![FVAP - Family Violence Appellate Project logo]

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Sacramento Shooting is a Tragic Reminder Why Laws Must Change

Our hearts are heavy in light of a recent murder suicide, in which a father with a history of domestic violence and a restraining order against him killed his three children, an apparent child visitation supervisor, and then himself in a **Sacramento, California** church.

This incident is a reminder of many persistent issues involving domestic violence that we see in the legal system, many of which lead to **preventable loss of life**. Things like the fear survivors express in court not being taken seriously, courts prioritizing contact between abusive parents and children over safety, and a lack of domestic violence education among legal professionals lead to decisions that risk lives.

All of FVAP's cases come back to these issues. We appeal because the survivor's safety was not prioritized in trial court. We appeal because current domestic violence law, which is meant to keep survivors safe, was not followed. We appeal because domestic violence and worse can and should be stopped.

Tragic situations like this are what reinforce for our team the importance of our work to ensure survivors are getting safe legal outcomes for them and their children, and that our work creates lasting systemic change.

Please see the next segment to learn about two of the cases we're working on to **enforce survivors' rights to protection**.

FVAP in Court: Restraining Order Rights

Defending a Permanent Domestic Violence Restraining Order for Out of State Client

Earlier this week we were in oral argument on behalf of a survivor of domestic violence who has a domestic violence restraining order against her former husband. He and our client have been in and out of court in California but eventually our client, with the court's permission, moved out of state. The opposing party moved to the same state soon after. Our client later permanently renewed the domestic violence restraining order by a California court because she feared future abuse.

Among other things, the opposing party is arguing that by granting the permanent order, the trial court exceeded its jurisdiction. We with our co-counsel Crowell & Moring, LLP argued that the California court was correct when it decided it had the ability to renew the restraining order because no other court can renew a California order, and some abuse that prompted the renewal happened in California. We hope the court agrees.

Appealing the Denial of a Restraining Order After Multiple Allegations of Abuse
On March 22, we will represent our client who is appealing the denial of a restraining order. Our client has made multiple allegations of abuse against the opposing party, her husband, stating he physically assaulted her, got her fired, stalked her, and more.

It appears that had our client, who was self-represented at the trial level, testified about the evidence of the abuse she included in her written request, her request would have been granted–something the judge alluded to when denying her request. We were disappointed to hear this, as it is an illustration of a common problem of self-represented litigants not receiving adequate support by the legal system to successfully represent themselves.

We teamed up with co-counsel, Covington & Burling, to appeal the denial of the restraining order. The Court of Appeal just sent a tentative opinion of its ruling, which looks promising for our client.

Banding Together to End Domestic Violence

Banding Together to End Domestic Violence is coming your way on **Thursday, June 2**. This year's show will be **LIVE in person** *and* **live streamed for a virtual audience**.

Bands
The Band Information Packet just [mic] dropped. Applications to play the show are due **March 31**.

Sponsors
Show the world your firm or company cares about free legal aid for survivors of abuse by sponsoring our 10th Anniversary show. Check out the Sponsor Packet.

Volunteers
We are in need of volunteers for this year's in-person event. Reach out to staff@fvaplaw.org for more information.

Tickets
Stay tuned for our announcement about ticket sales coming soon!

Housing & Employment Justice Program: New Resources Available

FVAP's Housing & Employment Justice Program has two new resources to help survivors appeal eviction judgments.

Calculating Your Deadline to Appeal
This resource chart helps people figure out their deadline to file the Notice of Appeal form for limited civil appeals. The Notice to Appeal form is the first document that a person needs to file to appeal a limited civil judgment, like an eviction (unlawful detainer) judgment.

How to Fill Out Notice of Appeal Form (APP-102) for Limited Civil Cases
This tipsheet helps people fill out the Notice of Appeal form (APP-102), which is the form you need to file to appeal a limited civil judgment or order, like an eviction (unlawful detainer) judgment.

Access these resources by visiting our Legal Resource Library.

Washington Corner: New Team Member Spotlight

FVAP Washington is thrilled to announce the addition of an **Administrative Assistant** to our growing team.

Lennox (they/them) is a first-year MSW student at the University of Washington, and they come to FVAP with five years of anti-violence advocacy and administrative experience at the Northwest Network of Bi, Trans, Lesbian, and Gay Survivors of Abuse and Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services. They hope to continue to work with survivors of interpersonal violence after they graduate to support and co-facilitate their healing, community building, and generating interconnected networks of safety and care.

Welcome to the team, Lennox!

Our Contact Information
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