

Stoneham Police Domestic Violence Unit



Emergency Dial 911

For Questions or Assistance:

E-Mail
DVU@stoneham-ma.gov

Or call
781-438-1215 x 3106

Stoneham Police Dispatch
781-438-1212

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE HIT TO BE ABUSED!

Are you:

Fearful for your life?

Constantly being ridiculed?

Tiptoeing around a person so that he/she does not get angry?

Told you are worthless and unattractive?

Not allowed to see friends or take time for yourself?

Always told it is your fault when things go wrong?

Concerned about personal safety?

Are your children being threatened in any way?

Promised that violent behavior will not be repeated, and the promise is broken?

If you answer YES to any of these questions, you may be in an abusive relationship.

If you know someone who needs help, do not be afraid to call the police!

POLICE SERVICES:

For police assistance, you may be asked the following questions, in order to ensure everyone's safety:

1. Your name, address, and telephone number. If you get disconnected, the police will still respond provided they have the address.
2. Are you and your children safe now?
3. Can you speak freely?
4. Are you hurt?
5. Has your abuser left the home or area?

If you cannot speak freely because your abuser is within hearing distance, or if you are unable to remain on the phone, dial "911" and leave the telephone off the hook. If using a cordless phone, throw or hide the cordless phone under a couch, bed, or similar location.

If you call 911 from a home phone, your name and address will instantly appear on our monitors.

If you call 911 from a cell phone, your call will go to the Massachusetts State Police. If you can not speak, they will attempt to locate you using GPS technology. Provide your address as soon as possible in case the cell phone signal is lost. The state police will then transfer your call to the local police department.

As a victim, the Commonwealth has afforded you certain rights. The Abused Person's Notice of Rights outlines your rights as a victim of domestic violence as provided by

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 209A.

In accordance with Chapter 209A, you have the right to appear at the Superior Court, Probate and Family District Court or District Court if you reside within the appropriate jurisdiction, and file a complaint requesting the issuance of any of the following orders:

- (a) an order restraining your attacker from abusing you,
- (b) an order directing your attacker to leave the household, building or workplace,
- (c) an order awarding you custody of minor children,
- (d) an order directing your attacker to pay support for you or any minor child in your custody, if the attacker has a legal obligation of support, and/or

(e) an order directing your attacker to pay you for losses suffered as a result of abuse, including medical and moving expenses, loss of earnings or support, costs for restoring utilities and replacing locks, reasonable attorney's fees and other out of pocket losses for injuries and property damaged sustained.

For an emergency on weekends, holidays, or week nights the police will refer you to a Justice of the Superior, Probate and Family, District or Woburn District Court.

You have the right to go to the appropriate Court and seek a criminal complaint for threats, assault and battery, assault with a deadly weapon, assault with intent to kill or other related offenses.

If you are in need of medical treatment, you have the right to request that the police officer drive you to the nearest hospital or otherwise assist you in obtaining medical treatment.

If you believe that police protection is needed for your physical safety, you have the right to request that the officer present remain at the scene until you and your children can leave or until your safety is otherwise ensured. You may

also request that the officer assist you in locating and taking you to a safe place, including, but not limited to designated meeting place for a shelter or a family member's or friend's residence, or similar place of safety.

You may request a copy of the police incident report at no cost from the police department. To obtain a restraining order you do not need an attorney and it will not cost you any money.

Important Information

Stoneham Police Department
47 Central Street
781-438-1212 *

Woburn District Court
30 Pleasant Street, Woburn
Hours: 8:30am – 4:30pm

Emergency Shelter and Support

RESPOND: (617) 623-5900 *
REACH: (800) 899-4000 *
SafeLink: (877) 785-2020 *
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
(800) 841-8371 *

* denotes 24 hour assistance