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### Giving Tuesday is Just a Week Away

You can make an even more significant difference in the lives of survivors of domestic violence by donating this #GivingTuesday, November 27, because **thanks to our generous supporters**, the first \$5,000 in donations will be doubled that day.

Donations allow low-income survivors of domestic violence to receive life-saving legal aid for free.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**November 27, 2018**

**#GIVINGTUESDAY**

**FVAP**  
Family Violence Appellate Project

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### Legal Victory for Children Who Witness Abuse

**Another FVAP legal victory!** We successfully obtained publication of *In re Bruno M.*, a case that sets new legal precedent for protecting the mental and emotional well-being of children. The case says that witnessing domestic violence in the home can cause mental and emotional distress in children that justifies protecting them with a restraining order. Social scientists have understood for many years the devastating effect on children of witnessing domestic violence, and this case now gives courts a tool to better protect children.

Another significant outcome from this case is it establishes that requesting a restraining order for a child against an abusive parent is appropriate if the abusive parent has threatened to take the child away.

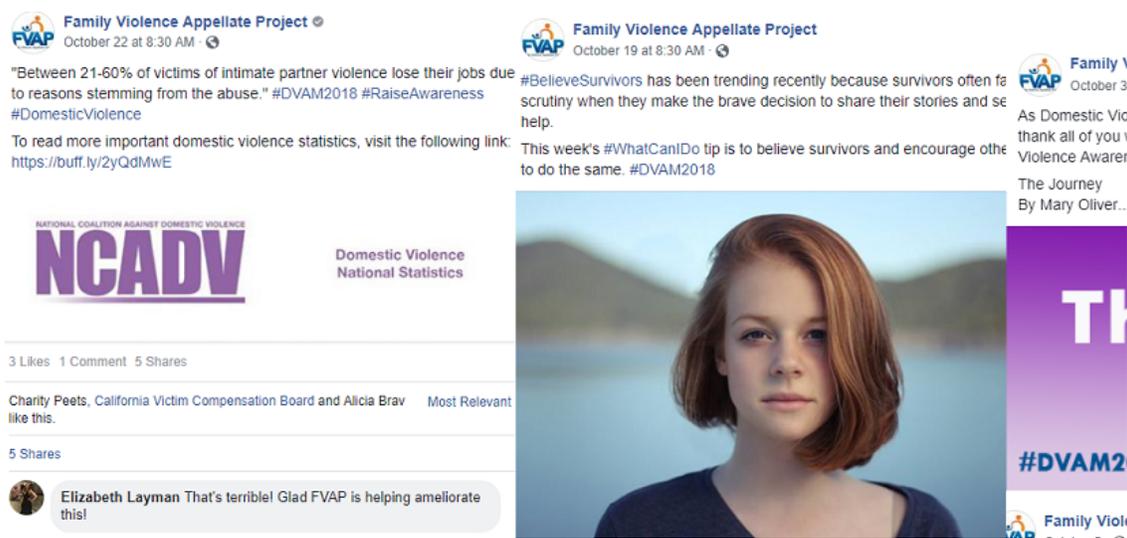
Learn more about FVAP's other legal victories by visiting our [Cases You Can Use](#) webpage.

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### Make Every Month Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Thank you for raising extra awareness this October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month #DVAM. Because of you, critical information was shared and important conversations occurred. At FVAP, we believe that raising awareness about domestic violence – bringing it into the public arena – will contribute to its end by fostering a public dialogue that says domestic violence is unacceptable in our society.

Did you miss our posts during Domestic Violence Awareness Month? You can still check them out on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.



## Spotlight: Team FVAP

We are proud to announce FVAP Staff Attorney [Cassandra Allison](#)'s article, *Navigating Appeals in Family Law Cases*, was published in the Battered Women's Justice Project's recent newsletter. The article highlights **the importance of legal aid at the appellate level for low-income survivors of domestic violence**, noting jarring statistics such as the average cost to appeal an unjust court outcome in California running \$40,000 to \$60,000 in attorney's fees alone. [Cassandra](#)'s article also does a deep dive into the multifaceted approach that FVAP uses to protect survivors of domestic violence—from appealing unjust court outcomes to submitting amicus (friend-of-the-court) briefs with valuable information to help courts make decisions.

We are also proud to congratulate [Janani Ramachandran](#), who occupies FVAP's law student Board seat, for receiving the inaugural Women Lawyers of Alameda County Rhoda and Judge Stuart Hing Scholarship, which is awarded to law students who have demonstrated commitment and advocacy to advance women in the legal profession and have shown this same attention to issues impacting women generally.

In addition, Janani recently did a teach-in training for lawyers in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month on domestic violence survivors' employment rights at Sustainable Economics Law Center, which you can learn more about on [their event webpage](#).

## Welcome to the Team

We are thrilled to announce that [Arati Vasan](#) has joined the FVAP team as our newest Senior Attorney. Arati was previously at Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (APILO) for 7 years, where she represented clients and coordinated the Domestic Violence Project. Prior to APILO, Arati had her own family law practice and worked with Bay Area Legal Aid. Arati has her Domestic Violence Counselor training from Asian Women's Shelter. She has been licensed to practice law in California since 2008.

## Join the Movement to End Domestic Violence in California

[Family Violence Appellate Project](#) is hiring a Manager of Finance and Administration to join our dynamic team in Oakland, California, for a significant role in support of social justice. Learn more about this position by visiting our [job announcement page](#).

We are also seeking Spring and Summer 2019 law clerks. Find more information about these roles at the following links:

- [Summer Law Clerk](#)
- [Spring Law Clerk](#)



*FVAP enjoying our 2018 holiday party together on November 16.*

Pictured: Erin Smith, Charity Peets, Dave Bay, Meg Bay, Cassandra Allison, Nate Allison, Michelle Kim, Theodore Ko, Arati Vasan, Jennafer Dorfman Wagner, Mark Wagner, and Jin Han.

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November 2018

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