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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT

Introduced By: Senators Quezada, LaMountain, Euer, McKenney, Lauria, Burke, and  
Urso

Date Introduced: February 26, 2025

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Judiciary)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12-29-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 12-29 entitled "Domestic  
2 Violence Prevention Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **12-29-8. Domestic violence reports.**

4 (a) A law enforcement officer who responds to or investigates a domestic violence incident,  
5 including a verbal argument or dispute, shall complete a domestic violence ~~report~~ /sexual assault  
6 reporting form, whether or not an arrest occurs.

7 (b) For the purpose of establishing accurate data on the extent and severity of domestic  
8 violence in the state and on the degree of compliance with the requirements of § 12-29-3, the  
9 domestic violence training and monitoring unit ~~of the court system~~ within the administrative office  
10 of state courts shall prescribe a form and process for ~~making~~ submitting domestic violence ~~reports~~  
11 information to the unit. The form shall include, but is not limited to, the following information:

12 (1) Name of the parties;

13 (2) Relationship of the parties;

14 (3) Sex of the parties;

15 (4) Date of birth of the parties;

16 (5) Time and date of the incident;

17 (6) Whether children were involved or whether the alleged act of domestic violence was  
18 committed in the presence of children;

19 (7) Type and extent of the alleged abuse;

1 (8) Number and types of weapons involved;  
2 (9) Existence of any prior court order; ~~and~~  
3 (10) Existence of any language barriers;  
4 (11) Felony enhancement notation; and  
5 ~~(10)~~(12) Any other data that may be necessary for a complete analysis of all circumstances  
6 ~~leading to the arrest~~ of an incident subject to reporting under this section.

7 (c) Each ~~police~~ law enforcement department shall ~~forward copies of~~ electronically submit  
8 the domestic violence/sexual assault reporting forms and the ~~reports~~ corresponding police report  
9 narratives to the unit at the end of each month. For those cases that were still under investigation  
10 or for which an arrest warrant had been issued but not yet executed in a given month, the responsible  
11 law enforcement department shall electronically submit the domestic violence/sexual assault  
12 reporting form and the corresponding police report narratives as soon as practicable, but not later  
13 than the end of the calendar year in which the incident occurred.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT

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1           This act would require submission of a domestic violence/sexual assault reporting form  
2 when the domestic violence response or investigation involves a verbal argument or dispute and  
3 allows for the electronic filing of domestic violence/sexual assault reporting forms by law  
4 enforcement agencies, enhances the information to be included on the reporting forms, and clarifies  
5 that the reporting forms should be submitted monthly, or as soon as practicable upon receipt of all  
6 relevant information regarding an incident subject to reporting.

7           This act would take effect upon passage.

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