

Protecting your finances

Some tips if you are thinking about leaving a violent relationship



This flyer will help you think about planning for your financial safety in an emergency or if you are thinking about leaving a violent relationship. Your safety and that of any children you have is the most important consideration. If you contact support services make sure your phone calls or emails are not traceable by your partner and any documents or copies you put aside to take are not able to be found by your partner.

It's a good idea to have the following documents if you can:

1. **personal documents** e.g. driver's licence, Centrelink card, eftpos card, credit card, superannuation fund details, marriage certificate, will, passport, immigration documents, tax file number, important phone numbers, addresses, power of attorney.
2. **medical information** (for yourself and any children you have) e.g. Medicare card, medical history, prescriptions, health insurance card, birth certificate(s), immunisation records
3. **debts in your name or jointly** e.g. loans, credit cards, mortgage, store cards
4. **house and contents** e.g. property title deed, insurances, rental agreement, utility accounts (electricity, gas, water)
5. keep aside or give to a trusted person a small amount of **money, spare car keys**
6. If safe to do so, **open a bank account in your name** and if you ever have any spare money deposit it into this account.
7. Also, review who has access to your bank account/other accounts and change that access if necessary and if this is safe to do.



care inc.

1800 007 007

to speak to a financial counsellor

Always remember you are not responsible for your partner's violence, including economic violence. There are services listed on this flyer can help if you are experiencing any form of violence.



Violence in any form is unacceptable. If it is an emergency situation contact the police by calling

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This flyer is not a substitute for legal or financial counselling advice. Readers are advised to seek specific advice in relation to their particular situation. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this flyer is accurate at the time of publishing.



Specialist support services

Below are some services that can help you explore steps you could take if you decide to leave for your safety and security.

Domestic Violence Crisis Service ACT (DVCS)

Phone **02- 6280 0900** 24hours

TTY 02 6228 1852

Web: www.dvcs.org.au

Email: admin@dvcs.org.au

Crisis workers email: cw@dvcs.org.au

DVCS provides information, advocacy, support, education and referral on all domestic violence issues

Women's Legal Centre

Phone **02-6257 4499**

Web: www.womenslegalact.org

Email: contact via webpage

WLC advises on a wide range of issues including divorce, separation, domestic violence and property settlement.

Legal Aid ACT

Domestic Violence & Personal Protection Orders Unit

Phone **02 6207 1874**

Web: www.legalaidact.org.au

Email: DV@legalaidact.org.au

In person: Ground Floor Magistrates Court Building, 2 Knowles Place, Canberra City.

The DV&PPO Unit provides assistance and advocacy on domestic violence issues. If there is an immediate risk to your safety the Unit can assist you to apply for a Domestic Violence Order.

Care Financial Counselling Service and The Consumer Law Centre of the ACT

Phone **1800 007 007**

Web: www.carefcs.org

Email: admin@carefcs.org

Care provides support, information, advocacy, education and referral on financial issues

Onelink

Phone **1800 176 468**

Web: <http://onelink.org.au>

Email office@firstpoint.org.au

A service that helps with finding housing if you don't have anywhere to live.



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Document checklist

DOCUMENT/COPY	✓
Personal (and children)	✓
Birth certificate(s)	
Driver's licence	
Centrelink card	
Eftpos card	
Credit card	
Superannuation fund details	
Marriage certificate	
Passport	
Will	
Other?	
Medical (& children)	
Medicare card	
Medical history	
Prescriptions	
Medications	
Immunisation record(s)	
Other?	
Debts	
Loans	
Credit card	
Mortgage	
Store cards	
Other?	
House & Contents	
Property title deed	
Insurances	
Rental agreement	
Utility accounts	
Car registration	
Other?	
If possible also take	
Spare car keys	
Money	
Mobile phone & contacts	
Other?	