



Southport Specialist Court Experience – What's next?

Magistrate Colin Strofield

Specialist DFV Court Southport

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Director, DFV Court Reform

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Court Southport

DFV Court Statistics

Numbers of DFV matters 2015-16 financial year lodged in Queensland courts

originating DFV Applications:

32,221

breaches:

19,031



DFV Southport Court Statistics

**Numbers of DFV matters lodged from 1 September
2015 to 31 May 2017**

Applications	6166
Charges for DFV offences	5110
Breaches	(of 5110) 2061
DFV related offences	(of 5110) 2049



DFV Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics

1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females are five times more likely to be victims of homicide than non-Indigenous females.
2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are 35 times more likely to be hospitalised due to family violence related assaults, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males 21.4 times as likely, than non-Indigenous females and males.

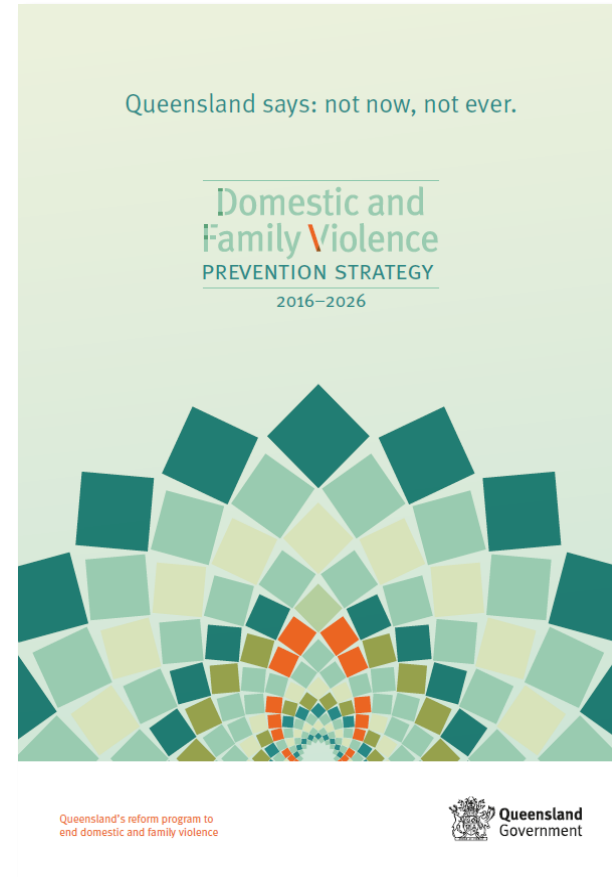
Sources:

1. Willis, M. (2011). Non-disclosure of violence in Australian Indigenous communities. *Trends & Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice* No.405. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.
2. Chan, A. & Payne, J. (2013) Homicide in Australia: 2008-09 to 2009-10 National homicide monitoring program annual report, AIC Reports, Monitoring Reports 31. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology
3. Steering Committee for the Review of Government Services (2009). *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2009*. Canberra: Productivity Commission.



Not Now, Not Ever Report 2015

DFV Prevention Strategy 2016-2026



www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/end-domestic-family-violence/about/not-now-not-ever-report

www.communities.qld.gov.au/resources/gateway/campaigns/end-violence/dfv-prevention-strategy.pdf

DFV Queensland Government Budget Announcements

- Building on 2015/16 and 2016/17 budgets for DFV justice reforms
- 2017/18
- \$69.5 million over four years
- \$20 million for capital for court upgrades
- \$49.5 million to make
 - Southport DFV court permanent
 - establish a DFV court in Beenleigh
 - DFV civil list in Townsville and Mount Isa
 - Specialist DFV magistrate hearing all matters in Palm Island.



Reforming Court Policy and Practice

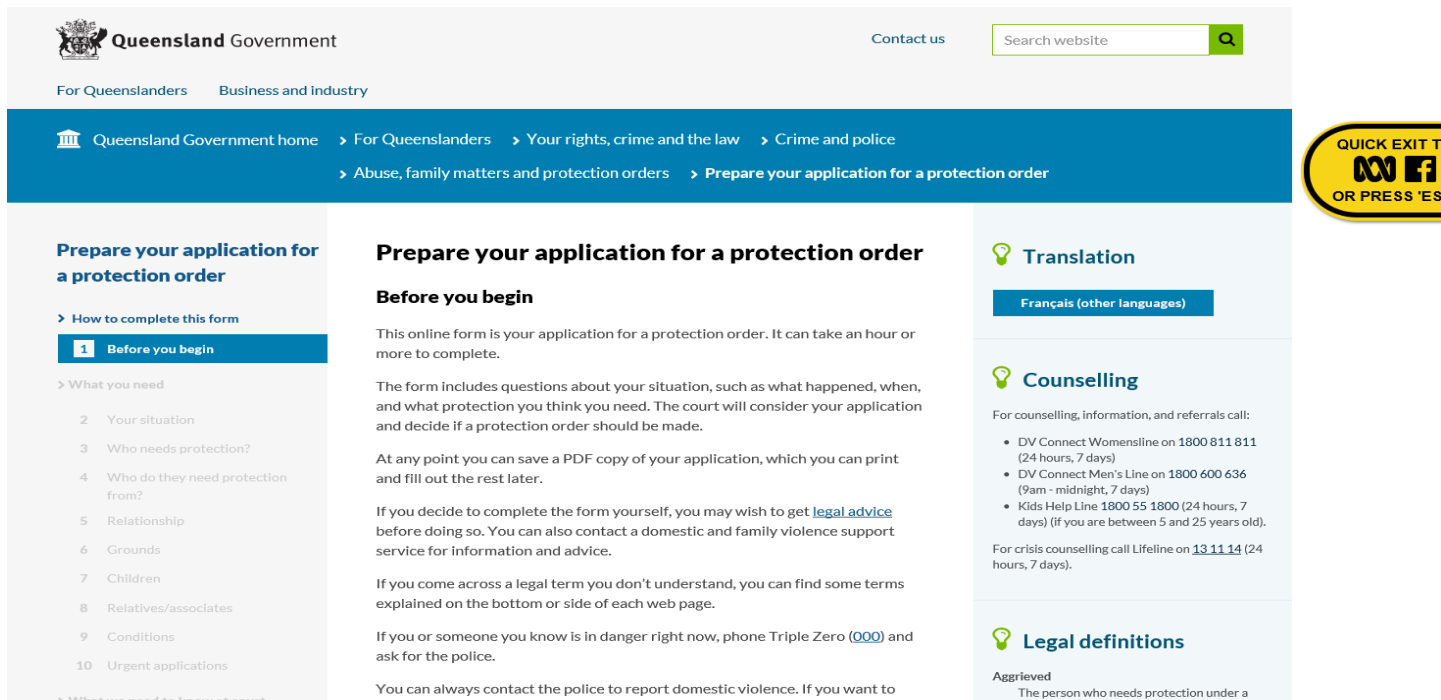
- electronic DV interface (eDV) - replaces manual processes between police/ courts
 - supports timely enforcement of orders
- high risk teams – assess risk and manage high risk cases
- online form for DV application
- court process videos



Online DV1 form

- Help text and questions to explain how to answer questions in the form
- Includes plain English explanations of legal terms and concepts
- Links to information about contacting the police, support services, and legal help

www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/abuse-family-matters-and-protection-orders/apply-for-a-protection-order



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Queensland Government home > For Queenslanders > Your rights, crime and the law > Crime and police
> Abuse, family matters and protection orders > Prepare your application for a protection order

Prepare your application for a protection order

> How to complete this form

1	Before you begin
>	What you need
2	Your situation
3	Who needs protection?
4	Who do they need protection from?
5	Relationship
6	Grounds
7	Children
8	Relatives/associates
9	Conditions
10	Urgent applications

Prepare your application for a protection order

Before you begin

This online form is your application for a protection order. It can take an hour or more to complete.

The form includes questions about your situation, such as what happened, when, and what protection you think you need. The court will consider your application and decide if a protection order should be made.

At any point you can save a PDF copy of your application, which you can print and fill out the rest later.

If you decide to complete the form yourself, you may wish to get [legal advice](#) before doing so. You can also contact a domestic and family violence support service for information and advice.

If you come across a legal term you don't understand, you can find some terms explained on the bottom or side of each web page.

If you or someone you know is in danger right now, phone Triple Zero (000) and ask for the police.

You can always contact the police to report domestic violence. If you want to

Translation

Français (other languages)

Counselling

For counselling, information, and referrals call:

- DV Connect Womensline on 1800 811 811 (24 hours, 7 days)
- DV Connect Men's Line on 1800 600 636 (9am - midnight, 7 days)
- Kids Help Line 1800 55 1800 (24 hours, 7 days) (if you are between 5 and 25 years old).

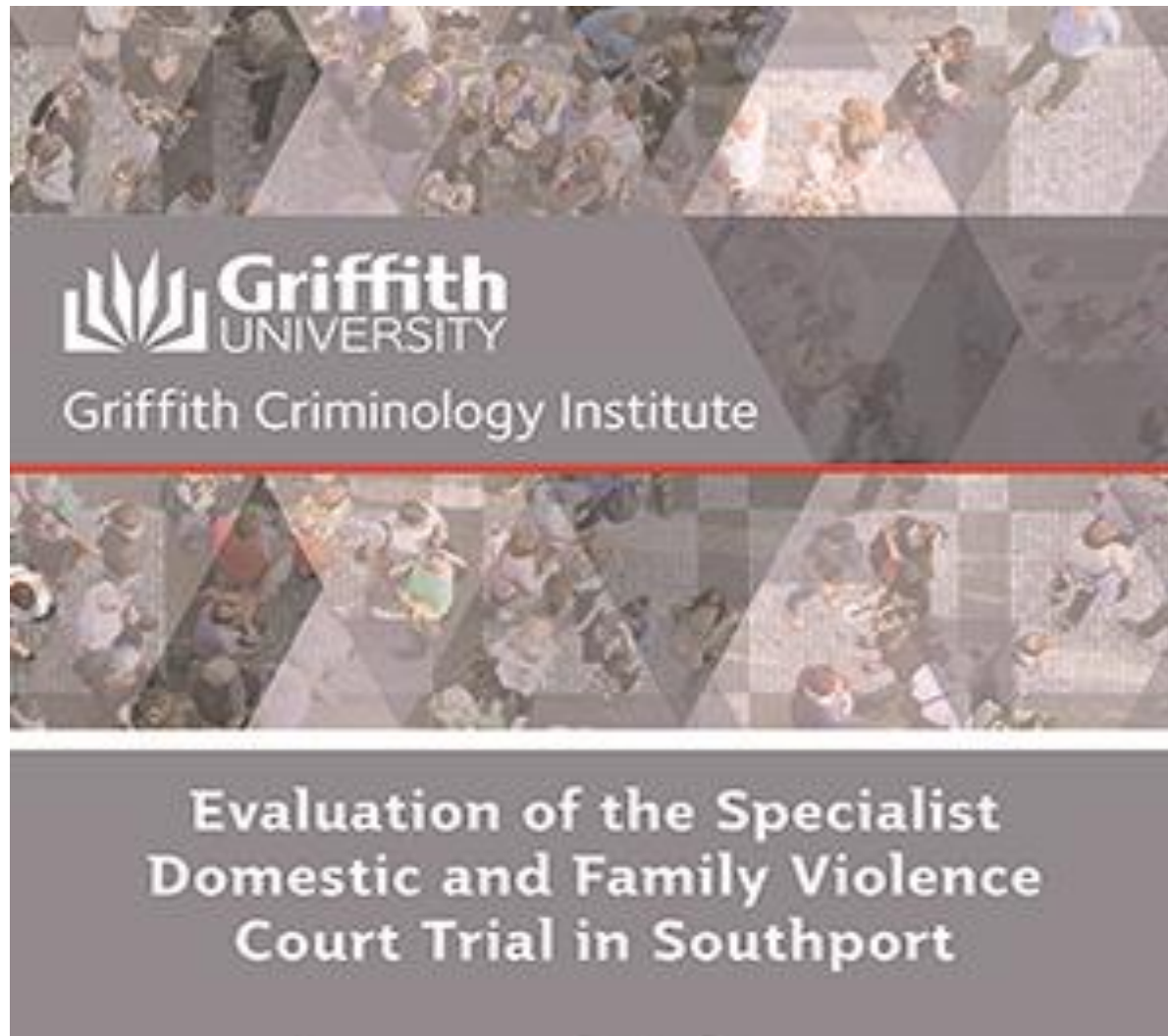
For crisis counselling call Lifeline on [13 11 14](#) (24 hours, 7 days).

Legal definitions

Aggrieved
The person who needs protection under a

QUICK EXIT
OR PRESS 'ES

Evaluation of the Southport Specialist Domestic and Family Violence Court Trial



Evaluation of the Southport Specialist Domestic and Family Violence Court Trial

Key lessons learnt

- **Crucial role of leadership, collaboration and partnerships**
- **Importance of sustained support for victims and perpetrators**
- **Specialisation as a way of managing the complexity of domestic and family violence matters in the courts**

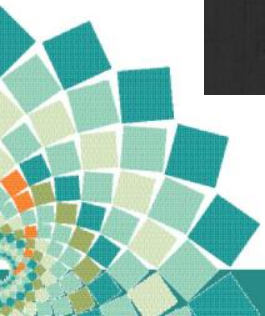


Reforming Courts' response to domestic and family violence – Registry Support

Paula Bould, Deputy Registrar, Specialist
Domestic Violence Court, Southport

“ I’VE LEARNED THAT PEOPLE WILL FORGET
WHAT YOU SAID, PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT
YOU DID, BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET
HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL. ”

-Maya Angelou



Domestic Violence Court Key Features

- Two dedicated courtrooms
- Specially trained staff
- Referrals to service for support and information
- Devoted email address and phone line
- Dedicated Registry and counter



Key Features cont.

- Access to duty lawyers for aggrieved and respondent parties.
- Access to women support workers from DVPC including pre, during and post court support, referrals, counselling and risk assessment.
- Centacare men's court information worker – informing male parties about DV; provide procedural advice, referrals to men's behavioural change programs.
- Two dedicated Magistrates dealing with victims and perpetrators involved in DV and related criminal proceedings.
- Court support volunteers operating a reception desk noting appearances, referrals to duty lawyers and court support services.
- Access to an interpreter service on the first appearance



Southport DFV court video

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukUiGmX4Avc>



Magistrate Colin Strofield

*Southport Specialist
Domestic and Family
Violence Court*



Learn more about the Southport Specialist DFV Court here:
<http://www.courts.qld.gov.au/courts/domestic-and-family-violence-court>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukUiGmX4Avc>

