

CASE PLANNING

Coercive Control Case Organizer

If you believe that your partner may be abusive or controlling, this table is helpful in organizing your thoughts and supporting information around this issue. This form is organized around risk factors associated with Coercive Control. Not every factor will apply to your ex-partner. For those that do, fill out this form with the information that you have available to support that claim. Examples of documentation include text, e-mail, social media post, audio recordings, etc. For example, do you have any text messages detailing the emotional abuse? In addition, document if any physical or sexual violence occurred when these control tactics were used. This is the type of information that may be helpful to you and your counsel.

Control Tactic	Time Frame	Frequency	Witnesses	Documentation	Physical or Sexual Violence
Example Withholding Money	Mid 2013-Fall 2015	Weekly; ongoing	Friend-Susan; I couldn't purchase necessary sports gear	Many texts saying, "already gave you money for the week; figure it out..."	None
Acting Jealous; Asking questions about where you are					
Name calling/ Making cruel statements					

Control Tactic	Time Frame	Frequency	Witnesses	Documentation	Physical or Sexual Violence
Verbal belittling/putting down					
Starting an argument when you are seeing friends/relatives					
Blocked your contact with relatives/friends					
Accused you of cheating					
Demanding/always got his/her way					

Control Tactic	Time Frame	Frequency	Witnesses	Documentation	Physical or Sexual Violence
Controlled finances/ purchases					
Would not let you go back to work					
Threatened to harm the children					
Damaged your personal belongings					
Threatened to harm him/ herself if you left them					

Control Tactic	Time Frame	Frequency	Witnesses	Documentation	Physical or Sexual Violence
Wouldn't let you have independence in buying decisions, such as food (e.g., nothing expensive)					
Wouldn't let you go back to school					
Embarrassed you in front of friends/family					
Threatened your life					
Made threats to your Family					

Control Tactic	Time Frame	Frequency	Witnesses	Documentation	Physical or Sexual Violence
Stalked/followed and/or surveilled you					

Additional Notes:

Additional Resources

Alle-Kiski Area HOPE Center

(Alle-Kiski Valley)

24/7 Hotline 724-224-1266

Crisis Center North

(Northern Suburbs of Allegheny County)

24/7 Hotline 412-364-5556

24/7 Toll Free Hotline 1- 866-782-0911

Text (SMS) line 412-444-7660

Center for Victims

(Mon-Yough Area and Allegheny County)

24/7 Hotline 1-866-644-2882

Pennsylvania Office of Victim

Advocate

(State of Pennsylvania)

Hotline 1- 800-563-6399

National Domestic Violence Hotline

(Nationwide)

24/7 Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Text to 911 (Allegheny County)

If you are unable to call 911, you may text to 911 in Allegheny County.

To send a text to 911, enter "911" in the "To" field. Send a short message of no more than 160 characters, including the location of the emergency and the type of help needed. Be prepared to answer follow up questions or instructions from the 911 dispatcher.

Reminder to silence your cell phone so that message responses from 911 do not send an alert sound that may be heard by an abusive partner.

MAJOR CRIMES

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

In the event of an
emergency, active Domestic
Violence situation, or to file
a police report, please dial

911

**Pittsburgh Bureau of Police
Headquarters
1203 Western Ave
Pittsburgh, PA, 15233
412-323-7800**

PBP DV Resource Guide, Rev. 10/12/23



*Domestic Violence
Unit*

Domestic Violence Resource Guide

**PITTSBURGH BUREAU
OF POLICE**

POLICE CHIEF LARRY SCIROTTO

Scan me for a digital
copy of this pamphlet.
Tear off to
take me with you.



Are You Concerned that You or Someone You Know is in an Abusive Relationship?

Domestic Violence is a crime.

Victims of abuse have the right to call the police for help, seek assistance from the courts, and obtain information on where to find emergency shelter and services.

Abuse Can Include:

- Physical, sexual, financial, or emotional abuse and control by a person with whom you currently, or formerly, have an intimate partner relationship.
- Jealously, possessiveness, or controlling behavior.
- Verbal abuse, harassment, or physical harm.
- Threats to kill you, your children, or himself/herself.



brightskyus.org

Scan me for a link to the Bright Sky app.
Tear off to take me with you.



Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh (WC&S) (City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County)

WC&S provides free and confidential services for all domestic violence victims regardless of race, gender, sexual identity, or any other factor.

Services Include:

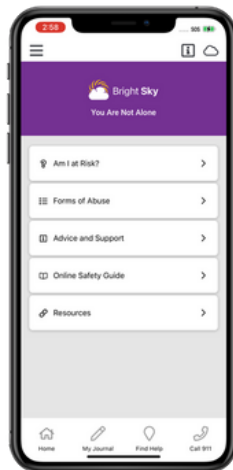
- **A 24-hour hotline for safety planning, emotional support, and referral for other services.**
- **Temporary shelter for abused victims and their children.**
- **Legal options counseling and court accompaniment.**

Contact Women's Center & Shelter:

24/7 Hotline: 412-687-8005.

Connect with an advocate by **texting (412) 744-8445 or by visiting **WCSCanHelp.org** and clicking 'Chat for Help'.**

Bright Sky App (For IOS and Android)



Bright Sky is a safe, free, and easy to use app and website that provides practical support and information on how to respond to domestic violence. It is for anyone experiencing domestic violence, or for those who may be worried about someone else.

Protection From Abuse (PFA) Order

Whether or not criminal charges are filed against your abusive partner, you may be able to obtain an immediate court-mandated PFA Order with safety provisions to protect you.

A PFA Order Can:

- Order your abusive partner to stop violent behavior and refrain from harassing, contacting, or stalking you.
- Remove weapons from your abuser.
- Exclude your abuser from your residence.
- Grant temporary custody of your minor children to you.

How to File for a PFA Order:

- To obtain a Temporary PFA Order from Family Court, go to Family Court located at 440 Ross Street, Room 3030, Pittsburgh, PA, 15219 between 8:00 a.m. and 11 a.m. on weekdays.
- To obtain an Emergency PFA at all other times, go to the Magisterial District Judge located at the Pittsburgh Municipal Court (MCB) Building at 660 First Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15219. Emergency PFA's may also be obtained at the MCB on weekends and court holidays 24 hours/day -OR- at your local Magisterial District Judge's office on weekdays from 11 a.m. to close of business. For questions, please call Arraignment Court at 412-350-3241.

Call a Domestic Violence Program Hotline at 412-687-8005 or 1-877-338-TALK (8255) for assistance with filing for PFA relief.

For additional information, please visit www.alleghenycourts.us/family/pfa or call 412-350-4441 for the Allegheny County Family Division.

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Screening for Coercive Control

This checklist will help you better identify if coercive control is present in your case. This checklist can be used if your client or your client's (ex) partner is being accused of Coercive Control and/or emotional/psychological control. The following factors are identified symptoms and risk factors associated with Coercive Control. Generally, the factor should be endorsed if it regularly occurred (e.g., being demanding once is generally not considered a concern and should not be checked). However, more serious factors such as stalking and threatening should be endorsed even if it occurred only one time. If only a few factors are endorsed, this indicates that coercive control may be less of a concern. If many factors are endorsed, then the problem may be in the severe range and likely could benefit from a follow up plan. As the number of positives increase, there is likely to be a heightened risk of Coercive Control.

Please note that this checklist cannot definitively determine if there is Domestic Violence/Coercive Control. Consult with a mental health professional for further evaluation or treatment guidance.

- 1. Ongoing jealousy and requests for information on whereabouts
- 2. Name calling, making cruel statements
- 3. Verbal belittling/putting down
- 4. Regularly started an argument when victim is supposed to see friends or relatives
- 5. Insisted on no contact with certain relatives or friends
- 6. Demanding, always gets his/her way
- 7. Accusations of infidelity
- 8. Controlled finances and/or purchases
- 9. Would not approve of the victim returning to work
- 10. Threatened to harm the children
- 11. Deliberately damaged personal belongings
- 12. Threatened self-harm/suicide if abandoned
- 13. Refused to buy certain foods or 'expensive food'
- 14. Refused to permit victim to go back to school (college/advanced certificates)
- 15. Made embarrassing statements about the victim in front of friends or family
- 16. Made threats to the victim's life
- 17. Made threats to the victim's family
- 18. Stalking/following and surveilling the victim

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Protection from Abuse (PFA) Definition

This section defines abuse for the purposes of applying for a protection from abuse order. Abuse is the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members:

1. Attempting to cause or causing (with or without a deadly weapon):
 - Bodily injury or serious bodily injury;
 - Rape;
 - Involuntary deviate sexual intercourse (oral sex, anal sex, vaginal or anal penetration with a foreign object performed under force or the threat of force, or while unconscious);
 - Sexual assault or statutory sexual assault;
 - Aggravated indecent assault (vaginal or anal penetration with a finger or other body part under force or threat of force, or while unconscious)
 - Indecent assault (touching a person's intimate parts for the purposes of arousal without consent, under force or threat of force, or while the person is unconscious)
 - Incest; or
2. Placing another in reasonable fear of immediate serious bodily injury;
3. False imprisonment;
4. Physical or sexual abuse of a child; or
5. Engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person, under circumstances which place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury¹

¹ 23 Pa.C.S.A. § 6102(a)