article 4, commencing with Section 13A-6-60, of Chapter 6 of Title 13A.</li> <li>m. Stalking. Stalking as defined under Sections 13A-6-90 to 13A-6-94, inclusive.</li> <li>n. Theft. Theft as defined under Sections 13A-8-1 to 13A-8-5, inclusive.</li> <li>o. Unlawful imprisonment. Unlawful imprisonment as defined under Sections 13A-6-41 and 13A-6-42.</li> </ul> <p>(3) <b>Dating relationship.</b> A relationship or former relationship of a romantic or intimate nature characterized by the expectation of affectionate or sexual involvement by either party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A dating relationship includes the period of engagement to be married.</li> <li>b. A dating relationship does not include a casual or business relationship or a relationship that ended more than 12 months prior to the filing of the petition for a protection order.</li> </ul> <p>** (4) <b>Plaintiff.</b> An individual who has standing to file a petition under Section 30-5-5.</p> <p>* (7) <b>Victim.</b> An individual who is related to the person who commits an act of abuse in any of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Has a current or former marriage, including common law marriage with the defendant</li> <li>b. Has a child in common with the defendant regardless of whether the victim and defendant have ever been married and regardless of whether they are currently residing or have in the past resided together in the same household.</li> <li>c. Has or had a <b>dating relationship</b> with the defendant.</li> <li>d. Is a current or former household member. For purposes of this chapter, a household member excludes non-romantic or non-intimate co-residents.</li> <li>e. A relative of a current or former household member as defined in paragraph d. who also lived with the defendant.</li> <li>f. An individual who is a parent, stepparent, child, or stepchild.</li> </ul>
ALASKA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ALASKA STAT. § 18.66.990 (3),(5),(10)</u></p>

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	<p>(3) "<b>domestic violence</b>" and "crime involving domestic violence" mean one or more of the following offenses or an offense under a law or ordinance of another jurisdiction having elements similar to these offenses, or an attempt to commit the offense, by a <b>household member</b>* against another household member:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) a crime against the person under AS 11.41;</li> <li>(B) burglary under AS 11.46.300 -- 11.46.310;</li> <li>(C) criminal trespass under AS 11.46.320 -- 11.46.330;</li> <li>(D) arson or criminally negligent burning under AS 11.46.400 -- 11.46.430;</li> <li>(E) criminal mischief under AS 11.46.475 -- 11.46.486;</li> <li>(F) terrorist threatening under AS 11.56.807 or 11.56.810;</li> <li>(G) violating a protective order under AS 11.56.740(a)(1);</li> <li>(H) harassment under AS 11.61.120(a)(2) -- (4); or</li> <li>(I) cruelty to animals under AS 11.61.140(a)(5) if the animal is a pet;</li> </ul> <p>* (5) "<b>household member</b>" includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) adults or minors who are current or former spouses;</li> <li>(B) adults or minors who live together or who have lived together;</li> <li>(C) adults or minors who are dating or who have dated;</li> <li>(D) adults or minors who are engaged in or who have engaged in a sexual relationship;</li> <li>(E) adults or minors who are related to each other up to the fourth degree of consanguinity, whether of the whole or half blood or by adoption, computed under the rules of civil law;</li> <li>(F) adults or minors who are related or formerly related by marriage;</li> <li>(G) persons who have a child of the relationship; and</li> <li>(H) minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in (A) -- (G) of this paragraph;</li> </ul> <p>(10) "<b>sexual assault</b>" means a crime specified in AS 11.41.410 -- 11.41.450;</p>
AMERICAN SAMOA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AM. SAMOA CODE ANN. § 47.0102(1),(2)</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:</p> <p>(1) "<b>Domestic or family violence</b>" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts by a <b>family or household member</b>*, but does not include acts of self-defense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) Attempting to cause or causing physical harm to another family or household member;</li> <li>(B) Placing a family or household member in fear of physical harm; or</li> <li>(C) Causing a family or household member to engage involuntarily in sexual activity by force, threat of force, or duress.</li> </ul> <p>* (2) "<b>Family or household members</b>" include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) Adults or minors who are current or former spouses;</li> <li>(B) Adults or minors who live together or who have lived together;</li> <li>(C) Adults or minors who are dating or who have dated;</li> <li>(D) Adults or minors who are engaged in or who have engaged in a sexual relationship;</li> <li>(E) Adults or minors who are related by blood or adoption;</li> <li>(F) Adults or minors who are related or formerly related by marriage;</li> <li>(G) Persons who have a child in common; and</li> <li>(H) Minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in paragraphs (A) through (H).</li> </ul>

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ARIZONA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARIZ. REV. STAT. ANN. § 13-3601(A)</u></p> <p>A. <b>"Domestic violence"</b> means any act that is a dangerous crime against children as defined in section 13-705 or an offense prescribed in section 13-1102, 13-1103, 13-1104, 13-1105, 13-1201, 13-1202, 13-1203, 13-1204, 13-1302, 13-1303, 13-1304, 13-1406, 13-1425, 13-1502, 13-1503, 13-1504, 13-1602 or 13-2810, section 13-2904, subsection A, paragraph 1, 2, 3 or 6, section 13-2910, subsection A, paragraph 8 or 9, section 13-2915, subsection A, paragraph 3 or section 13-2916, 13-2921, 13-2921.01, 13-2923, 13-3019, 13-3601.02 or 13-3623, if any of the following applies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The relationship between the <b>victim and the defendant</b> is one of marriage or former marriage or of persons residing or having resided in the same household.</li> <li>2. The <b>victim and the defendant</b> have a child in common.</li> <li>3. The <b>victim or the defendant</b> is pregnant by the other party.</li> <li>4. The <b>victim is related to the defendant</b> or the defendant's spouse by blood or court order as a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother or sister or by marriage as a parent-in-law, grandparent-in-law, stepparent, step-grandparent, stepchild, step-grandchild, brother-in-law or sister-in-law.</li> <li>5. The <b>victim is a child</b> who resides or has resided in the same household as the defendant and is related by blood to a former spouse of the defendant or to a person who resides or who has resided in the same household as the defendant.</li> <li>6. The relationship between the <b>victim and the defendant</b> is currently or was previously a romantic or sexual relationship. The following factors may be considered in determining whether the relationship between the victim and the defendant is currently or was previously a romantic or sexual relationship: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The type of relationship.</li> <li>(b) The length of the relationship.</li> <li>(c) The frequency of the interaction between the victim and the defendant.</li> <li>(d) If the relationship has terminated, the length of time since the termination.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
ARKANSAS	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARK. CODE ANN. § 9-15-103 (3)-(5)</u></p> <p>(3)(A) <b>"Dating Relationship"</b> means a romantic or intimate social relationship between two (2) individuals that shall be determined by examining the following factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The length of the relationship;</li> <li>(ii) The type of the relationship; and</li> <li>(iii) The frequency of interaction between the two (2) individuals involved in the relationship.</li> </ol> <p>(B) "Dating relationship" shall not include a casual relationship or ordinary fraternization between two (2) individuals in a business or social context;</p> <p>(4) <b>"Domestic abuse"</b> means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault between <b>family or household members*</b>; or</li> <li>(B) Any sexual conduct between family or household members, whether minors or adults, that constitutes a crime under the laws of this state;</li> </ol> <p>* (5) <b>"Family or household members"</b> means spouses, former spouses, parents and children, persons related by blood within the fourth degree of consanguinity, in-laws, any children residing in the household, persons who presently or in the past have resided or cohabited together, persons who have or have had a child in common, and persons who are presently or in the past have been in a dating relationship together.</p>

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CALIFORNIA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CAL. FAM. CODE § 6203</u></p> <p>(a) For purposes of this act, "<b>abuse</b>" means any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Intentionally or recklessly to cause or attempt to cause bodily injury.</li> <li>(2) Sexual assault.</li> <li>(3) To place a person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to that person or to another.</li> <li>(4) To engage in any behavior that has been or could be enjoined pursuant to Section 6320.*</li> </ol> <p>(b) Abuse is not limited to the actual infliction of physical injury or assault.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CAL. FAM. CODE § 6211</u></p> <p>"<b>Domestic violence</b>" is abuse perpetrated against any of the following persons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) A spouse or former spouse.</li> <li>(b) A <b>cohabitant</b>* or former cohabitant, as defined in Section 6209.</li> <li>(c) A person with whom the respondent is having or has had a <b>dating or engagement relationship</b>**.</li> <li>(d) A person with whom the respondent has had a child, where the presumption applies that the male parent is the father of the child of the female parent under the Uniform Parentage Act (Part 3 (commencing with Section 7600) of Division 12).</li> <li>(e) A child of a party or a child who is the subject of an action under the Uniform Parentage Act, where the presumption applies that the male parent is the father of the child to be protected.</li> <li>(f) Any other person related by consanguinity or affinity within the second degree.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CAL. FAM. CODE § 6209</u></p> <p>*"<b>Cohabitant</b>" means a person who regularly resides in the household. "Former cohabitant" means a person who formerly regularly resided in the household.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CAL. FAM. CODE § 6210</u></p> <p>***"<b>Dating relationship</b>" means frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affection or sexual involvement independent of financial considerations.</p>
COLORADO	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>COLO. REV. STAT. § 13-14-101(2), (2.2), (2.9)</u></p> <p>(2) "<b>Domestic abuse</b>" means any act, attempted act, or threatened act of violence, stalking, harassment, or coercion that is committed by any person against another person to whom the actor is currently or was formerly related, or with whom the actor is living or has lived in the same domicile, or with whom the actor is involved or has been involved in an intimate relationship. A sexual relationship may be an indicator of an intimate relationship but is never a necessary condition for finding an intimate relationship. For purposes of this subsection (2), "coercion" includes compelling a person by force, threat of force, or intimidation to engage in conduct from which the person has the right or privilege to abstain, or to abstain from conduct in which the person has a right or privilege to engage. "Domestic abuse" may also include any act, attempted act, or threatened act of violence against:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The <b>minor children</b>* of either of the parties; or</li> <li>(b) An animal owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by either of the parties or by a minor child of either of the parties, which threat, act, or attempted act is intended to coerce, control, punish, intimidate, or exact revenge upon either of the parties or a minor child of either of the parties.</li> </ol>

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	<p>(2.2) “<b>Minor child*</b>” means a person under eighteen years of age.</p> <p>(2.9) “<b>Sexual assault or abuse</b>” means any act, attempted act, or threatened act of unlawful sexual behavior, as described in section 16-11.7-102 (3), C.R.S., by any person against another person regardless of the relationship between the actor and the petitioner.</p>
CONNECTICUT	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CONN. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 46b-15(a)</u></p> <p>(a) Any <b>family or household member*</b>, as <b>defined in section 46b-38a</b>, who has been subjected to a continuous threat of present physical pain or physical injury, stalking or a pattern of threatening, including, but not limited to, a pattern of threatening, as described in section 53a-62, by another family or household member may make an application to the Superior Court for relief under this section. The court shall provide any person who applies for relief under this section with the information set forth in section 46b-15b.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CONN. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 46b-38a(1)-(3), (5)</u></p> <p>For the purposes of sections 46b-38a to 46b-38f, inclusive:</p> <p>(1) "<b>Family violence</b>" means an incident resulting in physical harm, bodily injury or assault, or an act of threatened violence that constitutes fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, including, but not limited to, stalking or a pattern of threatening, between family or household members. Verbal abuse or argument does not constitute family violence unless there is present danger and the likelihood that physical violence will occur.</p> <p>(2) "<b>Family or household member</b>"* means any of the following persons, regardless of the age of such person: (A) Spouses or former spouses; (B) parents or their children; (C) persons related by blood or marriage; (D) persons other than those persons described in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision presently residing together or who have resided together; (E) persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they are or have been married or have lived together at any time; and (F) persons in, or who have recently been in, a dating relationship.</p> <p>(3) "Family violence crime" means a <b>crime**</b> as defined in section <b>53a-24*</b>, other than a delinquent act as defined in section 46b-120, which, in addition to its other elements, contains as an element thereof an act of family violence to a family or household member. "Family violence crime" does not include acts by parents or guardians disciplining minor children unless such acts constitute abuse.</p> <p>(5) “Dominant aggressor” means the person who poses the most serious ongoing threat in a situation involving the suspected commission of a family violence crime.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CONN. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 53a-24(a)</u></p> <p>(a) The term "offense" means any crime or violation which constitutes a breach of any law of this state or any other state, federal law or local law or ordinance of a political subdivision of this state, for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment or to a fine, or both, may be imposed, except one that defines a motor vehicle violation or is deemed to be an infraction. **The term "<b>crime</b>" comprises felonies and misdemeanors. Every offense which is not a "crime" is a "violation". Conviction of a violation shall not give rise to any disability or legal disadvantage based on conviction of a criminal offense.</p>
DELAWARE	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>10 DEL. C. § 1041(1),(2)</u></p> <p>(1) “<b>Abuse</b>” means conduct which constitutes the following:</p>

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	<p>a. Intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause physical injury or a sexual offense, as defined in § 761 of Title 11;</p> <p>b. Intentionally or recklessly placing or attempting to place another person in reasonable apprehension of physical injury or sexual offense to such person or another;</p> <p>c. Intentionally or recklessly damaging, destroying or taking the tangible property of another person;</p> <p>d. Engaging in a course of alarming or distressing conduct in a manner which is likely to cause fear or emotional distress or to provoke a violent or disorderly response;</p> <p>e. Trespassing on or in property of another person, or on or in property from which the trespasser has been excluded by court order;</p> <p>f. Child abuse, as defined in Chapter 9 of Title 16;</p> <p>g. Unlawful imprisonment, kidnapping, interference with custody and coercion, as defined in Title 11; or</p> <p>h. Any other conduct which a reasonable person under the circumstances would find threatening or harmful.</p> <p>(2) “<b>Domestic violence</b>” means abuse perpetrated by one member against another member of the following protected classes:</p> <p>a. <b>Family*</b>, as that term is <b>defined</b> in § 901(12) of this title, regardless, however, of state of residence of the parties; or whether parental rights have been terminated; or</p> <p>b. Former spouses; persons cohabitating together who are holding themselves out as a couple, with or without a child in common; persons living separate and apart with a child in common; or persons in a current or former substantive dating relationship. For purposes of this paragraph, neither a casual acquaintanceship nor ordinary fraternization between 2 individuals in business or social contexts shall be deemed to constitute a substantive dating relationship. Factors to consider for a substantive dating relationship may include the length of the relationship, or the type of relationship, or the frequency of interaction between the parties.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>10 DEL. C. § 901(12)</u></p> <p>*<b>(12) "Family"</b> means spouses; a couple cohabiting in a home in which there is a child of either or both; custodian and child; or any group of persons related by blood or marriage who are residing in 1 home under 1 head or where 1 is related to the other by any of the following degrees of relationship, both parties being residents of this State:</p> <p>a. Mother;</p> <p>b. Father;</p> <p>c. Mother-in-law;</p> <p>d. Father-in-law;</p> <p>e. Brother;</p> <p>f. Sister;</p> <p>g. Brother-in-law;</p> <p>h. Sister-in-law;</p> <p>i. Son;</p> <p>j. Daughter</p> <p>k. Son-in-law;</p> <p>l. Daughter-in-law;</p> <p>m. Grandfather;</p> <p>n. Grandmother;</p> <p>o. Grandson;</p> <p>p. Granddaughter;</p> <p>q. Stepfather;</p> <p>r. Stepmother;</p> <p>s. Stepson;</p>

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	<p>t. Stepdaughter.</p> <p>The relationships referred to in this definition include blood relationships without regard to legitimacy and relationships by adoption.</p>
<p><b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</b></p>	<p><u>D.C. CODE § 16-1001 (6)-(9)</u></p> <p>(6) "<b>Interpersonal violence</b>" means an act punishable as a criminal offense that is committed or threatened to be committed by an offender upon a person:</p> <p>(A) With whom the offender shares or has shared a mutual residence; or</p> <p>(B) Who is or was married to, in a domestic partnership with, divorced or separated from, or in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with another person who is or was married to, in a domestic partnership with, divorced or separated from, or in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the offender.</p> <p>(7) "<b>Intimate partner violence</b>" means an act punishable as a criminal offense that is committed or threatened to be committed by an offender upon a person:</p> <p>(A) To whom the offender is or was married;</p> <p>(B) With whom the offender is or was in a domestic partnership; or</p> <p>(C) With whom the offender is or was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship.</p> <p>(8) "<b>Intrafamily offense</b>" means interpersonal, intimate partner, or intrafamily violence.</p> <p>(9) "<b>Intrafamily violence</b>" means an act punishable as a criminal offense that is committed or threatened to be committed by an offender upon a person to whom the offender is related by blood, adoption, legal custody, marriage, or domestic partnership, or with whom the offender has a child in common.</p>
<p><b>FLORIDA</b></p>	<p><u>FLA. STAT. § 741.28 (2), (3)</u></p> <p>(2) "<b>Domestic violence</b>" means any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one <b>family or household member*</b> by another family or household member.</p> <p>* (3) "<b>Family or household member</b>" means spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are presently residing together as if a family or who have resided together in the past as if a family, and persons who are parents of a child in common regardless of whether they have been married. With the exception of persons who have a child in common, the family or household members must be currently residing or have in the past resided together in the same single dwelling unit.</p>
<p><b>GEORGIA</b></p>	<p><u>GA. CODE ANN. § 19-13-1</u></p> <p>As used in this article, the term "<b>family violence</b>" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between past or present spouses, persons who are parents of the same child, parents and children, stepparents and stepchildren, foster parents and foster children, or other persons living or formerly living in the same household:</p> <p>(1) Any felony; or</p> <p>(2) Commission of offenses of battery, simple battery, simple assault, assault, stalking, criminal damage to property, unlawful restraint, or criminal trespass.</p> <p>The term "family violence" shall not be deemed to include reasonable discipline administered by a parent to a child in the form of corporal punishment, restraint, or detention.</p>
<p><b>GUAM</b></p>	<p><u>9 G.C.A. § 30.10(a)-(d), (f)</u></p>

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	<p>As used in this Chapter:</p> <p>(a) <b>Family violence</b> means the occurrence of one (1) or more of the following acts by a <b>family or household member*</b>, but does not include acts of self-defense or defense of others:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Attempting to cause or causing <b>bodily injury**</b> to another family or household member;</li> <li>(2) Placing a family or household member in fear of bodily injury.</li> <li>(3) Knowingly or intentionally, against the will of another, impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of a family or household member by applying pressure to the throat or neck or by blocking the nose or mouth of a family or household member.</li> </ol> <p>*(b) <b>Family or household members</b> include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Adults or minors who are current or former spouses;</li> <li>(2) Adults or minors who live together or who have lived together;</li> <li>(3) Adults or minors who are dating or who have dated;</li> <li>(4) Adults or minors who are engaged in or who have engaged in a sexual relationship;</li> <li>(5) Adults or minors who are related by blood or adoption to the fourth degree of affinity;</li> <li>(6) Adults or minors who are related or formerly related by marriage;</li> <li>(7) Persons who have a child in common; and</li> <li>(8) Minor children of a person in a relationship described in paragraphs (1) through (7) above.</li> </ol> <p>** (c) <b>Bodily injury</b> as used in this Chapter, has the same meaning as that provided in subsection (b) of § 16.10 of this title;</p> <p>(d) Attempt as used in this Chapter, has the same meaning as that provided in § 13.10 of this title;</p> <p>(f) Victim means any natural person against whom a crime, as defined under the laws of Guam, has been committed or attempted to be committed</p>
HAWAII	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HAW. REV. STAT. § 586-1</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter:</p> <p><b>"Dating relationship"</b> means a romantic, courtship, or engagement relationship, often but not necessarily characterized by actions of an intimate or sexual nature, but does not include a casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context.</p> <p><b>"Domestic abuse"</b> means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the threat of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault, extreme psychological abuse or malicious property damage between <b>family or household members*</b>; or</li> <li>(2) Any act which would constitute an offense under section 709-906, or under part V or VI of chapter 707 committed against a minor family or household member by an adult family or household member.</li> </ol> <p><b>"Extreme psychological abuse"</b> means an intentional or knowing course of conduct directed at an individual that seriously alarms or disturbs consistently or continually bothers the individual, and that serves no legitimate purpose; provided that such course of conduct would cause a reasonable person to suffer extreme emotional distress.</p> <p><b>**"Family or household member"</b>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Means spouses or reciprocal beneficiaries, former spouses or former reciprocal beneficiaries, persons who have a child in common, parents, children, persons related by consanguinity, persons jointly residing or formerly residing in the same dwelling unit, and persons who have or have had a dating relationship; and</li> <li>(2) Does not include those who are, or were, adult roommates or cohabitants only by virtue of an economic or contractual affiliation.</li> </ol>

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	<p><b>"Malicious property damage"</b> means an intentional or knowing damage to the property of another, without his consent, with an intent to thereby cause emotional distress.</p>
<p><b>IDAHO</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>IDAHO CODE ANN. § 39-6303(1)-(3),(6)</u></p> <p>(1) <b>"Domestic violence"</b> means the physical injury, sexual abuse or forced imprisonment or threat thereof of a <b>family or household member*</b>, or of a minor child by a person with whom the minor child has had or is having a dating relationship, or of an adult by a person with whom the adult has had or is having a <b>dating relationship.**</b></p> <p>** (2) <b>"Dating relationship,"</b> for the purposes of this chapter, is defined as a social relationship of a romantic nature. Factors that the court may consider in making this determination include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The nature of the relationship;</li> <li>(b) The length of time the relationship has existed;</li> <li>(c) The frequency of interaction between the parties; and</li> <li>(d) The time since termination of the relationship, if applicable.</li> </ul> <p>* (3) <b>"Family member"</b> means spouses, former spouses and persons related by blood, adoption or marriage.</p> <p>* (6) <b>"Household member"</b> means persons who reside or have resided together, and persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time.</p>
<p><b>ILLINOIS</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>750 ILCS 60/103(1), (3), (6), (7), (9), (10), (14), (15)</u></p> <p>For the purposes of this Act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:</p> <p>(1) "Abuse" means <b>physical abuse*</b>, <b>harassment**</b>, <b>intimidation***</b> of a dependent, <b>interference with personal liberty****</b> or <b>willful deprivation†</b> but does not include reasonable direction of a minor child by a parent or person in loco parentis.</p> <p>(3) <b>"Domestic violence"</b> means abuse as defined in paragraph (1).</p> <p>(6) <b>"Family or household members"</b> include spouses, former spouses, parents, children, stepchildren and other persons related by blood or by present or prior marriage, persons who share or formerly shared a common dwelling, persons who have or allegedly have a child in common, persons who share or allegedly share a blood relationship through a child, persons who have or have had a dating or engagement relationship, persons with disabilities and their personal assistants, and caregivers as defined in Section 12-4.4a of the Criminal Code of 2012 [720 ILCS 5/12-4.4a]. For purposes of this paragraph, neither a casual acquaintanceship nor ordinary fraternization between 2 individuals in business or social contexts shall be deemed to constitute a dating relationship. In the case of a high-risk adult with disabilities, "family or household members" includes any person who has the responsibility for a high-risk adult as a result of a family relationship or who has assumed responsibility for all or a portion of the care of a high-risk adult with disabilities voluntarily, or by express or implied contract, or by court order.</p> <p>** (7) <b>"Harassment"</b> means knowing conduct which is not necessary to accomplish a purpose that is reasonable under the circumstances; would cause a reasonable person emotional distress; and does cause emotional distress to the petitioner. Unless the presumption is rebutted by a preponderance of the evidence, the following types of conduct shall be presumed to cause emotional distress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) creating a disturbance at petitioner's place of employment or school;</li> <li>(ii) repeatedly telephoning petitioner's place of employment, home or residence;</li> <li>(iii) repeatedly following petitioner about in a public place or places;</li> <li>(iv) repeatedly keeping petitioner under surveillance by remaining present outside his or her home, school, place of employment, vehicle or other place occupied by petitioner or by peering in petitioner's windows;</li> <li>(v) improperly concealing a minor child from petitioner, repeatedly threatening to improperly remove a minor child of petitioner's from the jurisdiction or from the physical care of petitioner, repeatedly threatening to conceal a minor child from petitioner, or making a single such threat following an actual or attempted improper removal or concealment, unless respondent was fleeing an incident or pattern of domestic violence; or</li> </ul>

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	<p>(vi) threatening physical force, confinement or restraint on one or more occasions.</p> <p>****(9) "<b>Interference with personal liberty</b>" means committing or threatening physical abuse, harassment, intimidation or willful deprivation so as to compel another to engage in conduct from which she or he has a right to abstain or to refrain from conduct in which she or he has a right to engage.</p> <p>***(10) "<b>Intimidation of a dependent</b>" means subjecting a person who is dependent because of age, health or disability to participation in or the witnessing of: physical force against another or physical confinement or restraint of another which constitutes physical abuse as defined in this Act, regardless of whether the abused person is a family or household member.</p> <p>*(14) "<b>Physical abuse</b>" includes sexual abuse and means any of the following:  (i) knowing or reckless use of physical force, confinement or restraint;  (ii) knowing, repeated and unnecessary sleep deprivation; or  (iii) knowing or reckless conduct which creates an immediate risk of physical harm.</p> <p>† (15) "<b>Wilful deprivation</b>" means willfully denying a person who because of age, health or disability requires medication, medical care, shelter, accessible shelter or services, food, therapeutic device, or other physical assistance, and thereby exposing that person to the risk of physical, mental or emotional harm, except with regard to medical care or treatment when the dependent person has expressed an intent to forgo such medical care or treatment. This paragraph does not create any new affirmative duty to provide support to dependent persons.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>750 ILCS 60/201(a)</u></p> <p>(a) The following persons are protected by this Act:  (i) any person abused by a family or household member;  (ii) any high-risk adult with disabilities who is abused, neglected, or exploited by a family or household member;  (iii) any minor child or dependent adult in the care of such person;  (iv) any person residing or employed at a private home or public shelter which is housing an abused family or household member; and  (v) any of the following persons if the person is abused by a family or household member of a child:  (A) a foster parent of that child if the child has been placed in the foster parent’s home by the Department of Children and Family Services or by another state’s public child welfare agency;  (B) a legally appointed guardian or legally appointed custodian of that child;  (C) an adoptive parent of that child; or  (D) a prospective adoptive parent of that child if the child has been placed in the prospective adoptive parent’s home pursuant to the Adoption Act or pursuant to another state’s law.</p> <p>For purposes of this paragraph (a)(v), individuals who would have been considered “family or household members” of the child under subsection (6) of Section 103 of this Act [750 ILCS 60/103] before a termination of the parental rights with respect to the child continue to meet the definition of “family or household members” of the child.</p>
INDIANA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>BURNS IND. CODE ANN. § 31-9-2-42</u></p> <p><b>"Domestic or family violence"</b> means, except for an act of self defense, the occurrence of one (1) or more of the following acts committed by a <b>family or household member</b>*:  (1) Attempting to cause, threatening to cause, or causing physical harm to another family or household member without legal justification.</p>

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	<p>(2) Placing a family or household member in fear of physical harm without legal justification.</p> <p>(3) Causing a family or household member to involuntarily engage in sexual activity by force, threat of force, or duress.</p> <p>(4) Abusing (as described in IC 35-46-3-0.5), torturing (as described in IC 35-46-3-0.5), mutilating (as described in IC 35-46-3-0.5), or killing a vertebrate animal without justification with the intent to threaten, intimidate, coerce, harass, or terrorize a family or household member.</p> <p>For purposes of IC 22-4-15-1 and IC 34-26-5, domestic or family violence also includes stalking (as defined in IC 35-45-10-1) or a sex offense under IC 35-42-4, whether or not the stalking or sex offense is committed by a family or household member.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BURNS IND. CODE ANN. § 31-9-2-44.5</u></p> <p>* (a) An individual is a <b>"family or household member"</b> of another person if the individual:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) is a current or former spouse of the other person;</li> <li>(2) is dating or has dated the other person;</li> <li>(3) is engaged or was engaged in a sexual relationship with the other person;</li> <li>(4) is related by blood or adoption to the other person;</li> <li>(5) is or was related by marriage to the other person;</li> <li>(6) has or previously had an established legal relationship: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) as a guardian of the other person;</li> <li>(B) as a ward of the other person;</li> <li>(C) as a custodian of the other person;</li> <li>(D) as a foster parent of the other person; or</li> <li>(E) in a capacity with respect to the other person similar to those listed in clauses (A) through (D); or</li> </ol> </li> <li>(7) has a child in common with the other person.</li> </ol> <p>(b) An individual is a "family or household member" of both persons to whom subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), (a)(5), (a)(6), or (a)(7) applies if the individual is a minor child of one (1) of the persons.</p>
IOWA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>IOWA CODE ANN. § 236.2 (2), (4)-(5)</u></p> <p>2. <b>"Domestic abuse"</b> means committing <b>assault*</b> as <b>defined</b> in <b>section 708.1</b> under any of the following circumstances:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The assault is between <b>family or household members**</b> who resided together at the time of the assault.</li> <li>b. The assault is between separated spouses or persons divorced from each other and not residing together at the time of the assault.</li> <li>c. The assault is between persons who are parents of the same minor child, regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time.</li> <li>d. The assault is between persons who have been family or household members residing together within the past year and are not residing together at the time of the assault.</li> <li>e. (1) The assault is between persons who are in an <b>intimate relationship***</b> or have been in an intimate relationship and have had contact within the past year of the assault. In determining whether persons are or have been in an intimate relationship, the court may consider the following nonexclusive list of factors: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The duration of the relationship.</li> <li>(b) The frequency of interaction.</li> <li>(c) Whether the relationship has been terminated.</li> <li>(d) The nature of the relationship, characterized by either party's expectation of sexual or romantic involvement.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>(2) A person may be involved in an intimate relationship with more than one person at a time.</p>

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	<p>***4. a. “<b>Family or household members</b>” means spouses, persons cohabiting, parents, or other persons related by consanguinity or affinity.  b. "Family or household members" does not include children under age eighteen of persons listed in paragraph "a".</p> <p>***5. “<b>Intimate relationship</b>” means a significant romantic involvement that need not include sexual involvement. An intimate relationship does not include casual social relationships or associations in a business or professional capacity.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>IOWA CODE ANN. § 708.1</u></p> <p>*1. An <b>assault</b> as defined in this section is a general intent crime.</p> <p>2. A person commits an assault when, without justification, the person does any of the following:  a. Any act which is intended to cause pain or injury to, or which is intended to result in physical contact which will be insulting or offensive to another, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act.  b. Any act which is intended to place another in fear of immediate physical contact which will be painful, injurious, insulting, or offensive, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act.  c. Intentionally points any firearm toward another, or displays in a threatening manner any dangerous weapon toward another.</p> <p>3. An act described in subsection 2 shall not be an assault under the following circumstances:  a. If the person doing any of the enumerated acts, and such other person, are voluntary participants in a sport, social or other activity, not in itself criminal, and such act is a reasonably foreseeable incident of such sport or activity, and does not create an unreasonable risk of serious injury or breach of the peace.  b. If the person doing any of the enumerated acts is employed by a school district or accredited nonpublic school, or is an area education agency staff member who provides services to a school or school district, and intervenes in a fight or physical struggle, or other disruptive situation, that takes place in the presence of the employee or staff member performing employment duties in a school building, on school grounds, or at an official school function regardless of the location, whether the fight or physical struggle or other disruptive situation is between students or other individuals, if the degree and the force of the intervention is reasonably necessary to restore order and to protect the safety of those assembled.</p>
KANSAS	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>KAN. STAT. ANN. § 60-3102</u></p> <p>As used in the protection from abuse act:</p> <p>(a) “<b>Abuse</b>” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between <b>intimate partners or household members</b>*:  (1) Intentionally attempting to cause bodily injury, or intentionally or recklessly causing bodily injury.  (2) Intentionally placing, by physical threat, another in fear of imminent bodily injury.  (3) Engaging in any sexual contact or attempted sexual contact with another person without consent or when such person is incapable of giving consent.  (4) Engaging in any of the following acts with a minor under 16 years of age who is not the spouse of the offender:  (A) The act of sexual intercourse; or  (B) any lewd fondling or touching of the person of either the minor or the offender, done or submitted to with the intent to arouse or to satisfy the sexual desires of either the minor or the offender, or both.</p> <p>*(b) “<b>Intimate partners or household members</b>” means persons who are or have been in a <b>dating relationship</b>**, persons who reside together or who have formerly resided together or persons who have had a child in common.</p> <p>** (c) “<b>Dating relationship</b>” means a social relationship of a romantic nature. A dating relationship shall be presumed if a plaintiff verifies, pursuant to K.S.A. 53-601, and amendments thereto, that such relationship exists. In addition to any other factors the court deems relevant, the court shall consider the following factors in making a determination of whether a relationship exists or existed include:  (1) Nature of the relationship;</p>

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	<p>(2) length of time the relationship existed;  (3) frequency of interaction between the parties; and  (4) time since termination of the relationship, if applicable</p>
KENTUCKY	<p><u>KY. REV. STAT. ANN. § 403.720 (1)-(2),(5)</u></p> <p>(1) “<b>Domestic violence and abuse</b>” means physical injury, serious physical injury, stalking, sexual abuse, strangulation, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse, strangulation, or assault between family members or members of an unmarried couple;  (2) “<b>Family member</b>” means a spouse, including a former spouse, a grandparent, a grandchild, a parent, a child, a stepchild, or any other person living in the same household as a child if the child is the alleged victim;  (5) “<b>Member of an unmarried couple</b>” means each member of an unmarried couple which allegedly has a child in common, any children of that couple, or a member of an unmarried couple who are living together or have formerly lived together.</p>
LOUISIANA	<p><u>LA. REV. STAT. ANN. § 46:2132(3)-(4)</u></p> <p>(3) “<b>Domestic abuse</b>” includes but is not limited to physical or sexual abuse and any offense against the person as defined in the Criminal Code of Louisiana, except negligent injury and defamation, committed by one <b>family or household member*</b> against another. “Domestic abuse” also includes abuse of <b>adults*</b> as <b>defined in R.S. 15:1503</b> when committed by an adult child or adult grandchild.  *(4) “<b>Family members</b>” means spouses, former spouses, parents and children, stepparents, stepchildren, foster parents, and foster children.  “<b>Household members</b>” means any person of the opposite sex presently or formerly living in the same residence with the defendant as a spouse, whether married or not, who is seeking protection under this Part. “<b>Dating partner**</b>” means any person protected from violence under R.S. 46:2151 who is seeking protection under this Part. If a parent or grandparent is being abused by an adult child, adult foster child, or adult grandchild, the provisions of this Part shall apply to any proceeding brought in district court.</p> <p><u>LA. REV. STAT. ANN. § 46:2151(A)-(B)</u></p> <p>A. A victim of a dating partner, as defined in Subsection B, shall be eligible to receive all services, benefits, and other forms of assistance provided by Chapter 28 of this Title.  **B. For purposes of this Section, “<b>dating partner</b>” means any person who is involved or has been involved in a sexual or intimate relationship with the offender characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement independent of financial considerations, regardless of whether the person presently lives or formerly lived in the same residence with the offender. “Dating partner” shall not include a casual relationship or ordinary association between persons in a business or social context.</p> <p><u>LA. REV. STAT. ANN. § 15:1503(3)</u></p> <p>** (3) “<b>Adult</b>” means any individual eighteen years of age or older, or an emancipated minor who, due to a physical, mental, or developmental disability or the infirmities of aging, is unable to manage his own resources, carry out the activities of daily living, or protect himself from abuse, neglect, or exploitation.</p>
MAINE	<p><u>19-A M.R.S § 4002 (1), (3-A)-(4)</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.  1. <b>ABUSE</b>. “Abuse” means the occurrence of the following acts between <b>family or household members*</b> or <b>dating partners**</b> or by a family or household member or dating partner upon a minor child of a family or household member or dating partner:</p>

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	<p>A. Attempting to cause or causing bodily injury or offensive physical contact, including sexual assaults under Title 17-A, chapter 11, except that contact as described in Title 17-A, section 106, subsection 1 is excluded from this definition</p> <p>B. Attempting to place or placing another in fear of bodily injury through any course of conduct, including, but not limited to, threatening, harassing or tormenting behavior;</p> <p>C. Compelling a person by force, threat of force or intimidation to engage in conduct from which the person has a right or privilege to abstain or to abstain from conduct in which the person has a right to engage;</p> <p>D. Knowingly restricting substantially the movements of another person without that person’s consent or other lawful authority by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Removing that person from that person’s residence, place of business or school;</li> <li>2) Moving that person a substantial distance from the vicinity where that person was found; or</li> <li>3) Confining that person for a substantial period either in the place where the restriction commences or in a place to which that person has been moved;</li> </ol> <p>E. Communicating to a person a threat to commit, or to cause to be committed, a crime of violence dangerous to human life against the person to whom the communication is made or another, and the natural and probable consequence of the threat, whether or not that consequence in fact occurs, is to place the person to whom the threat is communicated, or the person against whom the threat is made, in reasonable fear that the crime will be committed;</p> <p>F. Repeatedly and without reasonable cause:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Following the plaintiff; or</li> <li>2) Being at or in the vicinity of the plaintiff’s home, school, business or place of employment.</li> </ol> <p>G. Engaging in the unauthorized dissemination of certain private images as prohibited pursuant to Title 17-A, section 511-A; or</p> <p>H. Engaging in aggravated sex trafficking or sex trafficking as described in Title 17-A, section 852 or 853, respectively.</p> <p><b>**3-A. Dating Partners.</b> "Dating partners" means individuals currently or formerly involved in dating each other, whether or not the individuals are or were sexual partners.</p> <p><b>3-B. Economic Abuse.</b> "Economic Abuse" means causing or attempting to cause an individual to be financially dependant by maintaining control over the individual’s financial resources, including, but not limited to, unauthorized or coerced use of credit or property, withholding access to money or credit cards, forbidding attendance at school or employment, stealing from or defrauding of money or assts, exploiting the individual’s resourced such as food, clothing, necessary medications or shelter.</p> <p><b>*4. Family or household members.</b> "Family or household members" means spouses or domestic partners or former spouses or former domestic partners, individuals presently or formerly living together as spouses, parents of the same child, adult household members related by consanguinity or affinity or minor children of a household member when the defendant is an adult household member and, for the purposes of Title 15, section 1023, subsection 4, paragraph B-1 and Title 15, section 1094-B, this chapter and Title 17-A, sections 15, 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-B, 210-C, 211-A, 1802, 1804 and 2301, subsection 1 only, includes individuals presently or formerly living together and individuals who are or were sexual partners. Holding oneself out to be a spouse is not necessary to constitute "living as spouses." For purposes of this subsection, "domestic partners" means 2 unmarried adults who are domiciled together under long-term arrangements that evidence a commitment to remain responsible indefinitely for each other's welfare.</p>
MARYLAND	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MD. CODE ANN. FAM. LAW § 4-501(b), (m)</u></p> <p>(b) <b>Abuse.</b> --</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) "Abuse" means any of the following acts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) an act that causes serious bodily harm;</li> <li>(ii) an act that places a person eligible for relief in fear of imminent serious bodily harm;</li> <li>(iii) assault in any degree;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

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	<p>(iv) rape or sexual offense under § 3-303, § 3-304, § 3-307, or § 3-308 of the Criminal Law Article or attempted rape or sexual offense in any degree;</p> <p>(v) false imprisonment;</p> <p>(vi) stalking under § 3-802 of the Criminal Law Article; or</p> <p>(vii) revenge porn under § 3-809 of the Criminal Law Article.</p> <p>(m) <b>Person eligible for relief.</b> -- "Person eligible for relief" includes:</p> <p>(1) the current or former spouse of the respondent;</p> <p>(2) a cohabitant of the respondent;</p> <p>(3) a person related to the respondent by blood, marriage, or adoption;</p> <p>(4) a parent, stepparent, child, or stepchild of the respondent or the person eligible for relief who resides or resided with the respondent or person eligible for relief for at least 90 days within 1 year before the filing of the petition;</p> <p>(5) a vulnerable adult;</p> <p>(6) an individual who has a child in common with the respondent; or</p> <p>(7) an individual who has had a sexual relationship with the respondent within 1 year before the filing of the petition.</p>
MASSACHUSETTS	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MASS. GEN. LAWS ANN. ch. 209A § 1</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter the following words shall have the following meanings:</p> <p><b>“Abuse”</b>, the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between <b>family or household members*</b>:</p> <p>(a) attempting to cause or causing physical harm;</p> <p>(b) placing another in fear of imminent serious physical harm;</p> <p>(c) causing another to engage involuntarily in sexual relations by force, threat or duress.</p> <p><b>*"Family or household members"</b>, persons who:</p> <p>(a) are or were married to one another;</p> <p>(b) are or were residing together in the same household;</p> <p>(c) are or were related by blood or marriage;</p> <p>(d) having a child in common regardless of whether they have ever married or lived together; or</p> <p>(e) are or have been in a substantive dating or engagement relationship, which shall be adjudged by district, probate or Boston municipal courts consideration of the following factors:</p> <p>(1) the length of time of the relationship; (2) the type of relationship; (3) the frequency of interaction between the parties; and (4) if the relationship has been terminated by either person, the length of time elapsed since the termination of the relationship.</p>
MICHIGAN	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. § 600.2950(1), (30)(a)</u></p> <p>(1) Except as provided in subsections (26) and (27), by commencing an independent action to obtain relief under this section, by joining a claim to an action, or by filing a motion in an action in which the petitioner and the individual to be restrained or enjoined are parties, an individual may petition the family division of circuit court to enter a personal protection order to restrain or enjoin a spouse, a former spouse, an individual with whom he or she has had a child in common, an individual with whom he or she has or has had a <b>dating relationship*</b>, or an individual residing or having resided in the same household as the petitioner from doing 1 or more of the following:</p> <p>(a) Entering onto premises.</p> <p>(b) Assaulting, attacking, beating, molesting, or wounding a named individual.</p> <p>(c) Threatening to kill or physically injure a named individual.</p>

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	<p>(d) Removing minor children from the individual having legal custody of the children, except as otherwise authorized by a custody or parenting time order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.</p> <p>(e) Purchasing or possessing a firearm.</p> <p>(f) Interfering with petitioner’s efforts to remove petitioner’s children or personal property from premises that are solely owned or leased by the individual to be restrained or enjoined.</p> <p>(g) Interfering with petitioner at petitioner’s place of employment or education or engaging in conduct that impairs petitioner’s employment or educational relationship or environment.</p> <p>(h) If the petitioner is a minor who has been the victim of sexual assault, as that term is defined in section 2950a, by the respondent and if the petitioner is enrolled in a public or nonpublic school that operates any of grades K to 12, attending school in the same building as the petitioner.</p> <p>(i) Having access to information in records concerning a minor child of both petitioner and respondent that will inform respondent about the address or telephone number of petitioner and petitioner’s minor child or about petitioner’s employment address.</p> <p>(j) Engaging in conduct that is prohibited under section 411h or 411i of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.411h and 750.411i.</p> <p>(k) Any of the following with the intent to cause the petitioner mental distress or to exert control over the petitioner with respect to an animal in which the petitioner has an ownership interest:</p> <p>(i) Injuring, killing, torturing, neglecting, or threatening to injure, kill, torture, or neglect the animal. A restraining order that enjoins conduct under this subparagraph does not prohibit the lawful killing or other use of the animal as described in section 50(11) of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.50.</p> <p>(ii) Removing the animal from the petitioner’s possession.</p> <p>(iii) Retaining or obtaining possession of the animal.</p> <p>(k) (l) Any other specific act or conduct that imposes upon or interferes with personal liberty or that causes a reasonable apprehension of violence.</p> <p><b>(30)</b> As used in this section:</p> <p><b>* (a) “Dating relationship”</b> means frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affectional involvement. Dating relationship does not include a casual relationship or an ordinary fraternization between 2 individuals in a business or social context.</p> <p><b>(b) “Federal law enforcement officer”</b> means an officer or agent employed by a law enforcement agency of the United States government whose primary responsibility is the enforcement of laws of the United States.</p> <p><b>(c) “Neglect”</b> means that term as defined in section 50 of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, <u>MCL 750.50</u>.</p> <p><b>(d) “Personal protection order”</b> means an injunctive order issued by the family division of circuit court restraining or enjoining activity and individuals listed in subsection (1).</p>
MINNESOTA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MINN. STAT. § 518B.01, Subd. 2(a)-(b)</u></p> <p>(a) <b>“Domestic abuse”</b> means the following, if committed against a <b>family or household member*</b> by a family or household member:</p> <p>(1) physical harm, bodily injury, or assault;</p> <p>(2) the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault; or</p> <p>(3) terroristic threats, within the meaning of section 609.713, subdivision 1; criminal sexual conduct, within the meaning of section 609.342, 609.343, 609.344, 609.345, or 609.3451; or interference with an emergency call within the meaning of section 609.78, subdivision 2.</p> <p><b>* (b) “Family or household members”</b> means:</p> <p>(1) spouses and former spouses;</p>

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	<p>(2) parents and children;  (3) persons related by blood;  (4) persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past;  (5) persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time;  (6) a man and woman if the woman is pregnant and the man is alleged to be the father, regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time; and  (7) persons involved in a significant romantic or sexual relationship.</p> <p>Issuance of an order for protection on the ground in clause (6) does not affect a determination of paternity under sections 257.51 to 257.74. In determining whether persons are or have been involved in a significant romantic or sexual relationship under clause (7), the court shall consider the length of time of the relationship; type of relationship; frequency of interaction between the parties; and, if the relationship has terminated, length of time since the termination.</p>
MISSISSIPPI	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MISS. CODE ANN. § 93-21-3(a), (d)</u></p> <p>(a) "<b>Abuse</b>" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between spouses, former spouses, persons living as spouses or who formerly lived as spouses, persons having a child or children in common, other individuals related by consanguinity or affinity who reside together or who formerly resided together or between individuals who have a current or former <b>dating relationship</b>*:</p> <p>(i) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury or serious bodily injury with or without a deadly weapon;</p> <p>(ii) Placing, by physical menace or threat, another in fear of imminent serious bodily injury;</p> <p>(iii) Criminal sexual conduct committed against a minor within the meaning of Section 97-5-23;</p> <p>(iv) Stalking within the meaning of Section 97-3-107;</p> <p>(v) Cyberstalking within the meaning of Section 97-45-15; or</p> <p>(vi) Sexual offenses within the meaning of Section 97-3-65 or 97-3-95.</p> <p>"Abuse" does not include any act of self-defense.</p> <p>*<b>(d) "Dating relationship"</b> means a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature between two (2) individuals; it does not include a casual relationship or ordinary fraternization between two (2) individuals in a business or social context. Whether a relationship is a "dating relationship" shall be determined by examining the following factors:</p> <p>(i) The length of the relationship;</p> <p>(ii) The type of relationship; and</p> <p>(iii) The frequency of interaction between the two (2) individuals involved in the relationship.</p>
MISSOURI	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MO. ANN. STAT. § 455.010 (1)-(3),(5),(7),(14)</u></p> <p>(1) "<b>Abuse</b>" includes but is not limited to the occurrence of any of the following acts, attempts or threats against a person who may be protected pursuant to this chapter, except abuse shall not include abuse inflicted on a child by accidental means by an <b>adult</b>* household member or discipline of a <b>child</b>** , including spanking, in a reasonable manner:</p> <p>(a) "Assault", purposely or knowingly placing or attempting to place another in fear of physical harm;</p> <p>(b) "Battery", purposely or knowingly causing physical harm to another with or without a deadly weapon;</p> <p>(c) "Coercion", compelling another by force or threat of force to engage in conduct from which the latter has a right to abstain or to abstain from conduct in which the person has a right to engage;</p>

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	<p>(d) “Harassment”, engaging in a purposeful or knowing course of conduct involving more than one incident that alarms or causes distress to an adult or child and serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable adult or child to suffer substantial emotional distress and must actually cause substantial emotional distress to the petitioner or child. Such conduct might include, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Following another about in a public place or places;</li> <li>b. Peering in the window or lingering outside the residence of another; but does not include constitutionally protected activity;</li> </ul> <p>(e) “Sexual assault”, causing or attempting to cause another to engage involuntarily in any sexual act by force, threat of force, duress, or without that person’s consent;</p> <p>(f) “Unlawful imprisonment”, holding, confining, detaining or abducting another person against that person’s will;</p> <p>* (2) “<b>Adult</b>”, any person seventeen years of age or older or otherwise emancipated;</p> <p>** (3) “<b>Child</b>”, any person under seventeen years of age unless otherwise emancipated;</p> <p>(5) “<b>Domestic violence</b>”, abuse or <b>stalking</b>*** committed by a <b>family or household member</b>****, as such terms are defined in this section;</p> <p>**** (7) “<b>Family</b>” or “<b>household member</b>”, spouses, former spouses, any person related by blood or marriage, persons who are presently residing together or have resided together in the past, any person who is or has been in a continuing social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, and anyone who has a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have resided together at any time;</p> <p>*** (14) “<b>Stalking</b>” is when any person purposely and repeatedly engages in an unwanted course of conduct that causes alarm to another person or a person who resides together in the same household with the person seeking the order of protection when it is reasonable in that person’s situation to have been alarmed by the conduct. As used in this subdivision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) “Alarm” means to cause fear of danger of physical harm; and</li> <li>(b) “Course of conduct” means a pattern of conduct composed of two or more acts over a period of time, however short, that serves no legitimate purpose. Such conduct may include, but is not limited to, following the other person or unwanted communication or unwanted contact.</li> </ul>
MONTANA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MONT. CODE ANN. §40-15-102 (1)-(2)</u></p> <p>(1) A person may file a petition for an order of protection if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the petitioner is in reasonable apprehension of bodily injury by the petitioner’s <b>partner or family member*</b> as defined in 45-5-206; or</li> <li>(b) the petitioner is a victim of one of the following offenses committed by a partner or family member: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) assault as defined in 45-5-201;</li> <li>(ii) aggravated assault as defined in 45-5-202;</li> <li>(iii) intimidation as defined in 45-5-203;</li> <li>(iv) partner or family member assault as defined in 45-5-206;</li> <li>(v) criminal endangerment as defined in 45-5-207;</li> <li>(vi) negligent endangerment as defined in 45-5-208;</li> <li>(vii) assault on a minor as defined in 45-5-212;</li> <li>(viii) assault with a weapon as defined in 45-5-213;</li> <li>(ix) strangulation of a partner or family member as defined in 45-5-215;</li> <li>(x) unlawful restraint as defined in 45-5-301;</li> <li>(xi) kidnapping as defined in 45-5-302;</li> <li>(xii) aggravated kidnapping as defined in 45-5-303; or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>(xiii) arson as defined in 45-6-103.</p> <p>(2) The following individuals are eligible to file a petition for an order of protection against the offender regardless of the individual's relationship to the offender:</p> <p>(a) a victim of assault as defined in 45-5-201, aggravated assault as defined in 45-5-202, assault on a minor as defined in 45-5-212, stalking as defined in 45-5-220, incest as defined in 45-5-507, sexual assault as defined in 45-5-502, or sexual intercourse without consent as defined in 45-5-503; sexual abuse of children as defined in 45-5-625, or human trafficking as defined in 45-5-701; or</p> <p>(b) a partner or family member of a victim of deliberate homicide as defined in 45-5-102 or mitigated deliberate homicide as defined in 45-5-103.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MONT. CODE ANN. §45-5-206 (2)</u></p> <p>* (2) For the purposes of Title 40, chapter 15, 45-5-231 through 45-5-234, 46-6-311, and this section, the following definitions apply:</p> <p>(a) “<b>Family member</b>” means mothers, fathers, children, brothers, sisters, and other past or present family members of a household. These relationships include relationships created by adoption and remarriage, including stepchildren, stepparents, in-laws, and adoptive children and parents. These relationships continue regardless of the ages of the parties and whether the parties reside in the same household.</p> <p>(b) “<b>Partners</b>” means spouses, former spouses, persons who have a child in common, and persons who have been or are currently in a dating or ongoing intimate relationship.</p>
NEBRASKA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>R.R.S. NEB. § 42-903 (1), (3)</u></p> <p>For purposes of the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act, unless the context otherwise requires:</p> <p>(1) <b>Abuse</b> means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between <b>family or household members</b>*:</p> <p>(a) Attempting to cause or intentionally and knowingly causing bodily injury with or without a dangerous instrument;</p> <p>(b) Placing, by means of credible threat, another person in fear of bodily injury. For purposes of this subdivision, credible threat means a verbal or written threat, including a threat performed through the use of an electronic communication device, or a threat implied by a pattern of conduct or a combination of verbal, written, or electronically communicated statements and conduct that is made by a person with the apparent ability to carry out the threat so as to cause the person who is the target of the threat to reasonably fear for his or her safety or the safety of his or her family. It is not necessary to prove that the person making the threat had the intent to actually carry out the threat. The present incarceration of the person making the threat shall not prevent the threat from being deemed a credible threat under this section; or</p> <p>(c) Engaging in sexual contact or sexual penetration without consent as defined in section 28-318;</p> <p>* (3) <b>Family or household members</b> includes spouses or former spouses, children, persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons who have a child in common whether or not they have been married or have lived together at any time, other persons related by consanguinity or affinity, and persons who are presently involved in a dating relationship with each other or who have been involved in a dating relationship with each other. For purposes of this subdivision, dating relationship means frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affectional or sexual involvement, but does not include a casual relationship or an ordinary association between persons in a business or social context</p>
NEVADA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. § 33.018</u></p> <p>1. <b>Domestic violence</b> occurs when a person commits one of the following acts against or upon the person’s spouse or former spouse, any other person to whom the person is related by blood or marriage, any other person with whom the person is or was actually residing, any other person with whom the person has had or is having a <b>dating relationship</b>*, any other person with whom the person has a child in common, the minor</p>

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	<p>child of any of those persons, the person's minor child or any other person who has been appointed the custodian or legal guardian for the person's minor child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) A battery.</li> <li>(b) An assault.</li> <li>(c) Coercion pursuant to NRS 207.190</li> <li>(d) A sexual assault.</li> <li>(e) A knowing, purposeful or reckless course of conduct intended to harass the other person. Such conduct may include, but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Stalking.</li> <li>(2) Arson.</li> <li>(3) Trespassing.</li> <li>(4) Larceny.</li> <li>(5) Destruction of private property.</li> <li>(6) Carrying a concealed weapon without a permit.</li> <li>(7) Injuring or killing an animal.</li> <li>(8) Burglary</li> <li>(9) An invasion of the home</li> </ul> </li> <li>(f) A false imprisonment.</li> <li>(g) Pandering</li> </ul> <p>*2. As used in this section, "<b>dating relationship</b>" means frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affectional or sexual involvement. The term does not include a casual relationship or an ordinary association between persons in a business or social context.</p>
NEW HAMPSHIRE	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>RSA 173-B:1 (I), (IX), (X)</u></p> <p>I. "<b>Abuse</b>" means the commission or attempted commission of one or more of the acts described in subparagraphs (a) through (h) by a <b>family or household member</b>* or by a current or former sexual or intimate partner, where such conduct is determined to constitute a credible present threat to the petitioner's safety. The court may consider evidence of such acts, regardless of their proximity in time to the filing of the petition, which, in combination with recent conduct, reflects an ongoing pattern of behavior which reasonably causes or has caused the petitioner to fear for his or her safety or well-being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Assault or reckless conduct as defined in RSA 631:1 through RSA 631:3.</li> <li>(b) Criminal threatening as defined in RSA 631:4.</li> <li>(c) Sexual assault as defined in RSA 632-A:2 through RSA 632-A:5.</li> <li>(d) Interference with freedom as defined in RSA 633:1 through RSA 633:3-a.</li> <li>(e) Destruction of property as defined in RSA 634:1 and RSA 634:2.</li> <li>(f) Unauthorized entry as defined in RSA 635:1 and RSA 635:2.</li> <li>(g) Harassment as defined in RSA 644:4.</li> <li>(h) Cruelty to animals as defined in RSA 644:8.</li> </ul> <p>IX. "<b>Domestic violence</b>" means abuse as defined in RSA 173-B:1, I.</p> <p>*X. "<b>Family or household member</b>" means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Spouses, ex-spouses, persons cohabiting with each other, and persons who cohabited with each other but who no longer share the same residence.</li> <li>(b) Parents and other persons related by consanguinity or affinity, other than minor children who reside with the defendant.</li> </ul>

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NEW JERSEY	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:25-19(a), (d), (e)</u></p> <p>a. <b>“Domestic violence”</b> means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts inflicted upon a person protected under this act by an adult or an emancipated minor:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Homicide N.J.S. 2C:11-1 et seq.</li> <li>(2) Assault N.J.S. 2C:12-1</li> <li>(3) Terroristic threats N.J.S. 2C:12-3</li> <li>(4) Kidnapping N.J.S. 2C:13-1</li> <li>(5) Criminal restraint N.J.S. 2C:13-2</li> <li>(6) False imprisonment N.J.S. 2C:13-3</li> <li>(7) Sexual assault N.J.S. 2C:14-2</li> <li>(8) Criminal sexual contact N.J.S. 2C:14-3</li> <li>(9) Lewdness N.J.S. 2C:14-4</li> <li>(10) Criminal mischief N.J.S. 2C:17-3</li> <li>(11) Burglary N.J.S. 2C:18-2</li> <li>(12) Criminal trespass N.J.S. 2C:18-3</li> <li>(13) Harassment N.J.S. 2C:33-4</li> <li>(14) Stalking P.L.1992, c.209 (C.2C:12-10)</li> <li>(15) Criminal coercion N.J.S.2C:13-5</li> <li>(16) Robbery N.J.S.2C:15-1</li> <li>(17) Contempt of a domestic violence order pursuant to subsection b. of N.J.S.2C:29-9 that constitutes a crime or disorderly persons offense</li> <li>(18) Any other crime involving risk of death or serious bodily injury to a person protected under the “Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991,” P.L.1991, c. 261 (C.2C:25-17 et al.)</li> <li>(19) Cyber-harassment P.L.2013, c. 272 (C.2C:33-4.1)</li> </ol> <p>When one or more of these acts is inflicted by an <b>unemancipated minor</b>* upon a person protected under this act, the occurrence shall not constitute “domestic violence,” but may be the basis for the filing of a petition or complaint pursuant to the provisions of section 11 of P.L.1982, c.77 (C.2A:4A-30).</p> <p>d. <b>“Victim of domestic violence”</b> means a person protected under this act and shall include any person who is 18 years of age or older or who is an emancipated minor and who has been subjected to domestic violence by a spouse, former spouse, or any other person who is a present household member or was at any time a household member. “Victim of domestic violence” also includes any person, regardless of age, who has been subjected to domestic violence by a person with whom the victim has a child in common, or with whom the victim anticipates having a child in common, if one of the parties is pregnant. “Victim of domestic violence” also includes any person who has been subjected to domestic violence by a person with whom the victim has had a dating relationship.</p> <p>*e. <b>“Emancipated minor”</b> means a person who is under 18 years of age but who has been married, has entered military service, has a child or is pregnant or has been previously declared by a court or an administrative agency to be emancipated.</p>
NEW MEXICO	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>N.M. STAT. ANN. § 40-13-2 (A), (D), (F)</u></p> <p>As used in the Family Violence Protection Act [40-13-1 NMSA 1978]:</p> <p>A. <b>“continuing personal relationship”</b> means a dating or intimate relationship;</p>

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	<p>D. <b>“domestic abuse”</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) means an incident of stalking or sexual assault whether committed by a <b>household member</b> or not;</li> <li>(2) means an incident by a household member against another household member consisting of or resulting in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) physical harm;</li> <li>(b) severe emotional distress;</li> <li>(c) bodily injury or assault;</li> <li>(d) a threat causing imminent fear of bodily injury by any household member;</li> <li>(e) criminal trespass;</li> <li>(f) criminal damage to property;</li> <li>(g) repeatedly driving by a residence or work place;</li> <li>(h) telephone harassment;</li> <li>(i) harassment;</li> <li>(j) strangulation;</li> <li>(k) suffocation; or</li> <li>(l) harm or threatened harm to children as set forth in this paragraph; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>(3) does not mean the use of force in self-defense or the defense of another;</li> </ul> <p>*F. <b>“household member”</b> means a spouse, former spouse, parent, present or former stepparent, present or former parent-in-law, grandparent, grandparent-in-law, child, stepchild, grandchild, co-parent of a child or a person with whom the petitioner has had a continuing personal relationship. Cohabitation is not necessary to be deemed a household member for purposes of this section;</p>
NEW YORK	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NY CLS Family Ct Act § 812 (1)</u></p> <p>1. Jurisdiction. The family court and the criminal courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction over any proceeding concerning acts which would constitute disorderly conduct, harassment in the first degree, harassment in the second degree, aggravated harassment in the second degree, sexual misconduct, forcible touching, sexual abuse in the third degree, sexual abuse in the second degree as set forth in subdivision one of section 130.60 of the penal law, stalking in the first degree, stalking in the second degree, stalking in the third degree, stalking in the fourth degree, criminal mischief, menacing in the second degree, menacing in the third degree, reckless endangerment, criminal obstruction of breathing or blood circulation, strangulation in the second degree, strangulation in the first degree, assault in the second degree, assault in the third degree, an attempted assault, identity theft in the first degree, identity theft in the second degree, identity theft in the third degree, grand larceny in the fourth degree, grand larceny in the third degree, coercion in the second degree or coercion in the third degree as set forth in subdivisions one, two and three of section 135.60 of the penal law between spouses or former spouses, or between parent and child or between members of the same family or household except that if the respondent would not be criminally responsible by reason of age pursuant to section 30.00 of the penal law, then the family court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over such proceeding. Notwithstanding a complainant's election to proceed in family court, the criminal court shall not be divested of jurisdiction to hear a family offense proceeding pursuant to this section. In any proceeding pursuant to this article, a court shall not deny an order of protection, or dismiss a petition, solely on the basis that the acts or events alleged are not relatively contemporaneous with the date of the petition, the conclusion of the fact-finding or the conclusion of the dispositional hearing. For purposes of this article, "disorderly conduct" includes disorderly conduct not in a public place. For purposes of this article, <b>“members of the same family or household”</b> shall mean the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) persons related by consanguinity or affinity;</li> <li>(b) persons legally married to one another;</li> <li>(c) persons formerly married to one another regardless of whether they still reside in the same household;</li> <li>(d) persons who have a child in common regardless of whether such persons have been married or have lived together at any time; and</li> </ul>

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	(e) persons who are not related by consanguinity or affinity and who are or have been in an intimate relationship regardless of whether such persons have lived together at any time. Factors the court may consider in determining whether a relationship is an "intimate relationship" include but are not limited to: the nature or type of relationship, regardless of whether the relationship is sexual in nature; the frequency of interaction between the persons; and the duration of the relationship. Neither a casual acquaintance nor ordinary fraternization between two individuals in business or social contexts shall be deemed to constitute an "intimate relationship".
NORTH CAROLINA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>N.C. GEN. STAT. § 50B-1</u></p> <p>(a) <b>Domestic violence</b> means the commission of one or more of the following acts upon an aggrieved party or upon a minor child residing with or in the custody of the aggrieved party by a person with whom the aggrieved party has or has had a <b>personal relationship</b>*, but does not include acts of self-defense:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Attempting to cause bodily injury, or intentionally causing bodily injury; or</li> <li>(2) Placing the aggrieved party or a member of the aggrieved party's family or household in fear of imminent serious bodily injury or continued harassment, as defined in G.S. 14-277.3A, that rises to such a level as to inflict substantial emotional distress; or</li> <li>(3) Committing any act defined in G.S. 14-27.21 through G.S. 14-27.33.</li> </ol> <p>* (b) For purposes of this section, the term "<b>personal relationship</b>" means a relationship wherein the parties involved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Are current or former spouses;</li> <li>(2) Are persons of opposite sex who live together or have lived together;</li> <li>(3) Are related as parents and children, including others acting in loco parentis to a minor child, or as grandparents and grandchildren. For purposes of this subdivision, an aggrieved party may not obtain an order of protection against a child or grandchild under the age of 16;</li> <li>(4) Have a child in common;</li> <li>(5) Are current or former household members;</li> <li>(6) Are persons of the opposite sex who are in a dating relationship or have been in a dating relationship. For purposes of this subdivision, a dating relationship is one wherein the parties are romantically involved over time and on a continuous basis during the course of the relationship. A casual acquaintance or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context is not a dating relationship.</li> </ol>
NORTH DAKOTA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>N.D. CENT. CODE ANN. § 14-07.1-01 (2), (4), (7)</u></p> <p>2. "<b>Domestic violence</b>" includes physical harm, bodily injury, sexual activity compelled by physical force, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, sexual activity compelled by physical force, or assault, not committed in self-defense, on the complaining <b>family or household members</b>*.</p> <p>*4. "<b>Family or household member</b>" means a spouse, family member, former spouse, parent, child, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are in a dating relationship, persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they are or have been married or have lived together at any time, and, for the purpose of the issuance of a domestic violence protection order, any other person with a sufficient relationship to the abusing person as determined by the court under section 14-07.1-02.</p> <p>7. "Predominant aggressor" means an individual who is the most significant, not necessarily the first, aggressor.</p>
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>COMMONWEALTH CODE TIT. 8, CH. 9, § 1902</u></p> <p>Unless the context otherwise requires:</p> <p>(a) "<b>Domestic or family violence</b>" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts by a</p>

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	<p><b>family or household member*</b>, but does not include acts of self-defense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury to another family or household member;</li> <li>(2) Placing a family or household member in fear of bodily injury;</li> <li>(3) Attempting to cause or causing a family or household member to engage in coerced or forced sexual activity by force, threat of force or intimidation;</li> <li>(4) Engage in a knowing and willful course of conduct that constitutes <b>harassment.**</b></li> </ul> <p>*<b>(b) "Family or household members"</b> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Adults or minors who are current or former spouses;</li> <li>(2) Adults or minors who live together or who have recently lived together;</li> <li>(3) Adults or minors who are dating;</li> <li>(4) Adults or minors who are engaged in or who have recently engaged in a sexual relationship;</li> <li>(5) Adults or minors who are related by blood or adoption;</li> <li>(6) Adults or minors who are related by marriage or formerly related by marriage;</li> <li>(7) Persons who have a child in common; and</li> <li>(8) Minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in paragraphs (1) through (7).</li> </ul> <p>**<b>(c) "Harassment"</b> is a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person which seriously alarms, annoys, or harasses the person, and which serves no legitimate purpose under law or custom. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and must actually cause substantial emotional distress to the victim.</p>
OHIO	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 3113.31 (A)(1), (3)-(4),(8)</u></p> <p>(A) As used in this section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) "<b>Domestic violence</b>" means any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The occurrence of one or more of the following acts against a <b>family or household member*</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Attempting to cause or recklessly causing bodily injury;</li> <li>(ii) Placing another person by the threat of force in fear of imminent serious physical harm or committing a violation of section 2903.211 or 2911.211 of the Revised Code;</li> <li>(iii) Committing any act with respect to a child that would result in the child being an abused child, as defined in section 2151.031 of the Revised Code;</li> <li>(iv) Committing a sexually oriented offense.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) The occurrence of one or more of the acts identified in divisions (A)(1)(a)(i) to (iv) of this section against a person with whom the respondent is or was in a <b>dating relationship**</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>*<b>(3) "Family or household member"</b> means any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Any of the following who is residing with or has resided with the respondent: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) A spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of the respondent;</li> <li>(ii) A parent, a foster parent, or a child of the respondent, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to the respondent;</li> <li>(iii) A parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the respondent, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, <b>person living as a spouse***</b>, or former spouse of the respondent.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) The natural parent of any child of whom the respondent is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>***4) "<b>Person living as a spouse</b>" means a person who is living or has lived with the respondent in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with the respondent, or who otherwise has cohabited with the respondent within five years prior to the date of the alleged occurrence of the act in question.</p> <p>**8) "<b>Dating relationship</b>" means a relationship between individuals who have, or have had, a relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. "Dating relationship" does not include a casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context.</p>
OKLAHOMA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OKLA. STAT. TIT. 22 § 60.1 (1)-(3), (5)-(6), (9)</u></p> <p>As used in the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act and in the Domestic Abuse Reporting Act, Sections 40.5 through 40.7 of this title and Section 150.12B of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Dating relationship" means intimate association, primarily characterized by affectionate or sexual involvement. For purposes of this act, a casual acquaintance or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context shall not constitute a dating relationship;</li> <li>2. "<b>Domestic abuse</b>" means any act of physical harm, or the threat of imminent physical harm which is committed by an adult, emancipated minor, or minor child thirteen (13) years of age or older against another adult, emancipated minor or minor child who is currently or was previously an <b>intimate partner*</b> or <b>family or household member**</b>;</li> </ol> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">**3. "<b>Family or household members</b>" means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. parents, including grandparents, stepparents, adoptive parents and foster parents,</li> <li>b. children, including grandchildren, stepchildren, adopted children and foster children, and</li> <li>c. persons otherwise related by blood or marriage living in the same household;</li> </ol> <p>5. "Harassment" means a knowing and willful course or pattern of conduct by a family or household member or an individual who is or has been involved in a dating relationship with the person, directed at a specific person which seriously alarms or annoys the person, and which serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and must actually cause substantial distress to the person. "Harassment" shall include, but not be limited to, harassing or obscene telephone calls in violation of Section 1172 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes and fear of death or bodily injury;</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">*6. "<b>Intimate partner</b>" means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. current or former spouses,</li> <li>b. persons who are or were in a dating relationship,</li> <li>c. persons who are the biological parents of the same child, regardless of their marital status or whether they have lived together at any time, and</li> <li>d. persons who currently or formerly lived together in an intimate way, primarily characterized by affectionate or sexual involvement. A sexual relationship may be an indicator that a person is an intimate partner, but is never a necessary condition;</li> </ol> <p>9. "Stalking" means the willful, malicious, and repeated following or harassment of a person by an adult, emancipated minor, or minor thirteen (13) years of age or older, in a manner that would cause a reasonable person to feel frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested and actually causes the person being followed or harassed to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed or molested. Stalking also means a course of conduct composed of a series of two or more separate acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose or unconsented contact with a person that is initiated or continued without the consent of the individual or in disregard of the expressed desire of the individual that the contact be avoided or discontinued. Unconsented contact or course of conduct includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. following or appearing within the sight of that individual,</li> <li>b. approaching or confronting that individual in a public place or on private property,</li> </ol>

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	<p>c. appearing at the workplace or residence of that individual,  d. entering onto or remaining on property owned, leased, or occupied by that individual,  e. contacting that individual by telephone,  f. sending mail or electronic communications to that individual, or  g. placing an object on, or delivering an object to, property owned, leased or occupied by that individual;</p>
OREGON	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OR. REV. STAT. § 107.705(1), (4)</u></p> <p>As used in ORS 107.700 to 107.735:  (1) "<b>Abuse</b>" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between <b>family or household members</b>*:  (a) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury.  (b) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly placing another in fear of imminent bodily injury.  (c) Causing another to engage in involuntary sexual relations by force or threat of force.</p> <p>*<b>(4) "Family or household members"</b> means any of the following:  (a) Spouses.  (b) Former spouses.  (c) Adult persons related by blood, marriage or adoption.  (d) Persons who are cohabiting or who have cohabited with each other.  (e) Persons who have been involved in a sexually intimate relationship with each other within two years immediately preceding the filing by one of them of a petition under ORS 107.710.  (f) Unmarried parents of a child.</p>
PENNSYLVANIA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>23 PA.CON.S. STAT. § 6102(a)</u></p> <p>(a) General rule. -- The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:</p> <p>"<b>Abuse.</b>" The occurrence of one or more of the following acts between <b>family or household members</b>*, sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood:  (1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault or incest with or without a deadly weapon.  (2) Placing another in reasonable fear of imminent serious bodily injury.  (3) The infliction of false imprisonment pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment).  (4) Physically or sexually abusing minor children, including such terms as defined in Chapter 63 (relating to child protective services).  (5) Knowingly engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person, without proper authority, under circumstances which place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury. The definition of this paragraph applies only to proceedings commenced under this title and is inapplicable to any criminal prosecutions commenced under Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses).</p> <p>*"<b>Family or household members.</b>" Spouses or persons who have been spouses, persons living as spouses or who lived as spouses, parents and children, other persons related by consanguinity or affinity, current or former sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood.</p>

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<p><b>PUERTO RICO</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>8 L.P.R.A. § 602 (d), (m), (p), (q)</u></p> <p>(d) <b>Cohabitation</b> — Shall mean maintaining a consensual intimate relationship similarly situated to a spouse regarding cohabitation, regardless of the sex, civil status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or the immigrant status of the persons involved in the relationship.</p> <p>(m) <b>Intimate relationship.</b>— Shall mean the relationship between spouses, former spouses, persons who are cohabiting or have cohabited, persons who have or have had a consensual relationship, and persons who share a child in common, regardless of the sex, civil status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or the immigrant status of the persons involved in the relationship.</p> <p>(p) <b>Domestic abuse.</b> — Shall mean a constant pattern of conduct involving physical force or psychological violence, intimidation or persecution against a person by his/her spouse, former spouse, a person with whom he/she cohabits or has cohabited, with whom he/she has or has had a consensual relationship, or a person with whom he/she shares a child in common, regardless of the sex, civil status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or the immigrant status of the persons involved in the relationship, to physically harm to them, their property, or another person, or to cause him/her serious emotional harm.</p> <p>(q) <b>Psychological abuse.</b>— Shall mean a constant pattern of conduct performed to the dishonor, discredit or scorn of personal worth, unreasonable limitation to access and handling of common property, blackmail, constant vigilance, isolation, deprivation of access to adequate food or rest, threats of deprivation of custody of sons or daughters, or destruction of objects held in esteem by the person, except those that privately belong to the offender.</p>
<p><b>RHODE ISLAND</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>R.I. GEN. LAWS § 15-15-1(1), (3)-(10)</u></p> <p>The following words as used in this chapter have the following meanings:</p> <p>(1) "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time, evidencing a continuity of purpose. Constitutionally protected activity is not included within the meaning of "course of conduct".</p> <p>(3) "<b>Cyberstalking</b>" means transmitting any communication by computer to any person or causing any person to be contacted for the sole purpose of harassing that person or his or her family.</p> <p>(4) "<b>Domestic abuse</b>" means:  the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between <b>present or former family members*</b>, <b>parents**</b>, stepparents, a plaintiff parent’s minor child(ren) to which the defendant is not a blood relative or relative by marriage, or persons who are or have been in a <b>substantive dating or engagement relationship***</b> within the past one year in which at least one of the persons is a minor:  (i) Attempting to cause or causing physical harm;  (ii) Placing another in fear of imminent serious physical harm;  (iii) Causing another to engage involuntarily in sexual relations by force, threat of force, or duress; or  (iv) <b>Stalking****</b> or cyberstalking.</p> <p>(5) "Harassing" means following a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person with the intent to seriously alarm, annoy, or bother the person, and which serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, or be in fear of bodily injury.</p> <p>* (6) "<b>Parents</b>" mean persons who together are the legal parents of one or more children, regardless of their marital status or whether they have lived together at any time.</p> <p>** (7) "<b>Present or former family member</b>" means the spouse, former spouse, minor children, stepchildren, a plaintiff’s minor child(ren) to which the defendant is not a blood relative or relative by marriage, or persons who are related by blood or marriage.</p> <p>(8) "Sexual exploitation" means the occurrence of any of the following acts by any person who knowingly or willfully encourages, aids, or coerces any child under the age of eighteen (18) years:</p>

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	<p>(i) Recruiting, employing, enticing, soliciting, isolating, harboring, transporting, providing, persuading, obtaining, or maintaining, or so attempts, any minor for the purposes of commercial sex acts or sexually explicit performances; or selling or purchasing a minor for the purposes of commercial sex acts.</p> <p>(A) "Commercial sex act" means any sex act or sexually explicit performance on account of which anything of value is given, promised to, or received, directly or indirectly, by any person.</p> <p>(B) "Sexually-explicit performance" means an act or show, intended to arouse, satisfy the sexual desires of, or appeal to the prurient interests of patrons or viewers, whether public or private, live, photographed, recorded, or videotaped.</p> <p>****(9) "<b>Stalking</b>" means harassing another person or willfully, maliciously and repeatedly following another person with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of bodily injury.</p> <p>***(10) "<b>Substantive dating</b>" or "<b>engagement relationship</b>" means a significant and personal/intimate relationship which shall be adjudged by the court's consideration by the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The length of time of the relationship;</li> <li>(ii) The type of relationship; and</li> <li>(iii) The frequency of interaction between the parties.</li> </ul>
SOUTH CAROLINA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>S.C. CODE ANN. § 20-4-20</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter:</p> <p>(a) "Abuse" means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the threat of physical harm;</li> <li>(2) sexual criminal offenses, as otherwise defined by statute, committed against a family or <b>household member*</b> by a family or household member.</li> </ul> <p>*(b) "<b>Household member</b>" means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a spouse;</li> <li>(ii) a former spouse;</li> <li>(iii) persons who have a child in common;</li> <li>(iv) a male and female who are cohabiting or formerly have cohabited.</li> </ul>
SOUTH DAKOTA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 25-10-1(1)</u></p> <p>Terms used in this chapter mean:</p> <p>(1) "<b>Domestic abuse,</b>" physical harm, bodily injury, or attempts to cause physical harm or bodily injury, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm or bodily injury when occurring between <b>persons in a relationship described in § 25-10-3.1</b>. Any violation of § 25-10-13 or chapter 22-19A or any <b>crime of violence*</b> as <b>defined in subdivision 22-1-2(9)</b> constitutes domestic abuse if the underlying criminal act is committed between persons in such a relationship</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 25-10-3.1</u></p> <p>Any person who is involved in one of the following relationships with another party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Spouse or former spouse;</li> <li>(2) Is in a significant romantic relationship or has been in one during the past twelve months with the abusing party;</li> <li>(3) Has a child or is expecting a child with the abusing party;</li> <li>(4) Parent and child, including a relationship by adoption, guardianship, or marriage; or</li> </ul>

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	<p>(5) Siblings, whether of the whole or half blood, including a relationship through adoption or marriage; is entitled to apply for a protection order or a temporary protection order pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 22-1-2(9)</u></p> <p>* (9) <b>“Crime of violence,”</b> any of the following crimes or an attempt to commit, or a conspiracy to commit, or a solicitation to commit any of the following crimes: murder, manslaughter, rape, aggravated assault, riot, robbery, burglary in the first degree, arson, kidnapping, felony sexual contact as defined in § 22-22-7, felony child abuse as defined in § 26-10-1, or any other felony in the commission of which the perpetrator used force, or was armed with a dangerous weapon, or used any explosive or destructive device</p>
TENNESSEE	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TENN. CODE ANN. § 36-3-601(1)-(2),(4)- (5)</u></p> <p>As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:</p> <p>(1) <b>“Abuse”</b> means inflicting, or attempting to inflict, physical injury on an adult or minor by other than accidental means, placing an <b>adult*</b> or minor in fear of physical harm, physical restraint, malicious damage to the personal property of the abused party, including inflicting, or attempting to inflict, physical injury on any animal owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by an adult or minor, or placing an adult or minor in fear of physical harm to any animal owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by the adult or minor;</p> <p>* (2) <b>“Adult”</b> means any person eighteen (18) years of age or older, or who is otherwise emancipated;</p> <p>(4) <b>“Domestic abuse”</b> means committing abuse against a victim, as defined in subdivision (5);</p> <p>(5) <b>“Domestic abuse victim”</b> means any person who falls within the following categories:</p> <p>(A) Adults or minors who are current or former spouses;</p> <p>(B) Adults or minors who live together or who have lived together;</p> <p>(C) Adults or minors who are dating or who have dated or who have or had a sexual relationship. As used herein “, "dating" and “dated” do not include fraternization between two (2) individuals in a business or social context;</p> <p>(D) Adults or minors related by blood or adoption;</p> <p>(E) Adults or minors who are related or were formerly related by marriage; or</p> <p>(F) Adult or minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in subdivisions (5)(A)-(E);</p>
TEXAS	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TEX. FAM. CODE §71.004</u></p> <p><b>“Family violence”</b> means:</p> <p>(1) an act by a member of a <b>family*</b> or <b>household**</b> against another member of the family or household that is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the member in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault, but does not include defensive measures to protect oneself;</p> <p>(2) <b>abuse***</b>, as that term is <b>defined by Sections 261.001(1)(C), (E), (G), (H), (I), (J) and (K), and (M)</b> by a member of a family or household toward a child of the family or household; or</p> <p>(3) <b>dating violence****</b>, as that term is defined by Section 71.0021.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>TEX. FAM. CODE. § 71.0021</u></p> <p>****(a) <b>“Dating violence”</b> means an act, other than a defensive measure to protect oneself, by an actor that:</p> <p>(1) is committed against a victim or applicant for a protective order:</p> <p>(A) with whom the actor has or has had a <b>dating relationship*****</b>; or</p>

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	<p>(B) because of the victim's or applicant's marriage to or dating relationship with an individual with whom the actor is or has been in a dating relationship or marriage; and</p> <p>(2) is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the victim or applicant in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault.</p> <p>*****<b>(b)</b> For purposes of this title, "<b>dating relationship</b>" means a relationship between individuals who have or have had a continuing relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on consideration of:</p> <p>(1) the length of the relationship;</p> <p>(2) the nature of the relationship; and</p> <p>(3) the frequency and type of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.</p> <p>(c) A casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context does not constitute a "dating relationship" under Subsection (b).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>TEX. FAM. CODE § 71.003</u></p> <p><b>"Family"</b> includes individuals related by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Sections 573.022 and 573.024, Government Code, individuals who are former spouses of each other, individuals who are the parents of the same child, without regard to marriage, and a foster child and foster parent, without regard to whether those individuals reside together.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>TEX. FAM. CODE § 71.005</u></p> <p><b>"Household"</b> means a unit composed of persons living together in the same dwelling, without regard to whether they are related to each other.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>TEX. FAM. CODE § 261.001 (1)(A)-(L)</u></p> <p><b>(1) "Abuse"</b> includes the following acts or omissions by a person:</p> <p>(A) mental or emotional injury to a child that results in an observable and material impairment in the child's growth, development, or psychological functioning;</p> <p>(B) causing or permitting the child to be in a situation in which the child sustains a mental or emotional injury that results in an observable and material impairment in the child's growth, development, or psychological functioning;</p> <p>(C) physical injury that results in substantial harm to the child, or the genuine threat of substantial harm from physical injury to the child, including an injury that is at variance with the history or explanation given and excluding an accident or reasonable discipline by a parent, guardian, or managing or possessory conservator that does not expose the child to a substantial risk of harm;</p> <p>(D) failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent an action by another person that results in physical injury that results in substantial harm to the child;</p> <p>(E) sexual conduct harmful to a child's mental, emotional, or physical welfare, including conduct that constitutes the offense of continuous sexual abuse of young child or children under Section 21.02, Penal Code, indecency with a child under Section 21.11, Penal Code, sexual assault under Section 22.011, Penal Code, or aggravated sexual assault under Section 22.021, Penal Code;</p> <p>(F) failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct harmful to a child;</p> <p>(G) compelling or encouraging the child to engage in sexual conduct as defined by Section 43.01, Penal Code, including conduct that constitutes an offense of trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02(a)(7) or (8), Penal Code, prostitution under Section 43.02(b), Penal Code, or compelling prostitution under Section 43.05(a)(2), Penal Code;</p>

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	<p>(H) causing, permitting, encouraging, engaging in, or allowing the photographing, filming, or depicting of the child if the person knew or should have known that the resulting photograph, film, or depiction of the child is obscene as defined by Section 43.21, Penal Code, or pornographic;</p> <p>(I) the current use by a person of a controlled substance as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code, in a manner or to the extent that the use results in physical, mental, or emotional injury to a child;</p> <p>(J) causing, expressly permitting, or encouraging a child to use a controlled substance as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code;</p> <p>(K) causing, permitting, encouraging, engaging in, or allowing a sexual performance by a child as defined by Section 43.25, Penal Code;</p> <p>(L) knowingly causing, permitting, encouraging, engaging in, or allowing a child to be trafficked in a manner punishable as an offense under Section 20A.02(a)(5), (6), (7), or (8), Penal Code, or the failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent a child from being trafficked in a manner punishable as an offense under any of those sections; or</p> <p>(M) forcing or coercing a child to enter into a marriage.</p>
UTAH	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>UTAH CODE ANN. § 77-36-1(4)</u></p> <p>(4) <b>"Domestic violence" or "domestic violence offense"</b> means any criminal offense involving violence or physical harm or threat of violence or physical harm, or any attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a criminal offense involving violence or physical harm, when committed by one <b>cohabitant*</b> against another“. "Domestic violence" or "domestic violence offense" includes commission or attempt to commit, any of the following offenses by one cohabitant against another:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) aggravated assault, as described in Section 76-5-103;</li> <li>(b) aggravated cruelty to an animal, as described in Subsection 76-9-301(4), with the intent to harass or threaten the other cohabitant;</li> <li>(c) assault, as described in Section 76-5-102;</li> <li>(d) criminal homicide, as described in Section 76-5-201;</li> <li>(e) harassment, as described in Section 76-5-106;</li> <li>(f) electronic communication harassment, as described in Section 76-9-201;</li> <li>(g) kidnapping, child kidnapping, or aggravated kidnapping, as described in Sections 76-5-301, 76-5-301.1, and 76-5-302;</li> <li>(h) mayhem, as described in Section 76-5-105;</li> <li>(i) sexual offenses, as described in Title 76, Chapter 5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses, and Section 76-5b-201, Sexual Exploitation of a minor— Offenses;</li> <li>(j) stalking, as described in Section 76-5-106.5;</li> <li>(k) unlawful detention or unlawful detention of a minor, as described in Section 76-5-304;</li> <li>(l) violation of a protective order or ex parte protective order, as described in Section 76-5-108;</li> <li>(m) any offense against property described in Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 1, Property Destruction, Part 2, Burglary and Criminal Trespass, or Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 3, Robbery;</li> <li>(n) possession of a deadly weapon with criminal intent, as described in Section 76-10-507;</li> <li>(o) discharge of a firearm from a vehicle, near a highway, or in the direction of any person, building, or vehicle, as described in Section 76-10-508;</li> <li>(p) disorderly conduct, as defined in Section 76-9-102, if a conviction of disorderly conduct is the result of a plea agreement in which the defendant was originally charged with any of the domestic violence offenses otherwise described in this Subsection (4), except that a conviction of disorderly conduct as a domestic violence offense, in the manner described in this Subsection (4)(p), does not constitute a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence under 18 U.S.C. Section 921, and is exempt from the provisions of the federal Firearms Act, 18 U.S.C. Section 921 et seq.;</li> <li>(q) child abuse as described in Section 76-5-109.1;</li> <li>(r) threatening use of a dangerous weapon, as described in Section 76-10-506;</li> <li>(s) threatening violence, as described in Section 76-5-107;</li> <li>(t) tampering with a witness, as described in Section 76-8-508;</li> </ul>

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	<p>(u) retaliation against a witness or victim, as described in Section 76-8-508.3;  (v) unlawful distribution of an intimate image, as described in Section 76-5b-203;  (w) sexual battery, as described in Section 76-9-702.1;  (x) voyeurism, as described in Section 76-9-702.7;  (y) damage to or interruption of a communication device, as described in Section 76-6-108; or  (z) an offense described in Subsection 78-B-7-806(1).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>UTAH CODE ANN. § 78B-7-102(1)-(3)</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter:  (1) "<b>Abuse</b>" means, except as provided in Section 78B-7-201, intentionally or knowingly causing or attempting to cause another individual physical harm or intentionally or knowingly placing a cohabitant in reasonable fear of imminent physical harm.</p> <p>* (2) "<b>Cohabitant</b>" means an emancipated person pursuant to Section 15-2-1 or a person who is 16 years of age or older who:  (a) is or was a spouse of the other party;  (b) is or was living as if a spouse of the other party;  (c) is related by blood or marriage to the other party as the person's parent, grandparent, sibling, or any other person related to the person by consanguinity or affinity to the second degree;  (d) has or had one or more children in common with the other party;  (e) is the biological parent of the other party's unborn child;  (f) resides or has resided in the same residence as the other party; or  (g) is or was in a consensual sexual relationship with the other party.</p> <p>(3) Notwithstanding Subsection (2), "cohabitant" does not include:  (a) the relationship of natural parent, adoptive parent, or step-parent to a minor; or  (b) the relationship between natural, adoptive, step, or foster siblings who are under 18 years of age.</p>
VERMONT	<p style="text-align: center;">15 V.S.A. § 1101</p> <p>The following words as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings:  (1) "<b>Abuse</b>" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or <b>household members</b>*:  (A) Attempting to cause or causing physical harm.  (B) Placing another in fear of imminent serious physical harm.  (C) Abuse to children as defined in 33 V.S.A chapter 49, subchapter 2.  (D) Stalking as defined in 12 V.S.A. § 5131(6).  (E) Sexual assault as defined in 12 V.S.A. § 5131(5).</p> <p>* (2) "<b>Household members</b>" means persons who, for any period of time, are living or have lived together, are sharing or have shared occupancy of a dwelling, are engaged in or have engaged in a sexual relationship, or minors or adults who are dating or who have date". "Dating" means a social relationship of a romantic nature. Factors that the court may consider when determining whether a dating relationship exists or existed include:  (A) the nature of the relationship;  (B) the length of time the relationship has existed;</p>

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	<p>(C) the frequency of interaction between the parties;  (D) the length of time since the relationship was terminated, if applicable.</p>
<p><b>VIRGIN ISLANDS</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>16 V.I.C. § 91</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:</p> <p>(a) "Cohabitants" means emancipated minors or persons 18 years of age or older of the opposite sex who have resided together or who currently are residing in the same living quarters or persons who together are the parents of one or more children, regardless of their marital status or whether they have lived together at any time.</p> <p>(b) "<b>Domestic violence</b>" means the occurrence of any of the following acts, attempts or threats against a person who may be protected under this chapter pursuant to subsection (c) of this section:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Assault;</li> <li>(2) Battery;</li> <li>(3) Burglary;</li> <li>(4) Kidnapping;</li> <li>(5) Unlawful sexual contact;</li> <li>(6) Rape;</li> <li>(7) Forcible or unlawful entry;</li> <li>(8) Coercion;</li> <li>(9) Destruction of property;</li> <li>(10) Harassment;</li> <li>(11) Threats;</li> <li>(12) False imprisonment; or</li> <li>(13) Stalking.</li> </ol> <p>(14) Violation of a restraining order issued pursuant to section 97(b)(2) or section 98 of this chapter.</p> <p>(c) "Victim" includes any person who has been subjected to domestic violence by a spouse, former spouse, parent, child, or any other person related by blood or marriage, a present or former household member, a person with whom the victim has a child in common, or a person who is, or has been, in a sexual or otherwise intimate relationship with the victim.</p> <p>(d) "Coercion" means compelling another by force, or threat of force, to engage in conduct from which the latter has a right to abstain, or to abstain from conduct in which the person has a right to engage.</p> <p>(e) "Destruction of property" means causing damage to the property of another, or to property jointly owned by the perpetrator and another.</p> <p>(f) "Harassment" means engaging in a purposeful, knowing or reckless course of conduct involving more than one incident that alarms, or causes distress to another person and serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer distress and must actually cause distress. Such conduct shall include, but shall not be limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) following another about in a public place or places with the intent to distress or intimidate the victim;</li> <li>(2) peering in the window, or trespassing or coming upon or about the premises of the victim so as to intrude on privacy or create a menacing or threatening situation.</li> </ol>

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VIRGINIA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>VA. CODE ANN. § 16.1-228</u></p> <p>“<b>Family abuse</b>” means any act involving violence, force, or threat that results in bodily injury or places one in reasonable apprehension of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury and that is committed by a person against such person's <b>family or household member</b>*. Such act includes, but is not limited to, any forceful detention, stalking, criminal sexual assault in violation of Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2, or any criminal offense that results in bodily injury or places one in reasonable apprehension of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury.</p> <p>*“<b>Family or household member</b>” means (i) the person's spouse, whether or not he or she resides in the same home with the person, (ii) the person's former spouse, whether or not he or she resides in the same home with the person, (iii) the person's parents, stepparents, children, stepchildren, brothers, sisters, half-brothers, half-sisters, grandparents and grandchildren, regardless of whether such persons reside in the same home with the person, (iv) the person's mother-in-law, father-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law who reside in the same home with the person, (v) any individual who has a child in common with the person, whether or not the person and that individual have been married or have resided together at any time, or (vi) any individual who cohabits or who, within the previous 12 months, cohabited with the person, and any children of either of them then residing in the same home with the person.</p>
WASHINGTON	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>REV. CODE WASH. (ARCW) § 26.50.010(2)-(3), (6)-(7)</u></p> <p>As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings given them:</p> <p>(2) “<b>Dating relationship</b>” means a social relationship of a romantic nature. Factors that the court may consider in making this determination include: (a) The length of time the relationship has existed; (b) the nature of the relationship; and (c) the frequency of interaction between the parties.</p> <p>(3) “<b>Domestic violence</b>” means: (a) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, sexual assault, or stalking as defined in RCW 9A.46.110 of one <b>intimate partner</b>* by another intimate partner; or (b) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, sexual assault, or stalking as defined in RCW 9A.46.110 of one <b>family or household member</b>** by another family or household member.</p> <p>** (6) “<b>Family or household members</b>” means: (a) Adult persons related by blood or marriage; (b) adult persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past; and (c) persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and grandparents and grandchildren.</p> <p>* (7) “<b>Intimate partner</b>” means: (a) Spouses, or domestic partners; (b) former spouses, or former domestic partners; (c) persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time; (d) adult persons presently or previously residing together who have or have had a dating relationship; (e) persons sixteen years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past and who have or have had a dating relationship; and (f) persons sixteen years of age or older with whom a person sixteen years of age or older has or has had a dating relationship.</p>
WEST VIRGINIA	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>W. VA. CODE § 48-27-202</u></p> <p>“<b>Domestic violence</b>” or “abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between <b>family or household members</b>*, as that term is defined in section two hundred four [§ 48-27-204] of this article:</p>

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	<p>(1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing physical harm to another with or without dangerous or deadly weapons;</p> <p>(2) Placing another in reasonable apprehension of physical harm;</p> <p>(3) Creating fear of physical harm by harassment, stalking, psychological abuse or threatening acts;</p> <p>(4) Committing either sexual assault or sexual abuse as those terms are defined in articles eight-b [ §§ 61-8B-1 et seq.] and eight-d [ §§ 61-8D-1 et seq.], chapter sixty-one of this code; and</p> <p>(5) Holding, confining, detaining or abducting another person against that person's will.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>W. VA. CODE § 48-27-204</u></p> <p><b>*"Family or household members"</b> means persons who:</p> <p>(1) Are or were married to each other;</p> <p>(2) Are or were living together as spouses;</p> <p>(3) Are or were sexual or intimate partners;</p> <p>(4) Are or were dating: Provided, That a casual acquaintance or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context does not establish a dating relationship;</p> <p>(5) Are or were residing together in the same household;</p> <p>(6) Have a child in common regardless of whether they have ever married or lived together;</p> <p>(7) Have the following relationships to another person:</p> <p>(A) Parent;</p> <p>(B) Stepparent;</p> <p>(C) Brother or sister;</p> <p>(D) Half-brother or half-sister;</p> <p>(E) Stepbrother or stepsister;</p> <p>(F) Father-in-law or mother-in-law;</p> <p>(G) Stepfather-in-law or stepmother-in-law;</p> <p>(H) Child or stepchild;</p> <p>(I) Daughter-in-law or son-in-law;</p> <p>(J) Stepdaughter-in-law or stepson-in-law;</p> <p>(K) Grandparent;</p> <p>(L) Step grandparent;</p> <p>(M) Aunt, aunt-in-law or step aunt;</p> <p>(N) Uncle, uncle-in-law or step uncle;</p> <p>(O) Niece or nephew;</p> <p>(P) First or second cousin; or</p> <p>(8) Have the relationships set forth in paragraphs (A) through (P), subdivision (7) of this section to a family or household member, as defined in subdivisions (1) through (6) of this section.</p>

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WISCONSIN	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wis. Stat. Ann. § 813.12</u></p> <p>813.12. Domestic abuse restraining orders and injunctions</p> <p>(1) Definitions. In this section:</p> <p>(ad) “Caregiver” means an individual who is a provider of in-home or community care to an individual through regular and direct contact.</p> <p>(ag) “Dating relationship” means a romantic or intimate social relationship between 2 adult individuals but “dating relationship” does not include a casual relationship or an ordinary fraternization between 2 individuals in a business or social context. A court shall determine if a dating relationship existed by considering the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of the interaction between the adult individuals involved in the relationship.</p> <p>(am) “Domestic abuse” means any of the following engaged in by an adult family member or adult household member against another adult family member or adult household member, by an adult caregiver against an adult who is under the caregiver’s care, by an adult against his or her adult former spouse, by an adult against an adult with whom the individual has or had a dating relationship, or by an adult against an adult with whom the person has a child in common:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intentional infliction of physical pain, physical injury or illness.</li> <li>2. Intentional impairment of physical condition.</li> <li>3. A violation of s. 940.225 (1), (2) or (3).</li> <li>4. A violation of s. 940.32.</li> <li>5. A violation of s. 943.01, involving property that belongs to the individual.</li> <li>6. A threat to engage in the conduct under subd. 1., 2., 3., 4., or 5.</li> </ol> <p>(b) “Family member” means a spouse, a parent, a child or a person related by blood or adoption to another person.</p> <p>(c) “Household member” means a person currently or formerly residing in a place of abode with another person.</p> <p>(ce) “Household pet” means a domestic animal that is not a farm animal, as defined in s. 951.01 (3), that is kept, owned, or cared for by the petitioner or by a family member or a household member of the petitioner.</p> <p>(cg) “Reasonable grounds” means more likely than not that a specific event has occurred or will occur.</p> <p>(cj) “Regular and direct contact” means face-to-face physical proximity to an individual that is planned, scheduled, expected, or periodic.</p>

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	<p>(d) “Tribal court” means a court established by any federally recognized Wisconsin Indian tribe or band, except the Menominee Indian tribe of Wisconsin.</p> <p>(e) “Tribal order or injunction” means a temporary restraining order or injunction issued by a tribal court under a tribal domestic abuse ordinance adopted in conformity with this section.</p>
WYOMING	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-21-102 (A)(i), (iii), (iv)</u></p> <p>(a) As used in this act:</p> <p>(i) “Adult” means a person who is sixteen (16) years of age or older, or legally married;</p> <p>(iii) “<b>Domestic abuse</b>” means the occurrence of one (1) or more of the following acts by a <b>household member</b>* but does not include acts of self defense:</p> <p>(A) Physically abusing, threatening to physically abuse, attempting to cause or causing physical harm or acts which unreasonably restrain the personal liberty of any household member;</p> <p>(B) Placing a household member in reasonable fear of imminent physical harm; or</p> <p>(C) Causing a household member to engage involuntarily in sexual activity by force, threat of force or duress.</p> <p>* (iv) “<b>Household member</b>” includes:</p> <p>(A) Persons married to each other;</p> <p>(B) Persons living with each other as if married;</p> <p>(C) Persons formerly married to each other;</p> <p>(D) Persons formerly living with each other as if married;</p> <p>(E) Parents and their adult children;</p> <p>(F) Other adults sharing common living quarters;</p> <p>(G) Persons who are the parents of a child but who are not living with each other; and</p> <p>(H) Persons who are in, or have been in, a dating relationship.</p>