Safe at Home: CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS PROGRAM

Who is Eligible for *Safe at Home*?

The *Safe at Home* program is available for Connecticut residents who are or have been victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or risk of injury to a minor. Anyone living in the same household as the victim (for example, children, parents or siblings) may also be eligible to participate.

Safe at Home is designed to help survivors and their families who have had to move or are planning to move. The program provides a free mail-forwarding service to keep your new address safe and private.

If you are currently living in the same established, public address and are not planning to move, *Safe at Home* cannot protect the privacy of your current address.

How *Safe at Home* Works:

If you have moved or are planning to move and want to keep your new address private, *Safe at Home* can help. The program provides you with a substitute address to which all your first-class mail is sent. The Office of the Secretary of the State then forwards your mail to your new actual home address.

The substitute address can be used for local and state government agency records (like the Department of Motor Vehicles), court and government records (driver's license, library card, traffic tickets, vehicle registration, employment security, school records, workers' compensation). Your voter registration and marriage record can be kept confidential. On your voter registry, your name will appear but your street and house number will not be listed.

Enrolling in the Program:

Trained victim service professionals can support you in determining if *Safe at Home* suits you and your family's safety needs. You can contact your local domestic violence or sexual assault crisis center to schedule an in-person appointment to apply. These centers provide counseling, advocacy, and shelter services for victims. The victim service professionals will explain how the program works, help you fill out the application, and discuss any of your overall safety concerns. Toll free numbers and websites are provided in this brochure.

Becoming Certified:

Once you have completed your application in person at one of the centers, it is mailed to the Office of the Secretary of the State to be reviewed and certified.

When approved, you are given a new substitute address, certification code, and a certification card. Your certification card shows your substitute address and will be sent to you with a brochure explaining how it can be used when filling out forms. Local and State agencies must accept your substitute address. Private companies (department stores, banks, utility companies, etc.) are not required to accept the substitute address – but many do if participants explain their need to use the *Safe at Home* address.

Upon receiving your certification card, you can begin to change all your mail to the substitute address. The certification card alerts public agencies that you are in the *Safe at Home* program.

The *Safe at Home* address is effective for four years. At the end of the four-year period, you can renew your application. You can end the program at any time.

"Since 2004, the Office of the Secretary of the State has provided the Safe at Home program to help protect survivors of abuse, assault and stalking. Every person in Connecticut should feel and be safe at home."

Denise Merrill,
Secretary of the State

To find out more about how Safe at Home works and to receive information about applications and assistance, call to schedule your appointment:
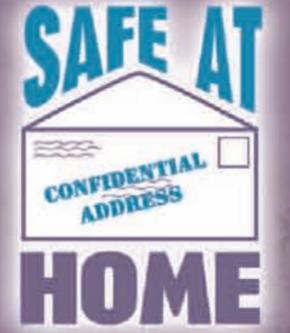
Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.
24 Hour Toll-Free Hotline
1-888-999-5545
1-888-568-8332 *En Español*

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence
24 Hour Toll-Free Hotline
1-888-774-2900

or go online:
www.connsacs.org
www.ctcadv.org

SAFE AT
CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS
HOME

Connecticut Safe at Home: A Confidential Address Program

for Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Survivors

SAFE AT
CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS
HOME

Cómo las víctimas del abuso y del acecho pueden ocultar la nueva dirección de su hogar y sentirse

Seguros En Su Casa