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SENATE BILL 12

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024**

INTRODUCED BY

Antoinette Sedillo Lopez and Pamelya Herndon

AN ACT

RELATING TO DOMESTIC AFFAIRS; RENAMING THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PROTECTION ACT AS THE PROTECTION AGAINST ABUSE AND VIOLENCE ACT; CLARIFYING DEFINITIONS; SPECIFYING THE STANDARD TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR CERTAIN ORDERS OF PROTECTION; AMENDING AND REPEALING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 1-4-5.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 314, Section 7 and Laws 1993, Chapter 316, Section 7, as amended) is amended to read:

"1-4-5.1. METHOD OF REGISTRATION--FORM.--

A. A qualified elector may apply for registration using the paper form by mail, in the office of the secretary of state or county clerk or with a registration agent or officer.

B. A person may request certificate of registration

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1 forms from the secretary of state or any county clerk in  
2 person, by telephone or by mail for that person or for other  
3 persons.

4 C. A qualified elector who wishes to register to  
5 vote shall fill out completely and sign the certificate of  
6 registration. The qualified elector may seek the assistance of  
7 any person in completing the certificate of registration.

8 D. A qualified elector who has filed for an order  
9 of protection pursuant to the provisions of the [~~Family~~  
10 ~~Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act and who  
11 presents a copy of that order from a state or tribal court to  
12 the registration officer shall be referred to the confidential  
13 address program administered by the secretary of state pursuant  
14 to the Confidential Substitute Address Act.

15 E. Completed certificates of registration may be  
16 mailed or presented in person by the registrant or any other  
17 person to the secretary of state, to the county clerk of the  
18 county in which the registrant resides or to any other county  
19 clerk in this state.

20 F. If the registrant wishes to vote in the next  
21 election, the completed and signed certificate of registration  
22 shall be delivered or mailed and postmarked within the time  
23 frame provided in Subsection A of Section 1-4-8 NMSA 1978.

24 G. Within one business day after receipt of a  
25 certificate of registration, the secretary of state shall send

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1 the certificate to the county clerk in the county where the  
2 qualified elector resides. Within one business day after  
3 receipt of a certificate of registration of another county, a  
4 county clerk shall send the certificate of registration to the  
5 county clerk in the county where the qualified elector resides.

6 H. Only when the certificate of registration is  
7 properly filled out, signed by the qualified elector and  
8 accepted for filing by the county clerk as evidenced by the  
9 county clerk's signature or stamp and the date of acceptance  
10 thereon shall it constitute an official public record of the  
11 registration of the qualified elector. A qualified elector  
12 complies with a voter registration deadline established in the  
13 Election Code when a properly filled-out voter registration  
14 certificate has been received by a county clerk or the  
15 secretary of state, regardless of the date the certificate is  
16 processed.

17 I. The secretary of state shall prescribe the form  
18 of the certificate of registration, which form shall be a  
19 postpaid mail-in format and shall be printed in Spanish and  
20 English. The certificate of registration form shall be clear  
21 and understandable to the average person and shall include  
22 brief but sufficient instructions to enable the qualified  
23 elector to complete the form without assistance. The form  
24 shall also include:

25 (1) the question "Are you a citizen of the

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1 United States of America?" and boxes for the applicant to check  
2 to indicate whether the applicant is or is not a citizen;

3 (2) the statement "If you checked 'no', do not  
4 complete this form.";

5 (3) a statement informing the applicant that:

6 (a) if the form is submitted by mail by  
7 the applicant and the applicant is registering for the first  
8 time in New Mexico, the applicant must submit with the form a  
9 copy of: 1) a photo identification issued by a government or  
10 educational institution; or 2) a current utility bill, bank  
11 statement, government check, paycheck, student identification  
12 card or other government document, including identification  
13 issued by an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo, that shows the  
14 name and current address of the applicant; and

15 (b) if the applicant does not submit the  
16 required documentary identification, the applicant will be  
17 required to do so when voting in person or absentee; and

18 (4) a statement requiring the applicant to  
19 swear or affirm that the information supplied by the applicant  
20 is true."

21 SECTION 2. Section 29-15-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1995,  
22 Chapter 146, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

23 "29-15-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Missing Persons  
24 Information and Reporting Act:

25 A. "Brittany alert" means a notification relating

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1 to an endangered person:

2 (1) who is a missing person; and

3 (2) about whom there is a clear indication  
4 that the person has a developmental disability as defined in  
5 Subsection A of Section 28-16A-6 NMSA 1978 and that the  
6 person's health or safety is at risk;

7 B. "child" means a person under the age of eighteen  
8 years who is not emancipated;

9 C. "clearinghouse" means the missing persons  
10 information clearinghouse;

11 D. "custodian" means a parent, guardian or other  
12 person who exercises legal physical control, care or custody of  
13 a child or of an adult with a developmental disability; or a  
14 person who performs one or more activities of daily living for  
15 an adult;

16 E. "endangered person" means a missing person who:

17 (1) is in imminent danger of causing harm to  
18 the person's self;

19 (2) is in imminent danger of causing harm to  
20 another;

21 (3) is in imminent danger of being harmed by  
22 another or who has been harmed by another;

23 (4) has been a victim of a crime as provided  
24 in the Crimes Against Household Members Act or in Section  
25 30-3A-3 or 30-3A-3.1 NMSA 1978, or their equivalents in any

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1 other jurisdiction;

2 (5) is or was protected by an order of  
3 protection pursuant to the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against  
4 Abuse and Violence Act;

5 (6) has Alzheimer's disease, dementia or  
6 another degenerative brain disorder or a brain injury; or

7 (7) has a developmental disability as defined  
8 in Subsection A of Section 28-16A-6 NMSA 1978 and that person's  
9 health or safety is at risk;

10 F. "immediate family member" means the spouse,  
11 nearest relative or close friend of a person;

12 G. "law enforcement agency" means a law enforcement  
13 agency of the state, a state agency or a political subdivision  
14 of the state;

15 H. "lead station" means an AM radio station that  
16 has been designated as the "state primary station" by the  
17 federal communications commission for the emergency alert  
18 system;

19 I. "missing person" means a person whose  
20 whereabouts are unknown to the person's custodian or immediate  
21 family member and the circumstances of whose absence indicate  
22 that:

23 (1) the person did not leave the care and  
24 control of the custodian or immediate family member voluntarily  
25 and the taking of the person was not authorized by law; or

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1 (2) the person voluntarily left the care and  
2 control of the custodian without the custodian's consent and  
3 without intent to return;

4 J. "missing person report" means information that  
5 is:

6 (1) given to a law enforcement agency on a  
7 form used for sending information to the national crime  
8 information center; and

9 (2) about a person whose whereabouts are  
10 unknown to the reporter and who is alleged in the form  
11 submitted by the reporter to be missing;

12 K. "person" means an individual, regardless of age;

13 L. "possible match" means the similarities between  
14 unidentified human remains and a missing person that would lead  
15 one to believe they are the same person;

16 M. "reporter" means the person who reports a  
17 missing person;

18 N. "silver alert" means a notification relating to  
19 an endangered person:

20 (1) who is a missing person; and

21 (2) who is fifty years or older; or

22 (3) about whom there is a clear indication  
23 that the individual suffers from Alzheimer's disease or another  
24 form of dementia, regardless of age;

25 O. "state agency" means an agency of the state, a

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1 political subdivision of the state or a public post-secondary  
2 educational institution; and

3 P. "state registrar" means the employee so  
4 designated by the public health division of the department of  
5 health pursuant to the Vital Statistics Act."

6 SECTION 3. Section 30-1-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2002,  
7 Chapter 34, Section 1 and Laws 2002, Chapter 35, Section 1, as  
8 amended) is amended to read:

9 "30-1-15. ALLEGED VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE, STALKING OR  
10 SEXUAL ASSAULT--FORBEARANCE OF COSTS.--

11 A. An alleged victim of an offense specified in  
12 Subsection B of this section is not required to bear the cost  
13 of:

14 (1) the prosecution of a misdemeanor or felony  
15 domestic violence offense, including costs associated with  
16 filing a criminal charge against an alleged perpetrator of the  
17 offense;

18 (2) the filing, issuance or service of a  
19 warrant;

20 (3) the filing, issuance or service of a  
21 witness subpoena; or

22 (4) the filing, issuance, registration or  
23 service of a protection order.

24 B. The provisions of Subsection A of this section  
25 apply to:

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- 1 (1) alleged victims of domestic abuse as  
2 defined in Section 40-13-2 NMSA 1978;
- 3 (2) sexual offenses described in Sections  
4 30-9-11 through 30-9-14 and 30-9-14.3 NMSA 1978;
- 5 (3) crimes against household members described  
6 in Sections 30-3-12 through 30-3-16 NMSA 1978;
- 7 (4) harassment, stalking and aggravated  
8 stalking described in Sections 30-3A-2 through 30-3A-3.1 NMSA  
9 1978; and
- 10 (5) the violation of an order of protection  
11 that is issued pursuant to the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection  
12 Against Abuse and Violence Act or entitled to full faith and  
13 credit."

14 SECTION 4. That version of Section 31-12-12 NMSA 1978  
15 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 387, Section 2, as amended) that is  
16 to become effective July 1, 2024 is amended to read:

17 "31-12-12. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER TREATMENT OR  
18 INTERVENTION FUND CREATED--APPROPRIATION--PROGRAM  
19 REQUIREMENTS.--

20 A. The "domestic violence offender treatment or  
21 intervention fund" is created in the state treasury. The fund  
22 consists of gifts, grants, donations, appropriations and  
23 distributions to the fund made pursuant to the Tax  
24 Administration Act.

25 B. Balances in the domestic violence offender  
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1 treatment or intervention fund are appropriated to the  
2 children, youth and families department to provide funds to  
3 domestic violence offender treatment or intervention programs  
4 to defray the cost of providing treatment or intervention to  
5 domestic violence offenders. Unexpended or unencumbered  
6 balances remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year  
7 shall not revert to the general fund.

8 C. Payment out of the domestic violence offender  
9 treatment or intervention fund shall be made on vouchers issued  
10 and signed by the secretary of children, youth and families  
11 upon warrants drawn by the department of finance and  
12 administration.

13 D. In order to be eligible for money from the  
14 domestic violence offender treatment or intervention fund, a  
15 domestic violence offender treatment or intervention program  
16 shall include the following components in its program:

17 (1) an initial assessment to determine if a  
18 domestic violence offender will benefit from participation in  
19 the program;

20 (2) a written contract, which must be signed  
21 by the domestic violence offender, that sets forth:

22 (a) attendance and participation  
23 requirements;

24 (b) consequences for failure to attend  
25 or participate in the program; and

1 (c) a confidentiality clause that  
2 prohibits disclosure of information revealed during treatment  
3 or intervention sessions;

4 (3) strategies to hold domestic violence  
5 offenders accountable for their violent behavior;

6 (4) a requirement that group discussions are  
7 limited to members of the same gender;

8 (5) an education component that:

9 (a) defines physical, emotional, sexual,  
10 economic and verbal abuse and techniques for stopping those  
11 forms of abuse; and

12 (b) examines gender roles,  
13 socialization, the nature of violence, the dynamics of power  
14 and control and the effects of domestic violence on children;

15 (6) a requirement that a domestic violence  
16 offender not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs during  
17 a treatment or intervention session;

18 (7) a requirement, except with respect to a  
19 domestic violence offender who is a voluntary participant in  
20 the program, that the program provide monthly written reports  
21 to the presiding judge or the domestic violence offender's  
22 probation or parole officer regarding:

23 (a) proof of the domestic violence  
24 offender's enrollment in the program;

25 (b) progress reports that address the

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1 domestic violence offender's attendance, fee payments and  
2 compliance with other program requirements; and

3 (c) evaluations of progress made by the  
4 domestic violence offender and recommendations as to whether or  
5 not to require the offender's further participation in the  
6 program; and

7 (8) a requirement that the term of the program  
8 be at least fifty-two weeks.

9 E. Counseling for couples shall not be a component  
10 of a domestic violence offender treatment or intervention  
11 program.

12 F. As used in this section, "domestic violence  
13 offender" means a person:

14 (1) convicted for an offense pursuant to the  
15 provisions of the Crimes Against Household Members Act;

16 (2) convicted for violating an order of  
17 protection granted by a court pursuant to the provisions of the  
18 [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act;

19 (3) referred to a domestic violence offender  
20 treatment or intervention program by a judge, a domestic  
21 violence special commissioner or the parole board; or

22 (4) who voluntarily participates in a domestic  
23 violence offender treatment or intervention program."

24 SECTION 5. Section 32A-2-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,  
25 Chapter 77, Section 32, as amended) is amended to read:

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1 "32A-2-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Delinquency Act:

2 A. "delinquent act" means an act committed by a  
3 child that would be designated as a crime under the law if  
4 committed by an adult, not including a violation of Section  
5 30-9-2 NMSA 1978, including the following offenses:

6 (1) any of the following offenses pursuant to  
7 municipal traffic codes or the Motor Vehicle Code:

8 (a) driving while under the influence of  
9 intoxicating liquor or drugs;

10 (b) failure to stop in the event of an  
11 accident causing death, personal injury or damage to property;

12 (c) unlawful taking of a vehicle or  
13 motor vehicle;

14 (d) receiving or transferring of a  
15 stolen vehicle or motor vehicle;

16 (e) homicide by vehicle;

17 (f) injuring or tampering with a  
18 vehicle;

19 (g) altering or changing of an engine  
20 number or other vehicle identification numbers;

21 (h) altering or forging of a driver's  
22 license or permit or any making of a fictitious license or  
23 permit;

24 (i) reckless driving;

25 (j) driving with a suspended or revoked

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1 license; or

2 (k) an offense punishable as a felony;

3 (2) buying, attempting to buy, receiving,  
4 possessing or being served any alcoholic liquor or being  
5 present in a licensed liquor establishment, other than a  
6 restaurant or a licensed retail liquor establishment, except in  
7 the presence of the child's parent, guardian, custodian or  
8 adult spouse. As used in this paragraph, "restaurant" means an  
9 establishment where meals are prepared and served primarily for  
10 on-premises consumption and that has a dining room, a kitchen  
11 and the employees necessary for preparing, cooking and serving  
12 meals. "Restaurant" does not include an establishment, as  
13 defined in regulations promulgated by the director of the  
14 special investigations unit of the department of public safety,  
15 that serves only hamburgers, sandwiches, salads and other fast  
16 foods;

17 (3) a violation of Section 30-29-2 NMSA 1978,  
18 regarding the illegal use of a glue, aerosol spray product or  
19 other chemical substance;

20 (4) a violation of the Controlled Substances  
21 Act;

22 (5) escape from the custody of a law  
23 enforcement officer or a juvenile probation or parole officer  
24 or from any placement made by the department by a child who has  
25 been adjudicated a delinquent child;

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1 (6) a violation of Section 30-15-1.1 NMSA 1978  
2 regarding unauthorized graffiti on personal or real property;  
3 or

4 (7) a violation of an order of protection  
5 issued pursuant to the provisions of the [~~Family Violence~~]  
6 Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act;

7 B. "delinquent child" means a child who has  
8 committed a delinquent act;

9 C. "delinquent offender" means a delinquent child  
10 who is subject to juvenile sanctions only and who is not a  
11 youthful offender or a serious youthful offender;

12 D. "detention facility" means a place where a child  
13 may be detained under the Children's Code pending court hearing  
14 and does not include a facility for the care and rehabilitation  
15 of an adjudicated delinquent child;

16 E. "felony" means an act that would be a felony if  
17 committed by an adult;

18 F. "misdemeanor" means an act that would be a  
19 misdemeanor or petty misdemeanor if committed by an adult;

20 G. "restitution" means financial reimbursement by  
21 the child to the victim or community service imposed by the  
22 court and is limited to easily ascertainable damages for injury  
23 to or loss of property, actual expenses incurred for medical,  
24 psychiatric and psychological treatment for injury to a person  
25 and lost wages resulting from physical injury, which are a

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1 direct and proximate result of a delinquent act. "Restitution"  
2 does not include reimbursement for damages for mental anguish,  
3 pain and suffering or other intangible losses. As used in this  
4 subsection, "victim" means a person who is injured or suffers  
5 damage of any kind by an act that is the subject of a complaint  
6 or referral to law enforcement officers or juvenile probation  
7 authorities. Nothing contained in this definition limits or  
8 replaces the provisions of Subsections A and B of Section  
9 32A-2-27 NMSA 1978;

10 H. "serious youthful offender" means an individual  
11 fifteen to eighteen years of age who is charged with and  
12 indicted or bound over for trial for first degree murder. A  
13 "serious youthful offender" is not a delinquent child as  
14 defined pursuant to the provisions of this section;

15 I. "supervised release" means the release of a  
16 juvenile, whose term of commitment has not expired, from a  
17 facility for the care and rehabilitation of adjudicated  
18 delinquent children, with specified conditions to protect  
19 public safety and promote successful transition and  
20 reintegration into the community. A juvenile on supervised  
21 release is subject to monitoring by the department until the  
22 term of commitment has expired and may be returned to custody  
23 for violating conditions of release; and

24 J. "youthful offender" means a delinquent child  
25 subject to adult or juvenile sanctions who is:

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1                   (1) fourteen to eighteen years of age at the  
2 time of the offense and who is adjudicated for at least one of  
3 the following offenses:

4                   (a) second degree murder, as provided in  
5 Section 30-2-1 NMSA 1978;

6                   (b) assault with intent to commit a  
7 violent felony, as provided in Section 30-3-3 NMSA 1978;

8                   (c) kidnapping, as provided in Section  
9 30-4-1 NMSA 1978;

10                   (d) aggravated battery, as provided in  
11 Subsection C of Section 30-3-5 NMSA 1978;

12                   (e) aggravated battery against a  
13 household member, as provided in Subsection C of Section  
14 30-3-16 NMSA 1978;

15                   (f) aggravated battery upon a peace  
16 officer, as provided in Subsection C of Section 30-22-25 NMSA  
17 1978;

18                   (g) shooting at a dwelling or occupied  
19 building or shooting at or from a motor vehicle, as provided in  
20 Section 30-3-8 NMSA 1978;

21                   (h) dangerous use of explosives, as  
22 provided in Section 30-7-5 NMSA 1978;

23                   (i) criminal sexual penetration, as  
24 provided in Section 30-9-11 NMSA 1978;

25                   (j) robbery, as provided in Section

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1 30-16-2 NMSA 1978;

2 (k) aggravated burglary, as provided in  
3 Section 30-16-4 NMSA 1978;

4 (l) aggravated arson, as provided in  
5 Section 30-17-6 NMSA 1978; or

6 (m) abuse of a child that results in  
7 great bodily harm or death to the child, as provided in Section  
8 30-6-1 NMSA 1978;

9 (2) fourteen to eighteen years of age at the  
10 time of the offense, who is adjudicated for any felony offense  
11 and who has had three prior, separate felony adjudications  
12 within a three-year time period immediately preceding the  
13 instant offense. The felony adjudications relied upon as prior  
14 adjudications shall not have arisen out of the same transaction  
15 or occurrence or series of events related in time and location.  
16 Successful completion of consent decrees is not considered a  
17 prior adjudication for the purposes of this paragraph; or

18 (3) fourteen years of age and who is  
19 adjudicated for first degree murder, as provided in Section  
20 30-2-1 NMSA 1978."

21 SECTION 6. Section 34-8A-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1979,  
22 Chapter 346, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

23 "34-8A-6. METROPOLITAN COURT--RULES--APPEAL.--

24 A. The supreme court shall adopt separate rules of  
25 procedure for the metropolitan courts. The rules shall provide

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1 simple procedures for the just, speedy and inexpensive  
2 determination of any metropolitan court action.

3 B. Other than for actions brought pursuant to the  
4 Uniform Owner-Resident Relations Act, the metropolitan court is  
5 a court of record for civil actions. Any party aggrieved by a  
6 judgment rendered by the metropolitan court in a civil action  
7 may appeal to the court of appeals. The manner and method for  
8 the appeal shall be set forth by supreme court rule.

9 C. The metropolitan court is not a court of record  
10 for civil actions brought pursuant to the Uniform Owner-  
11 Resident Relations Act. Any party aggrieved by a judgment  
12 rendered by the metropolitan court in a civil action brought  
13 pursuant to the Uniform Owner-Resident Relations Act may appeal  
14 to the district court of the county in which the metropolitan  
15 court is located within fifteen days after the judgment was  
16 rendered. The appeal shall be de novo.

17 D. The metropolitan court is a court of record for  
18 criminal actions involving driving while under the influence of  
19 intoxicating liquor or drugs or involving domestic violence. A  
20 criminal action involving domestic violence means an assault or  
21 battery under any state law or municipal or county ordinance in  
22 which the alleged victim is a household member as defined in  
23 the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence  
24 Act. Any party aggrieved by a judgment rendered by the  
25 metropolitan court in a criminal action involving driving while

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1 under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs or  
2 involving domestic violence may appeal to the court of appeals.  
3 The manner and method of appeal shall be set forth by supreme  
4 court rule.

5 E. The metropolitan court is not a court of record  
6 for criminal actions other than driving while under the  
7 influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs or domestic violence  
8 actions. Any party aggrieved by a judgment rendered by the  
9 metropolitan court in a criminal action, other than driving  
10 while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs or  
11 domestic violence action, may appeal to the district court of  
12 the county in which the metropolitan court is located within  
13 fifteen days after the judgment was rendered. The appeal shall  
14 be de novo.

15 F. All judgments rendered in civil actions in the  
16 metropolitan court shall be subject to the same provisions of  
17 law as those rendered in district court."

18 SECTION 7. Section 40-4-7.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1999,  
19 Chapter 123, Section 1) is amended to read:

20 "40-4-7.2. BINDING ARBITRATION OPTION--PROCEDURE.--

21 A. Parties to an action for divorce, separation,  
22 custody or time-sharing, child support, spousal support,  
23 marital property and debt division or attorney fees related to  
24 such matters, including any post-judgment proceeding, may  
25 stipulate to binding arbitration by a signed agreement that

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1 provides for an award with respect to one or more of the  
2 following issues:

- 3 (1) valuation and division of real and  
4 personal property;  
5 (2) child support, custody, time-sharing or  
6 visitation;  
7 (3) spousal support;  
8 (4) costs, expenses and attorney fees;  
9 (5) enforceability of prenuptial and  
10 post-nuptial agreements;  
11 (6) determination and allocation of  
12 responsibility for debt as between the parties;  
13 (7) any civil tort claims related to any of  
14 the foregoing; or  
15 (8) other contested domestic relations  
16 matters.

17 B. A court may not order a party to participate in  
18 arbitration except to the extent a party has agreed to  
19 participate pursuant to a written arbitration agreement. When  
20 the party involved is a minor, [~~then his~~] the minor's parent  
21 must consent to arbitration. When the party involved is a  
22 minor with a guardian ad litem, the guardian ad litem must  
23 provide written consent. When the party involved is a minor  
24 without a guardian ad litem, [~~then~~] in order for arbitration to  
25 proceed the court must find that arbitration is in the best

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1 interest of the minor.

2 C. Arbitration pursuant to this section shall be  
3 heard by one or more [~~arbitrator~~] arbitrators. The court shall  
4 appoint an arbitrator agreed to by the parties if the  
5 arbitrator consents to the appointment.

6 D. If the parties have not agreed to an arbitrator,  
7 the court shall appoint an arbitrator who:

8 (1) is an attorney in good standing with the  
9 state bar of New Mexico;

10 (2) has practiced as an attorney for not less  
11 than five years immediately preceding the appointment and  
12 actively practiced in the area of domestic relations during  
13 three of those five years. Any period of time during which a  
14 person serves as a judge, special master or child support  
15 hearing officer is considered as actively practicing in the  
16 area of domestic relations; or

17 (3) is another professional licensed and  
18 experienced in the subject matter that is the area of the  
19 dispute.

20 E. An arbitrator [~~appointed pursuant to this~~  
21 ~~section~~] is immune from liability in regard to the arbitration  
22 proceeding to the same extent as the judge who has jurisdiction  
23 of the action [~~that is~~] submitted to arbitration.

24 F. Objections to the qualifications of an  
25 arbitrator must be raised in connection with the appointment by

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1 the court or they are waived. The court will permit parties to  
2 raise objections based on qualifications within ten days of  
3 appointment of an arbitrator. Parties who agree on an  
4 arbitrator waive objections to ~~[his]~~ the arbitrator's  
5 qualifications.

6 G. An arbitrator appointed pursuant to this  
7 section:

8 (1) shall hear and make an award on each issue  
9 submitted for arbitration pursuant to the arbitration agreement  
10 subject to the provisions of the agreement; and

11 (2) has all of the following powers and  
12 duties:

13 (a) to administer an oath or issue a  
14 subpoena as provided by court rule;

15 (b) to issue orders regarding discovery  
16 proceedings relative to the issues being arbitrated, including  
17 appointment of experts; and

18 (c) to allocate arbitration fees and  
19 expenses between the parties, including imposing a fee or  
20 expense on a party or attorney as a sanction for failure to  
21 provide information, subject to provisions of the arbitration  
22 agreement.

23 H. An arbitrator, attorney or party in an  
24 arbitration proceeding ~~[pursuant to this section]~~ shall  
25 disclose in writing any circumstances that may affect an

1 arbitrator's impartiality, including bias, financial interests,  
2 personal interests or family relationships. Upon disclosure of  
3 such a circumstance, a party may request disqualification of  
4 the arbitrator. If the arbitrator does not withdraw within  
5 seven days after a request for disqualification, the party may  
6 file a motion for disqualification with the court.

7 I. If the court finds that the arbitrator is  
8 disqualified, the court may appoint another arbitrator, subject  
9 to the provisions of the arbitration agreement.

10 J. As soon as practicable after the appointment of  
11 the arbitrator, the parties and attorneys shall confer with the  
12 arbitrator to consider all of the following:

- 13 (1) scope of the issues submitted;
- 14 (2) date, time and place of the hearing;
- 15 (3) witnesses, including experts, who may  
16 testify;
- 17 (4) appointment of experts and a schedule for  
18 exchange of expert reports or summary of expert testimony; and
- 19 (5) subject to the provisions of Subsection K  
20 of this section, exhibits, documents or other information each  
21 party considers material to the case and a schedule for  
22 production or exchange of the information. An objection not  
23 made before the hearing to production or lack of production of  
24 information is waived.

25 K. The arbitrator shall order reasonable access to



1 information for each party that is material to the arbitration  
2 issues prior to the hearing, including the following:

3 (1) a current complete sworn financial  
4 disclosure statement, when financial matters are at issue;

5 (2) if a court has issued an order concerning  
6 an issue subject to arbitration, a copy of the order;

7 (3) any relevant documents related to the  
8 arbitration issues defined by the arbitrator;

9 (4) proposed award by each party for each  
10 issue subject to arbitration; and

11 (5) expert opinions of experts to be used by  
12 either party or appointed by the arbitrator.

13 L. Except as otherwise provided by this section,  
14 court rule or the arbitration agreement, a record shall not  
15 [~~ordinarily~~] be made of an arbitration hearing [~~pursuant to~~  
16 ~~this section~~] unless either party requests it. If a record is  
17 not required, an arbitrator may make a record to be used only  
18 by the arbitrator to aid in reaching the decision.

19 M. Unless waived by the parties, a record shall be  
20 made of that portion of the hearing that concerns child  
21 custody, visitation or time-sharing.

22 N. The arbitration agreement may set forth any  
23 standards on which an award should be based, including the law  
24 to be applied. An arbitration agreement shall provide that in  
25 deciding child support issues, the arbitrator shall apply

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1 Section 40-4-11.1 NMSA 1978 when setting or modifying a child  
2 support order.

3 O. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties and  
4 arbitrator in writing or on the record, the arbitrator shall  
5 issue the written award on each issue within sixty days after  
6 the end of the hearing and after receipt of proposed findings  
7 of fact and conclusions of law if requested by the arbitrator.

8 P. If the parties reach an agreement regarding  
9 child custody, time-sharing or visitation, the agreement shall  
10 be placed on the record by the parties under oath and shall be  
11 included in the arbitrator's written award.

12 Q. The arbitrator retains jurisdiction to correct  
13 errors or omissions in an award upon motion by a party to the  
14 arbitrator within twenty days after the award is issued or upon  
15 the arbitrator's own motion. Another party to the arbitration  
16 may respond to the motion within seven days after the motion is  
17 made. The arbitrator shall make a decision on the motion  
18 within seven days after the expiration of the response time  
19 period.

20 R. The court shall enforce an arbitrator's award or  
21 other order ~~[issued pursuant to this section]~~ in the same  
22 manner as an order issued by the court. A party may make a  
23 motion to the court to enforce an arbitrator's award or order.

24 S. ~~[Any]~~ A party in an action that was submitted to  
25 arbitration ~~[pursuant to this section]~~ shall file with the

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1 court a stipulated order or a motion to enforce the award  
2 within twenty-one days after the arbitrator's award is issued  
3 unless otherwise agreed to by the parties in writing or unless  
4 the arbitrator or court grants an extension.

5 T. If a party applies to the court for vacation of  
6 an arbitrator's award [~~in binding arbitration issued pursuant~~  
7 ~~to this section~~] that concerns child custody, time-sharing or  
8 visitation, the court shall review the award [~~based~~] using only  
9 [~~upon~~] the record of the arbitration hearing and factual  
10 matters that have arisen since the arbitration hearing that are  
11 relevant to the claim. The court may vacate an award of  
12 custody, time-sharing or visitation made in binding arbitration  
13 if the court finds that circumstances have changed since  
14 issuance of the award that are adverse to the best interests of  
15 the child, upon a finding that the award will cause harm or be  
16 detrimental to a child or pursuant to Subsections U and V of  
17 this section. An arbitration agreement may provide a broader  
18 scope of review of custody, time-sharing or visitation issues  
19 by the court, and such review will apply if broader than this  
20 section.

21 U. If a party applies to the court for vacation or  
22 modification of an arbitrator's award [~~issued pursuant to this~~  
23 ~~section~~], the court shall review the award only as provided in  
24 Subsections T and V of this section.

25 V. [~~If a party applies under this section~~] The

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1 court may vacate, modify or correct an award under any of the  
2 following circumstances:

3 (1) the award was procured by corruption,  
4 fraud or other undue means;

5 (2) there was evident partiality by an  
6 arbitrator or misconduct prejudicing a party's rights;

7 (3) the arbitrator exceeded [~~his~~] the  
8 arbitrator's powers; or

9 (4) the arbitrator refused to postpone the  
10 hearing on a showing of sufficient cause or refused to hear  
11 evidence substantial and material to the controversy.

12 W. An application to vacate an award on grounds  
13 stated in Subsections [~~U~~] T and V of this section shall be  
14 decided by the court. If an award is vacated on grounds stated  
15 in Paragraph (3) or (4) of Subsection V of this section, the  
16 court may order a rehearing before the arbitrator who made the  
17 award when both parties consent to the rehearing before the  
18 arbitrator who made the award.

19 X. An appeal from an arbitration award [~~pursuant to~~  
20 ~~this section~~] that the court confirms, vacates, modifies or  
21 corrects shall be taken in this same manner as from an order or  
22 judgment in other domestic relations actions.

23 Y. No arbitrator may decide issues of a criminal  
24 nature or make decisions on petitions pursuant to the [~~Family~~  
25 ~~Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act."

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1 SECTION 8. Section 40-13-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
2 Chapter 286, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

3 "40-13-1. SHORT TITLE.--Chapter 40, Article 13 NMSA 1978  
4 may be cited as the "~~[Family Violence]~~ Protection Against Abuse  
5 and Violence Act"."

6 SECTION 9. Section 40-13-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
7 Chapter 286, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

8 "40-13-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the ~~[Family Violence]~~  
9 Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act:

10 A. "abuse" means:

11 (1) an incident or pattern of stalking or  
12 sexual assault, whether committed by a household member or not;  
13 or

14 (2) an incident or pattern of behavior by a  
15 household member against another household member consisting of  
16 or resulting in:

17 (a) physical harm or temporary or  
18 permanent bodily injury;

19 (b) battery, assault or threats causing  
20 imminent fear of abuse;

21 (c) strangulation or suffocation;

22 (d) severe emotional distress that may  
23 include fear, depression, anxiety or loss of sleep;

24 (e) harassment or intimidation that may  
25 include repeatedly driving by a residence or workplace for no

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1 lawful purpose or following in public places;

2 (f) telephone harassment, internet  
3 harassment or harassment through other digital or electronic  
4 means;

5 (g) kidnapping, false imprisonment or  
6 restricting or prohibiting movement;

7 (h) interference with communication;

8 (i) exploitation or forced criminal  
9 activity;

10 (j) criminal damage to or deprivation of  
11 real or personal property or damage to jointly owned or  
12 community property;

13 (k) harm or threatened harm to children;

14 (l) harm or threatened harm to an  
15 animal;

16 (m) unauthorized distribution of  
17 sensitive images;

18 (n) criminal trespass; or

19 (o) threats to disclose immigration  
20 status;

21 ~~[A.]~~ B. "continuing personal relationship" means a  
22 dating or intimate relationship;

23 ~~[B.]~~ C. "co-parents" means persons who have a child  
24 in common, regardless of whether they have been married or have  
25 lived together at any time;

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1           ~~[G.]~~ D. "court" means the district court of the  
2 judicial district where an alleged victim of ~~[domestic]~~ abuse  
3 resides or is found or where the alleged abuse occurred;

4           ~~[D. "domestic abuse":~~

5                   ~~(1) means an incident of stalking or sexual~~  
6 ~~assault whether committed by a household member or not;~~

7                   ~~(2) means an incident by a household member~~  
8 ~~against another household member consisting of or resulting in:~~

9                           ~~(a) physical harm;~~

10                           ~~(b) severe emotional distress;~~

11                           ~~(c) bodily injury or assault;~~

12                           ~~(d) a threat causing imminent fear of~~  
13 ~~bodily injury by any household member;~~

14                           ~~(e) criminal trespass;~~

15                           ~~(f) criminal damage to property;~~

16                           ~~(g) repeatedly driving by a residence or~~  
17 ~~work place;~~

18                           ~~(h) telephone harassment;~~

19                           ~~(i) harassment;~~

20                           ~~(j) strangulation;~~

21                           ~~(k) suffocation; or~~

22                           ~~(l) harm or threatened harm to children~~  
23 ~~as set forth in this paragraph; and~~

24                   ~~(3) does not mean the use of force in self-~~  
25 ~~defense or the defense of another;]~~

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1           E. "credible threat" means a condition or situation  
2 that causes a reasonable person, based on the totality of the  
3 circumstances, to fear for the person's physical safety or for  
4 the physical safety of another and may be demonstrated by  
5 evidence of a statement, an act or a course of conduct  
6 attributed to the respondent and does not require the use or  
7 threatened use of a firearm;

8           ~~[E.]~~ F. "firearm" means any weapon that will or is  
9 designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile  
10 by the action of an explosion or the frame or receiver of any  
11 such weapon;

12           ~~[F.]~~ G. "household member" means a spouse, former  
13 spouse, parent, present or former stepparent, present or former  
14 parent-in-law, grandparent, grandparent-in-law, child,  
15 stepchild, grandchild, co-parent of a child or a person with  
16 whom the petitioner has had a continuing personal relationship.  
17 Cohabitation is not necessary to be deemed a household member  
18 for purposes of this section;

19           ~~[G.]~~ H. "law enforcement officer" means a public  
20 official or public officer vested by law with a duty to  
21 maintain public order or to make arrests for crime, whether  
22 that duty extends to all crimes or is limited to specific  
23 crimes;

24           ~~[H. "mutual order of protection" means an order of~~  
25 ~~protection that includes provisions that protect both parties;]~~

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1 I. "order of protection" means an injunction or a  
2 restraining or other court order granted for the protection of  
3 a victim of [~~domestic~~] abuse;

4 J. "protected party" means a person protected by an  
5 order of protection;

6 K. "restrained party" means a person who is  
7 restrained by an order of protection;

8 L. "strangulation" has the same meaning as set  
9 forth in Section 30-3-11 NMSA 1978; and

10 M. "suffocation" has the same meaning as set forth  
11 in Section 30-3-11 NMSA 1978."

12 SECTION 10. Section 40-13-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
13 Chapter 286, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

14 "40-13-3. PETITION FOR ORDER OF PROTECTION--CONTENTS--  
15 STANDARD FORMS.--

16 A. A victim of [~~domestic~~] abuse may petition the  
17 court under the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and  
18 Violence Act for an order of protection.

19 B. The petition shall be made under oath or shall  
20 be accompanied by a sworn affidavit setting out specific facts  
21 showing the alleged [~~domestic~~] abuse.

22 C. The petition shall state whether any [~~other~~]  
23 domestic action is pending between the petitioner and the  
24 respondent.

25 D. [~~If any other domestic action is pending between~~  
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1 ~~the petitioner and the respondent]~~ The parties shall not be  
2 compelled to mediate any aspect of the case arising from the  
3 ~~[Family Violence]~~ Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act  
4 unless the court finds that appropriate safeguards exist to  
5 protect each of the parties and that both parties can fairly  
6 mediate with such safeguards.

7 E. An action brought under the ~~[Family Violence]~~  
8 Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act is independent of any  
9 ~~[proceeding for annulment, separation or divorce between the~~  
10 ~~parties]~~ civil case involving the parties, including a  
11 proceeding for annulment, separation or divorce, and a criminal  
12 case involving the parties that did not arise from a violation  
13 of the Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act.

14 F. Remedies granted pursuant to the ~~[Family~~  
15 ~~Violence]~~ Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act are in  
16 addition to and shall not limit other civil or criminal  
17 remedies available to the parties.

18 G. Standard simplified petition forms with  
19 instructions for completion shall be available to all parties.  
20 Law enforcement agencies shall keep such forms and make them  
21 available upon request to alleged victims of ~~[domestic]~~ abuse.

22 H. The petitioner shall notify the court if the  
23 petitioner's or respondent's primary language is a language  
24 other than English and, upon receipt of that notice, the clerk  
25 of the court shall arrange for necessary translation or

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1 interpretation services to be provided.

2 I. An order of protection may be issued to protect  
3 or restrain a minor.

4 J. A minor who is thirteen years of age or older  
5 and a victim of abuse may petition the court for an order of  
6 protection on the minor's own behalf if the minor files a  
7 petition:

8 (1) for protection against the minor's co-  
9 parent or a person with whom the minor has had a continuing  
10 personal relationship; or

11 (2) that contains allegations of stalking or  
12 sexual assault."

13 SECTION 11. Section 40-13-3.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1995,  
14 Chapter 176, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

15 "40-13-3.1. FORBEARANCE OF COSTS [~~ASSOCIATED WITH~~  
16 ~~DOMESTIC ABUSE OFFENSES~~].--

17 A. An alleged victim of [~~domestic~~] abuse shall not  
18 be required to bear the cost of:

19 (1) the prosecution of a misdemeanor or felony  
20 offense arising out of an incident of [~~domestic~~] abuse,  
21 including costs associated with filing a criminal charge  
22 against the alleged perpetrator of the abuse;

23 (2) the filing, issuance or service of a  
24 warrant;

25 (3) the filing, issuance or service of a

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1 witness subpoena;

2 (4) the filing, issuance or service of a  
3 petition for an order of protection;

4 (5) the filing, issuance or service of an  
5 order of protection; or

6 (6) obtaining law enforcement reports or  
7 photographs or copies of photographs relating to the alleged  
8 abuse or pattern of abuse.

9 B. No witness fee shall be charged where prohibited  
10 by federal law."

11 SECTION 12. Section 40-13-3.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1999,  
12 Chapter 142, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

13 "40-13-3.2. ~~[EX PARTE]~~ EMERGENCY ORDERS OF PROTECTION.--

14 A. ~~[The district court may issue an ex parte~~  
15 ~~written emergency order of protection when a law enforcement~~  
16 ~~officer states to the court in person, by telephone or via~~  
17 ~~facsimile and files a sworn written statement, setting forth~~  
18 ~~the need for an emergency order of protection, and the court~~  
19 ~~finds reasonable grounds to believe that the alleged victim or~~  
20 ~~the alleged victim's child is in immediate danger of domestic~~  
21 ~~abuse following an incident of domestic abuse. The written~~  
22 ~~statement shall include the location and telephone number of~~  
23 ~~the alleged perpetrator, if known.] A law enforcement officer~~  
24 may request an emergency order of protection by written  
25 petition to the court or orally in person, by telephone or by

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1 other electronic or digital means. The law enforcement officer  
2 shall inform the victim that an officer may petition the court  
3 for an emergency order of protection on the victim's behalf.  
4 The petition shall set forth the need for the emergency order  
5 of protection and, if known, include the location and telephone  
6 number of the alleged perpetrator. A criminal complaint does  
7 not have to be filed in order for a law enforcement officer to  
8 request an emergency order of protection. The court may issue  
9 an emergency order of protection when the court finds  
10 reasonable grounds that the alleged victim and any other  
11 household members are in immediate danger or that an act of  
12 abuse has occurred or may occur.

13 B. A law enforcement officer who receives an  
14 emergency order of protection, whether in writing [~~by~~  
15 ~~telephone, or by facsimile transmission~~] or orally in person,  
16 by telephone or by other electronic or digital means, from the  
17 court shall:

18 (1) if necessary, pursuant to the judge's oral  
19 approval, write and sign the order on an approved form;

20 (2) if possible, immediately serve a signed  
21 copy of the order on the restrained party and complete the  
22 appropriate affidavit of service;

23 (3) immediately provide the protected party  
24 with a written signed copy of the order; and

25 (4) provide the original order to the court by

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1 the close of business on the next [~~judicial~~] day the court is  
2 open.

3 C. The court may grant the following relief in an  
4 emergency order of protection upon a probable cause finding  
5 that [~~domestic~~] abuse has occurred:

6 (1) enjoin the restrained party from  
7 threatening to commit or committing acts of [~~domestic~~] abuse  
8 against the protected party or any designated household  
9 members;

10 (2) enjoin the restrained party from any  
11 contact with the protected party, including harassing,  
12 telephoning, contacting or otherwise communicating with the  
13 protected party; and

14 (3) grant temporary custody of any minor child  
15 in common with the parties to the protected party, if  
16 necessary.

17 D. A district judge shall be available [~~as~~  
18 ~~determined by~~] in each judicial district to hear petitions for  
19 emergency orders of protection at all times.

20 E. An emergency order of protection expires  
21 seventy-two hours after issuance or at the end of the next  
22 [~~judicial~~] day the court is open, whichever time is latest.  
23 The expiration date shall be clearly stated on the emergency  
24 order of protection.

25 F. A person may appeal the issuance of an emergency

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1 order of protection to the court that issued the order. An  
2 appeal may be heard as soon as the ~~[judicial]~~ next day the  
3 court is open following the issuance of the order.

4 G. Upon a proper petition, a ~~[district]~~ court may  
5 issue a temporary order of protection that is based upon the  
6 same incident of ~~[domestic]~~ abuse that was alleged in an  
7 emergency order of protection.

8 H. Emergency orders of protection are enforceable  
9 in the same manner as other orders of protection issued  
10 pursuant to the provisions of the ~~[Family Violence]~~ Protection  
11 Against Abuse and Violence Act."

12 SECTION 13. Section 40-13-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
13 Chapter 286, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

14 "40-13-4. TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION--HEARING--  
15 DISMISSAL.--

16 A. Upon the filing of a petition for an order of  
17 protection, the court shall:

18 (1) ~~[immediately grant]~~ on the same day, issue  
19 an ex parte temporary order of protection without bond if there  
20 is probable cause from the specific facts shown by the  
21 affidavit or by the petition to give the judge reason to  
22 believe that an act of ~~[domestic]~~ abuse has occurred or that  
23 there is immediate danger of abuse;

24 (2) cause the temporary order of protection  
25 together with notice of hearing to be served immediately on the

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1 alleged perpetrator of the [~~domestic~~] abuse; and

2 (3) within ten days after the granting of the  
3 temporary order of protection, hold a hearing on the question  
4 of continuing the order. [~~or~~

5 ~~(4) if an ex parte order is not granted, serve~~  
6 ~~notice to appear upon the parties and hold a hearing on the~~  
7 ~~petition for order of protection within seventy-two hours after~~  
8 ~~the filing of the petition; provided if notice of hearing~~  
9 ~~cannot be served within seventy-two hours, the temporary order~~  
10 ~~of protection shall be automatically extended for ten days.]~~

11 B. [~~If the court grants a~~] In the temporary order  
12 of protection, [~~it may award temporary custody and visitation~~  
13 ~~of any children involved when appropriate~~] the court shall:

14 (1) enjoin the restrained party from  
15 committing or threatening to commit acts of abuse against the  
16 protected party or member of the protected party's household;

17 (2) enjoin the restrained party from any  
18 contact or communication with the protected party; and

19 (3) when appropriate, award temporary custody  
20 and visitation or supervised visitation with any children and  
21 give primary consideration to the safety of the protected party  
22 and the children.

23 C. Except for petitions alleging stalking or sexual  
24 assault, if the court finds that the alleged perpetrator is not  
25 a household member, the court shall dismiss the petition.

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1           D. If, upon review of a petition for an order of  
2 protection, the court does not have sufficient information to  
3 find or does not find probable cause to believe that an act of  
4 abuse has occurred, the court shall hold a hearing within  
5 seventy-two hours to allow the petitioner to provide additional  
6 information to the court. Personal service is not required to  
7 conduct a seventy-two-hour hearing. At the conclusion of the  
8 hearing, the court shall issue either a temporary order of  
9 protection or an order dismissing the petition."

10           SECTION 14. Section 40-13-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
11 Chapter 286, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

12           "40-13-5. ORDER OF PROTECTION--CONTENTS--REMEDIES--TITLE  
13 TO PROPERTY NOT AFFECTED [~~MUTUAL ORDER OF PROTECTION~~].--

14           A. Upon finding that [~~domestic~~] abuse has occurred  
15 or that there is immediate danger of abuse or upon stipulation  
16 of the parties, the court shall enter an order of protection on  
17 the same day ordering the restrained party [~~to~~]:

18                       (1) to refrain from abusing the protected  
19 party or any other household member; and

20                       (2) if the order is issued pursuant to this  
21 section and if the court also determines that the restrained  
22 party presents a credible threat to the physical safety of the  
23 household member after the restrained party has received notice  
24 and had an opportunity to be heard or by stipulation of the  
25 parties, to:

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1 (a) deliver any firearm in the  
2 restrained party's possession, care, custody or control to a  
3 law enforcement agency, law enforcement officer or federal  
4 firearms licensee while the order of protection is in effect;  
5 and

6 (b) refrain from purchasing, receiving,  
7 or possessing or attempting to purchase, receive or possess any  
8 firearm while the order of protection is in effect.

9 B. In an order of protection entered pursuant to  
10 Subsection A of this section, the court shall specifically  
11 describe the acts the court has ordered the restrained party to  
12 do or refrain from doing. As a part of any order of  
13 protection, the court [~~may~~]:

14 (1) may grant sole possession of the residence  
15 or household to the protected party during the period the order  
16 of protection is effective or order the restrained party to  
17 provide temporary suitable alternative housing for the  
18 protected party and any children to whom the restrained party  
19 owes a legal obligation of support;

20 (2) may award temporary custody of any  
21 children involved when appropriate and provide for visitation  
22 rights, child support and temporary support for the protected  
23 party on a basis that gives primary consideration to the safety  
24 of the protected party and the children; provided that any  
25 child custody and visitation order issued with the order of

1 protection may only be effective for a period of six months.

2 Any custody or visitation order may be extended for good cause  
3 shown for no longer than an additional six months;

4 (3) may issue the order of protection between  
5 the parties for a period of time independent of any custody or  
6 property action;

7 [~~3~~] (4) may order that the restrained party  
8 shall not initiate contact with the protected party;

9 [~~4~~] (5) may restrain a party from  
10 transferring, concealing, encumbering or otherwise disposing of  
11 the other party's property or the joint property of the parties  
12 except in the usual course of business or for the necessities  
13 of life and require the parties to account to the court for all  
14 such transferences, encumbrances and expenditures made after  
15 the order is served or communicated to the restrained party;

16 (6) may grant to a party the exclusive or  
17 shared possession and control of any animal kept, owned or  
18 leased by either party or by the minor child or minor children  
19 residing in the household of either party. The court may order  
20 a party to stay away from the animal and may forbid a party  
21 from taking, transferring, concealing, mistreating, harming or  
22 disposing of the animal;

23 [~~5~~] (7) may order the restrained party to  
24 reimburse the protected party or any other household member for  
25 expenses reasonably related to the occurrence of [~~domestic~~]

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1 abuse, including medical expenses, counseling expenses, the  
2 expense of seeking temporary shelter, expenses for the  
3 replacement or repair of damaged property or the expense of  
4 lost wages;

5 ~~[(6)]~~ (8) may order the restrained party to  
6 participate in, at the restrained party's expense, professional  
7 counseling programs deemed appropriate by the court, including  
8 counseling programs for perpetrators of ~~[domestic]~~ abuse,  
9 alcohol abuse or abuse of controlled substances; ~~[and]~~

10 ~~[(7)]~~ (9) may order other injunctive relief as  
11 the court deems necessary for the protection of a party,  
12 including orders to law enforcement agencies as provided by  
13 this section; and

14 (10) shall not order that the protected party  
15 participate in treatment or counseling related to abuse.

16 C. The order of protection shall contain notice  
17 that violation of any provision of the order of protection is a  
18 violation of state law and that federal law, 18 U.S.C. 922, et  
19 seq., prohibits possession of firearms by certain persons.

20 When appropriate, the order of protection shall also contain  
21 notice that all restrained parties are prohibited from owning  
22 or possessing a firearm while the order of protection is in  
23 effect. Firearms prohibitions shall apply to stipulated orders  
24 and to contested orders when the respondent has been served  
25 with notice of the hearing and has had the opportunity to

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1 participate.

2 D. If the order of protection supersedes or alters  
3 prior orders of the court pertaining to domestic matters  
4 between the parties, the order shall say so on its face. If an  
5 action relating to child custody or child support is pending or  
6 has concluded with entry of an order at the time the petition  
7 for an order of protection was filed, the court may enter an  
8 initial order of protection, but the portion of the order  
9 dealing with child custody or child support will then be  
10 transferred to the court that has or continues to have  
11 jurisdiction over the pending or prior custody or support  
12 action.

13 ~~[E. A mutual order of protection shall be issued~~  
14 ~~only in cases where both parties have petitioned the court and~~  
15 ~~the court makes detailed findings of fact indicating that both~~  
16 ~~parties acted primarily as aggressors and that neither party~~  
17 ~~acted primarily in self-defense.~~

18 F.] E. No order issued under the [Family Violence]  
19 Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act shall affect title to  
20 any property or allow a party to transfer, conceal, encumber or  
21 otherwise dispose of another party's property or the joint or  
22 community property of the parties.

23 ~~[G.]~~ F. Either party may request a review hearing  
24 to amend an order of protection. An order of protection  
25 involving child custody or support may be modified without

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1 proof of a substantial or material change of circumstances.

2 ~~[H.]~~ G. An order of protection shall not be issued  
3 unless a petition or a counter petition has been filed.

4 H. An order of protection may be issued against a  
5 party who has been served with a copy of a petition for an  
6 order of protection and a notice to appear and has had an  
7 opportunity to participate; provided that the proof of service  
8 is in the court file. If a party fails to appear at the ten-  
9 day hearing in which an order of protection is issued, the  
10 court shall mail a copy of the order to the party's address of  
11 record."

12 SECTION 15. Section 40-13-5.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2016,  
13 Chapter 32, Section 1 and Laws 2016, Chapter 33, Section 1) is  
14 amended to read:

15 "40-13-5.1. EXTENDED ORDER OF PROTECTION.--

16 A. In the sentencing proceeding for a person  
17 convicted of criminal sexual penetration pursuant to Section  
18 30-9-11 NMSA 1978, a prosecutor may request that the criminal  
19 court grant the victim an order of protection to remain in  
20 effect for the duration of the criminal court's jurisdiction  
21 over the person.

22 B. At any time after the expiration of a criminal  
23 court's jurisdiction over a person against whom an order of  
24 protection was granted pursuant to a request pursuant to  
25 Subsection A of this section, the victim may:

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1 (1) file a petition for an order of protection  
2 against the person; and

3 (2) submit evidence of the person's conviction  
4 for criminal sexual penetration, including out-of-state, as  
5 cause for the court to grant the order of protection.

6 C. Based on evidence submitted pursuant to  
7 Subsection B of this section, a court may take judicial notice  
8 of the facts that led to a person's conviction for criminal  
9 sexual penetration and a victim shall not be required to appear  
10 before the court on the victim's petition for an order of  
11 protection; provided, however, that another person may appear  
12 on the victim's behalf.

13 D. A court may grant an order of protection  
14 pursuant to this section for any length of time, including for  
15 a victim's lifetime.

16 E. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection C  
17 of Section 40-13-6 NMSA 1978, an order of protection granted  
18 pursuant to this section shall continue until the expiration  
19 provided in the order, if any, or until modified or rescinded  
20 upon a motion by the ~~[victim]~~ protected party."

21 SECTION 16. Section 40-13-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
22 Chapter 286, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

23 "40-13-6. SERVICE OF ORDER--DURATION--PENALTY--REMEDIES  
24 NOT EXCLUSIVE.--

25 A. An order of protection granted under the ~~[Family~~  
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1 ~~Violence]~~ Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act shall be  
2 filed with the clerk of the court, and a copy shall be sent by  
3 the clerk to the local law enforcement agency. The order shall  
4 be ~~[personally served upon the restrained party, unless the~~  
5 ~~restrained party or the restrained party's attorney was present~~  
6 ~~at the time the order was issued]~~ provided to the parties or  
7 the parties' attorneys. The order shall be filed and ~~[served]~~  
8 provided to the parties and a local law enforcement agency  
9 without cost to the protected party.

10 B. A local law enforcement agency receiving an  
11 order of protection from the clerk of the court that was issued  
12 under the ~~[Family Violence]~~ Protection Against Abuse and  
13 Violence Act shall have the order entered in the national crime  
14 information center's order of protection file within seventy-  
15 two hours of receipt. This does not include temporary orders  
16 of protection entered pursuant to the provisions of Section  
17 40-13-4 NMSA 1978.

18 C. An order of protection ~~[granted by the court~~  
19 ~~involving custody or support shall be effective for a fixed~~  
20 ~~period of time not to exceed six months. The order may be~~  
21 ~~extended for good cause upon motion of the protected party for~~  
22 ~~an additional period of time not to exceed six months.~~  
23 ~~Injunctive orders shall continue until modified or rescinded~~  
24 ~~upon motion by either party or until the court approves a~~  
25 ~~subsequent consent agreement entered into by the parties]~~

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1 issued by the court may be in effect for a fixed period of time  
2 of any length; provided that the court deems the period of time  
3 appropriate to protect the safety of the protected party. Upon  
4 motion and after a hearing, an existing order of protection  
5 that may expire may be extended for good cause shown.

6 D. A [~~peace~~] law enforcement officer may arrest  
7 without a warrant and take into custody a restrained party  
8 [~~whom~~] who the [~~peace~~] officer has probable cause to believe  
9 has violated an order of protection that is issued pursuant to  
10 the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act  
11 or entitled to full faith and credit.

12 E. A restrained party convicted of violating an  
13 order of protection granted by a court under the [~~Family~~  
14 ~~Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act is guilty  
15 of a misdemeanor and shall be sentenced in accordance with  
16 Section 31-19-1 NMSA 1978. Upon a second or subsequent  
17 conviction, an offender shall be sentenced to a jail term of  
18 not less than seventy-two consecutive hours that shall not be  
19 suspended, deferred or taken under advisement.

20 F. In addition to any other punishment provided in  
21 the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence  
22 Act, the court shall order a person convicted to make full  
23 restitution to the party injured by the violation of an order  
24 of protection and shall order the person convicted to  
25 participate in and complete a [~~program of professional~~

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1 ~~counseling~~] domestic violence offender treatment or  
2 intervention program or other relevant treatment or  
3 intervention program, at the person's own expense, if possible.

4 G. In addition to charging the person with  
5 violating an order of protection, a [~~peace~~] law enforcement  
6 officer shall file all other possible criminal charges arising  
7 from an incident of [~~domestic~~] abuse when probable cause  
8 exists.

9 H. The remedies provided in the [~~Family Violence~~]  
10 Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act are in addition to  
11 any other civil or criminal remedy available to the protected  
12 party or the state."

13 SECTION 17. Section 40-13-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,  
14 Chapter 286, Section 7, as amended) is amended to read:

15 "40-13-7. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS--EMERGENCY  
16 ASSISTANCE--LIMITED LIABILITY--PROVIDING NOTIFICATION TO  
17 VICTIMS WHEN AN ALLEGED PERPETRATOR IS RELEASED FROM  
18 DETENTION--STATEMENT IN JUDGMENT AND SENTENCE DOCUMENT.--

19 A. A person who allegedly has been a victim of  
20 [~~domestic~~] abuse may request the assistance of a local law  
21 enforcement agency.

22 B. A local law enforcement officer responding to  
23 the request for assistance shall be required to take whatever  
24 steps are reasonably necessary to protect the victim and other  
25 household members from further [~~domestic~~] abuse, including:

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1 (1) [~~advising~~] informing the victim of the  
2 remedies available under the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection  
3 Against Abuse and Violence Act; the right to file a written  
4 statement, a criminal complaint and a request for an arrest  
5 warrant; and the availability of [~~domestic violence~~] shelters,  
6 medical care, counseling and other services;

7 (2) upon the request of the victim, providing  
8 or arranging for transportation of the victim to a medical  
9 facility or place of shelter;

10 (3) upon the request of the victim,  
11 accompanying the victim to the victim's residence to obtain the  
12 victim's clothing and personal effects required for immediate  
13 needs and the clothing and personal effects of any children  
14 then in the care of the victim;

15 (4) upon the request of the victim, [~~assist~~]  
16 assisting in placing the victim in possession of the dwelling  
17 or premises or otherwise assist in execution, enforcement or  
18 service of an order of protection;

19 (5) arresting the alleged perpetrator [~~when~~  
20 ~~appropriate~~] and including a written statement in the  
21 [~~attendant~~] police report to indicate that the arrest of the  
22 alleged perpetrator was [~~in whole or in part, premised~~] based  
23 upon probable cause to believe that the alleged perpetrator  
24 committed [~~domestic~~] abuse against the victim. [~~and, when~~  
25 ~~appropriate~~] A law enforcement officer, in making arrests for

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1 abuse, shall identify whether one of the parties acted in self-  
2 defense and indicate that the party arrested was the  
3 predominant aggressor; ~~and~~

4 (6) ~~[advising]~~ informing the victim ~~[when~~  
5 ~~appropriate]~~ of the procedure for initiating proceedings under  
6 the ~~[Family Violence]~~ Protection Against Abuse and Violence Act  
7 or criminal proceedings and of the importance of preserving  
8 evidence, including digital evidence; and

9 (7) identifying and documenting in the  
10 criminal complaint and incident report names and relationships  
11 between people present at the incident, including any  
12 additional victims or witnesses.

13 C. The jail or detention center shall make [~~a~~]  
14 reasonable [~~attempt~~] efforts to notify the arresting law  
15 enforcement agency or officer and victim when the alleged  
16 perpetrator of abuse, stalking or sexual assault or a  
17 restrained party in violation of an order of protection escapes  
18 from custody, is released from custody or is transferred to  
19 another facility. The arresting law enforcement agency shall  
20 make [~~a~~] reasonable [~~attempt~~] efforts to notify the victim that  
21 the alleged perpetrator is released from custody.

22 D. Any law enforcement officer responding to a  
23 request for assistance under the ~~[Family Violence]~~ Protection  
24 Against Abuse and Violence Act is immune from civil liability  
25 to the extent allowed by law. Any jail, detention center or

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1 law enforcement agency that makes a reasonable attempt to  
2 provide notification that an alleged perpetrator is released  
3 from custody is immune from civil liability to the extent  
4 allowed by law.

5 E. A statement shall be included in a judgment and  
6 sentence document to indicate when a conviction results from  
7 the commission of [~~domestic~~] abuse."

8 SECTION 18. Section 40-13-7.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2005,  
9 Chapter 281, Section 1) is amended to read:

10 "40-13-7.1. [~~MEDICAL PERSONNEL~~] HEALTH CARE  
11 PROFESSIONALS--DOCUMENTATION OF [DOMESTIC] ABUSE.--

12 A. When [~~medical personnel who are~~] a health care  
13 professional who is interviewing, examining, attending or  
14 treating a person:

15 (1) [~~receive~~] receives a report from the  
16 person of an act of [~~domestic~~] abuse, the [~~medical personnel~~]  
17 health care professional shall document the nature of the abuse  
18 and the name of the alleged perpetrator of the abuse, if  
19 disclosed, in the person's medical file and shall provide the  
20 person with information about and referral to services for  
21 victims of [~~domestic~~] abuse; or

22 (2) [~~may have~~] has reason to believe or  
23 suspect that the person is a victim of [~~domestic~~] abuse, the  
24 [~~medical personnel~~] health care professional shall provide the  
25 person with information about and referral to services for

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1 victims of [~~domestic~~] abuse.

2 B. Medical and other health-care-related  
3 information or communications concerning [~~domestic~~] abuse of a  
4 person obtained by or from [~~medical personnel~~] a health care  
5 professional during the course of an interview, examination,  
6 diagnosis or treatment are confidential communications unless  
7 released:

8 (1) with the prior written consent of the  
9 person;

10 (2) pursuant to a court order; or

11 (3) when necessary to provide treatment,  
12 payment and operations in accordance with the federal Health  
13 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

14 C. As used in this section, "[~~medical personnel~~]  
15 health care professional" means:

16 (1) a licensed health care [practitioners]  
17 practitioner who interviews, examines, attends or treats  
18 patients;

19 [~~(2) licensed emergency medical technicians;~~

20 ~~(3) health care practitioners who interview,~~  
21 ~~examine, attend or treat a person and who are under the~~  
22 ~~guidance or supervision of licensed health care practitioners;~~  
23 and

24 ~~(4) residents and interns;]~~

25 (2) a person who works under the guidance and

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1 supervision of a licensed health care practitioner;

2 (3) a health care practitioner in training,  
3 including a student, a resident and an intern; and

4 (4) a licensed emergency medical technician."

5 SECTION 19. Section 40-13-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2005,  
6 Chapter 30, Section 1) is amended to read:

7 "40-13-9. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS--  
8 APPOINTMENT--QUALIFICATIONS.--

9 A. A domestic violence special commissioner shall  
10 be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the chief judge of  
11 the judicial district to which the officer is assigned.

12 B. A domestic violence special commissioner shall:

13 (1) be an attorney licensed to practice law in  
14 New Mexico;

15 (2) have a minimum of three years experience  
16 in the practice of law and be knowledgeable in the area of  
17 domestic relations and domestic violence matters; and

18 (3) conform to Canons 21-100 through [~~21-500~~  
19 ~~and 21-700~~] 21-400 of the Code of Judicial Conduct as adopted  
20 by the supreme court. Violation of any such canon shall be  
21 grounds for dismissal of any domestic violence special  
22 commissioner."

23 SECTION 20. Section 40-13-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2005,  
24 Chapter 30, Section 2) is amended to read:

25 "40-13-10. SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS--POWERS--DUTIES.--

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1           A. A domestic violence special commissioner shall  
2 perform the following duties in carrying out the provisions of  
3 the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and Violence  
4 Act:

5                   (1) review [~~petitions~~] every petition for  
6 [~~orders~~] an order of protection and all motions to enforce,  
7 modify or terminate orders of protection or motions to show  
8 cause;

9                   (2) if deemed necessary, interview  
10 petitioners. Any interview shall be on the record;

11                   (3) conduct hearings on the merits of  
12 petitions for orders of protection and motions to enforce,  
13 modify or terminate orders of protection or motions to show  
14 cause; and

15                   (4) prepare recommendations to the [~~district~~]  
16 court regarding petitions for orders of protection and motions  
17 to enforce, modify or terminate orders of protection or motions  
18 to show cause.

19           B. All orders must be signed by a district court  
20 judge before the recommendations of a domestic violence special  
21 commissioner become effective. The recommendation of the  
22 commissioner shall be reviewed and signed on the same day of  
23 the hearing."

24           SECTION 21. Section 40-13-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2008,  
25 Chapter 40, Section 10) is amended to read:

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1           "40-13-12. LIMITS ON INTERNET PUBLICATION.--A state  
2 agency, court or political subdivision of the state, including  
3 a magistrate or municipal court, judicial district, law  
4 enforcement agency, county, municipality or home-rule  
5 municipality, shall not make available publicly on the internet  
6 any information [~~that would likely reveal the identity or~~  
7 ~~location of the party protected under an order of protection]~~  
8 regarding the registration or filing of a petition for or  
9 issuance of a protection order, restraining order or injunction  
10 pursuant to the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic  
11 Violence Protection Orders Act, whether the filing or issuance  
12 occurred in New Mexico or any other state; provided that this  
13 restriction does not apply to a filing or issuance on the New  
14 Mexico state judiciary's statewide case management and e-filing  
15 system, but the address of a protected person shall be redacted  
16 from that filing or issuance. A state agency, court or  
17 political subdivision may share court-generated and law  
18 enforcement-generated information contained in secure,  
19 government registries for protection order enforcement  
20 purposes."

21           SECTION 22. Section 40-13B-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2018,  
22 Chapter 40, Section 2) is amended to read:

23           "40-13B-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Confidential  
24 Substitute Address Act:

25           A. "agency" means an agency of the state or of a

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1 political subdivision of the state;

2 B. "applicant" means a person who submits an  
3 application to participate in the confidential substitute  
4 address program;

5 C. "application assistant" means a person who works  
6 or volunteers for a domestic violence or sexual assault program  
7 and who assists in preparing an application for the  
8 confidential substitute address program;

9 D. "confidential substitute address" means an  
10 address designated for a participant by the secretary of state  
11 pursuant to the Confidential Substitute Address Act;

12 E. "delivery address" means the address where an  
13 applicant or a participant receives mail, and it may be the  
14 same as the person's residential address;

15 F. "domestic violence" means "[~~domestic~~] abuse", as  
16 defined in the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against Abuse and  
17 Violence Act;

18 G. "participant" means a person certified to  
19 participate in the confidential substitute address program  
20 pursuant to the Confidential Substitute Address Act;

21 H. "public record" means "public records", as  
22 defined in the Inspection of Public Records Act; and

23 I. "residential address" means the street address  
24 where an applicant or participant resides or will relocate."

25 SECTION 23. Section 50-4A-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2009,

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1 Chapter 14, Section 2) is amended to read:

2 "50-4A-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Promoting  
3 Financial Independence for Victims of Domestic Abuse Act:

4 A. "domestic abuse" has the same meaning as [~~it~~  
5 ~~does~~] "abuse", as defined in the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection  
6 Against Abuse and Violence Act;

7 B. "domestic abuse leave" means intermittent paid  
8 or unpaid leave time for up to fourteen days in any calendar  
9 year, taken by an employee for up to eight hours in one day, to  
10 obtain or attempt to obtain an order of protection or other  
11 judicial relief from domestic abuse or to meet with law  
12 enforcement officials, to consult with attorneys or district  
13 attorneys' victim advocates or to attend court proceedings  
14 related to the domestic abuse of an employee or an employee's  
15 family member;

16 C. "employee" means a person who is employed by an  
17 employer;

18 D. "employer" includes a person, a firm, a  
19 partnership, an association, a corporation, a receiver or an  
20 officer of the court of New Mexico, a state agency, or a unit  
21 of local government or a school district;

22 E. "family member" means a minor child of the  
23 employee or a person for whom the employee is a legal guardian;

24 F. "order of protection" means a court order  
25 granted pursuant to the [~~Family Violence~~] Protection Against

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1 Abuse and Violence Act; and

2 G. "retaliation" means an adverse action against an  
3 employee, including threats, reprisals or discrimination for  
4 engaging in the protected activity of taking domestic abuse  
5 leave."

6 SECTION 24. REPEAL.--Section 40-13-1.1 NMSA 1978 (being  
7 Laws 2002, Chapter 34, Section 2 and Laws 2002, Chapter 35,  
8 Section 2) is repealed.

9 SECTION 25. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
10 provisions of this act is July 1, 2024.