



In this issue:

- **FVAP client secures permanent domestic violence restraining order after appellate victory**
- **FVAP oral argument being streamed live today**
- **New free trainings on domestic violence restraining orders now available**
- **Spotlight: Welcome to our newest team members**
- **Battle of the Bands rocks on**
- **Trial courts must address all 7 rebuttal factors before granting custody to domestic abusers**

FVAP client secures permanent domestic violence restraining order after appellate victory



Last December, [FVAP won an appellate victory](#) when the Court of Appeal [published its opinion](#) that our client, Priscila N., who received a domestic violence restraining order in **juvenile dependency court**, could have her restraining order renewed in **family court**. Priscila's case solidified that juvenile dependency courts and family courts throughout California should work together to implement the best protections for survivors of domestic violence. **The victory gave Priscila a second chance at justice** because the appellate court sent the case back to the trial court to hear Priscila's case.

We're thrilled to report that after going back to trial court, Priscila was not only granted a domestic violence restraining order renewal in family court, but it is also permanent. This is the strongest protection available to abuse survivors, and is somewhat rare to obtain. The fact the trial court saw that Priscila needs permanent protection shows how dangerous the original denial of protection was, and the **positive impact appeals can have** both for the safety of Priscila, and also for other survivors across California who may find themselves in situations similar to Priscila's.

FVAP attorneys [Anya Emerson](#), [Jennafer Dorfman Wagner](#), [Shuray S. Ghorishi](#), and [Erin C. Smith](#), were recognized with a [California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year Award](#) for outstanding achievement in family law in March 2018 for their work on Priscila's case, along with our co-counsel, **Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP** and **Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law**.

FVAP oral argument being streamed live today

Today, we're in oral argument in Fresno fighting for another survivor's right to fair treatment and custody of her child with co-counsel **Jenner & Block LLP**. The case is about custody and mutual restraining orders, an issue that disproportionately impacts the LGBTQI+ community.

This oral argument is being **broadcasted live at 1:15 pm**, and you can tune in on the [Judicial Branch of California](#) website.



New free trainings on domestic violence restraining orders now available

After collaborating with [Pro Bono Training Institute](#) on a year-long project to include training modules on domestic violence restraining order requests on their website, the modules are now up! [Pro Bono Training Institute](#) was created by Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, OneJustice, and Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles to address the need for attorneys to have free, readily available resources in a central place to use for pro bono work. A year ago, [FVAP](#) recognized that they did not yet have training modules on domestic violence restraining orders. We reached out to see where we could help and were able to collaborate. These training videos are meant to help **pro bono attorneys** as well as **domestic violence advocates** and **survivors** looking for information about the domestic violence restraining order process.

Training modules include:

- Making the Domestic Violence Restraining Order Request
- Safety Planning for a Domestic Violence Restraining Order Request
- Writing a Declaration for a Domestic Violence Restraining Order Request
- Mutual Domestic Violence Restraining Orders
- Domestic Violence Restraining Orders for Youth Applicants
- Basics of Presenting the Case and Prepping for Court for Domestic Violence Restraining Orders

To view any of the training videos on the [Pro Bono Training Institute website](#), visit <http://pbtraining.org/signup/>. Once you have created your account, log in at <http://pbtraining.org/>, click on "Training" and then "Domestic Violence Restraining Order Requests."

Spotlight: Welcome to our newest team members

We are so happy to welcome our new Housing & Employment Justice attorney, Taylor Campion, and our new Fellow, Michelle Kim, to team [FVAP](#).



Taylor Campion comes to [FVAP](#) after representing clients with housing and economics rights issues for years as a direct services attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid and the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley. As [FVAP](#)'s **Housing & Employment Justice** Attorney, Taylor's work will focus on decreasing domestic violence survivors' and their families' barriers to employment and housing.



Michelle Kim is a recent graduate of Berkeley Law. During law school, Michelle volunteered at various legal aid organizations around the Bay Area where she assisted survivors with employment, immigration, and family law issues arising out of domestic violence. As a Berkeley Law Public Interest Fellow, Michelle's project will focus on issues particular to **immigrant survivors** of domestic violence.

Battle of the Bands rocks on



Photos and **videos** from [Battle of the Bands](#) 2018 are now on the [Battle of the Bands](#) website. Again, thanks so much to all the bands that participated this year, and we hope you share these rockin' photos and videos with your friends and family. **With your support**, we raised over \$215,000 this year to support survivors of abuse and their children.

Trial courts must address all 7 rebuttal factors before granting custody to domestic abusers

[FVAP](#) is excited to share with you information about a recently published case, [Jaime G. v. H.L.](#) This published appellate opinion clarifies that before any custody can be granted to a domestic abuser, the

trial court must go through each of the **7 factors** in Family Code section 3044 and explain why those factors weigh in favor of granting any custody to an abuser seeking custody. This case will help ensure that trial courts give close attention to the factors that the Legislature has determined are most important to ensure the safety of survivors and children.

Congratulations to **Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice** and their co-counsel **Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher** for this wonderful victory. FVAP has been honored to work with and mentor this powerhouse appellate team for several years, and we're thrilled to see that **building the capacity of lawyers in California to appeal domestic violence cases is making a real difference for survivors**.

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