



## CEDAR RAPIDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

APPLIES TO:

Department

Page 1 of 4



---

<b>POLICY TITLE:</b>	<i>Domestic Abuse</i>	<b>STANDARD/REF #:</b>	55.2.1; 55.2.2; 55.2.5; 74.2.1; 74.3.1
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	<i>David Dostal, Chief</i>	<b>REVIEWED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>REQUIRED REVIEWERS:</b>	<i>Patrol Division Commander</i>	<b>REVISED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>	<i>Community Outreach</i>		
<b>EXPERT:</b>	<i>Liaison</i>		

---

### POLICY/PURPOSE:

The purpose of this directive is to provide guidelines relating to the duties and responsibilities of a peace officer to a victim of domestic abuse.

### DEFINITIONS:

Assault – Refer to Chapter 708 of the Code of Iowa.

Domestic Abuse – Refer to Chapter 236 of the Code of Iowa.

### PROCEDURE:

An officer shall determine whether probable cause exists to believe a domestic abuse assault occurred.

- It must first be determined whether an assault as defined in Chapter 708 occurred.
  - Persons acting in self-defense, as defined in Section 704.3, have not committed an assault.
- An officer shall base their identification of the physical aggressor upon a reasonable inquiry of the alleged victim and other witnesses, and the relative degree of injury or fear inflicted on the persons involved.
- If probable cause that an assault has occurred is found, the relationship of the parties involved will determine whether it is a domestic abuse assault.
- In situations in which an alleged victim wishes to report a domestic abuse assault, and the officer lacks probable cause for an arrest, a report will be taken.

### Paperwork:

If an officer has probable cause to believe a domestic abuse assault occurred, they will complete a domestic abuse packet, which includes:

- An Incident Report Form (CRPD #600) and a State Complaint (and other necessary supplements, clearances/warrant requests, medical release, etc.) as per the Domestic Abuse Checklist, whether or not an arrest is made.
  - The relationships of the parties involved should be included in the report and on the complaint.
  - In mandatory arrest situations, officer(s) shall make reasonable attempts to locate, interview, and arrest the abuser.
  - Domestic abuse assaults, which were not previously reported (i.e., old injury, police not called at time of assault), will be handled the same as a current assault investigation, including mandatory arrest if warranted.



## CEDAR RAPIDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

APPLIES TO:

Department

Page 2 of 4



---

<b>POLICY TITLE:</b>	<i>Domestic Abuse</i>	<b>STANDARD/REF #:</b>	55.2.1; 55.2.2; 55.2.5; 74.2.1; 74.3.1
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	<i>David Dostal, Chief</i>	<b>REVIEWED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>REQUIRED REVIEWERS:</b>	<i>Patrol Division Commander</i>	<b>REVISED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>	<i>Community Outreach</i>		
<b>EXPERT:</b>	<i>Liaison</i>		

---

- A Personal Safety Plan brochure, to be given to the abused person, which includes the Notice of Victim's Rights.
  - Section 236.12.1.c. requires the officer ask the victim to read the Notice of Rights and to ask if the person understands the rights. The officer should offer explanation(s).
  - On the back of the brochure, an appointment with the County Attorney's Office should be scheduled for the victim 11 to 13 days after the report/arrest. The appointment date will be included in the narrative of the report.
    - In incidents with cross-complaints, officers will not set up an appointment for either party with the County Attorney's Office.
- Domestic Abuse Lethality Form (CRPD # 797) to be completed:
  - When you believe there's been an assault or act of domestic violence. (Mandatory when an arrest is made.)
  - When you believe the victim faces danger when you leave.
  - When the home or parties are repeats.
  - When your gut tells you that the situation is dangerous.

If the Domestic Abuse Lethality Form (CRPD # 797) indicates a High Danger Protocol, then officers will contact Waypoint or Deaf Iowans Against Abuse by one of the available options listed on the form. Notifications will be notated in the reporting officer's supplement.

- All Linn County Law Enforcement forms applicable to the incident to include but not limited to:
  - Linn County Law Enforcement Information Sheet "Blue" Sheet
    - Shall be completed for all domestic abuse cases
  - Linn County Law Enforcement – Body Map of Injuries
  - Linn County Law Enforcement Domestic Abuse Checklist
    - Shall be completed for all domestic abuse cases
  - Linn County Law Enforcement Voluntary Statement – Under Arrest
  - Linn County Law Enforcement Voluntary Statement – Not Under Arrest
  - Linn County Law Enforcement – Strangulation Form

If children were present, determine if HHS shall be contacted immediately (when children are injured or significant event such as shooting) or whether to fax the report to HHS for further investigation. Include in the appropriate boxes if the offender has access to any weapons and ammunition.



## CEDAR RAPIDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

APPLIES TO:

Department

Page 3 of 4



---

<b>POLICY TITLE:</b>	<i>Domestic Abuse</i>	<b>STANDARD/REF #:</b>	55.2.1; 55.2.2; 55.2.5; 74.2.1; 74.3.1
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	<i>David Dostal, Chief</i>	<b>REVIEWED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>REQUIRED REVIEWERS:</b>	<i>Patrol Division Commander</i>	<b>REVISED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>	<i>Community Outreach</i>		
<b>EXPERT:</b>	<i>Liaison</i>		

---

### No-Contact Order/Protective Order Check:

Officers will ask the abused person if any prior protective orders exist. Officers will also request JCA to check for possible no-contact orders.

- If there appears to be a no-contact order between the persons involved, JCA will request a fax of the no-contact order be sent to the command desk for review.
- If the commander determines the violation of the court order to be a mandatory arrest situation, the officer shall complete necessary paperwork and make reasonable attempts to locate and arrest the violator.
  - Officers will include the fax of the valid No Contact Order with their paperwork.
- If a valid no-contact order exists and specifies the defendant must turn in and no longer possess firearms or ammunition, officers must ask the defendant if they have any firearms or ammunition.
  - If the defendant has firearms and/or ammunition still in their possession, officers will seize the items and turn them in as evidence.
  - Officer will complete a request for a warrant and forward all paperwork to the Linn County Attorney's Office for consideration.
- If the commander determines the court order exists but has not been served, officers shall complete the No Contact Order or Protective Order Short Form Notification form from the Iowa Judicial Branch – State Court Administration.

If an officer has probable cause to believe that a person has violated a No-Contact Order issued under Chapter 236, Chapter 598, or there is a protective order or sentencing order issued in a criminal prosecution arising from a domestic abuse assault, the officer shall take the person into custody under Section 236.11, and provide the victim with the Victim's Request For Registration Form (CRPD #496).

- A peace officer shall not be held civilly or criminally liable for acting pursuant to Iowa Code 236.11 provided that the peace officer acts in good faith, on probable cause, and the officer's acts do not constitute a willful and wanton disregard for the rights or safety of another.

### Victim Assistance:

If requested, officers may remain on the scene or assist the person in leaving the residence, as long as there is a danger to an abused person's physical safety without the presence of an officer.

- It shall be considered reasonable for the officer to remain for a nearby friend or relative to arrive or for nearby transportation to arrive.
  - It shall not be considered reasonable for the officer to remain for prolonged periods of time if the victim seems reluctant to seek relief in a timely manner.



## CEDAR RAPIDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

APPLIES TO:

Department

Page 4 of 4



---

<b>POLICY TITLE:</b>	<i>Domestic Abuse</i>	<b>STANDARD/REF #:</b>	55.2.1; 55.2.2; 55.2.5; 74.2.1; 74.3.1
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	<i>David Dostal, Chief</i>	<b>REVIEWED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>REQUIRED REVIEWERS:</b>	<i>Patrol Division Commander</i>	<b>REVISED DATE:</b>	7/21/2025
<b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>	<i>Community Outreach</i>		
<b>EXPERT:</b>	<i>Liaison</i>		

---

- Under limited circumstances, not including medical, and in accordance with current orders, officer(s) will provide transportation in a vehicle owned by the Cedar Rapids Police Department. Prior approval of the commander in charge is required. Details of the circumstances will be included in the officer's report.

Officers will assist an abused person in obtaining medical treatment necessitated by an assault, including obtaining transportation to the emergency room of the nearest hospital.

- Officer(s) shall apply basic first aid as they are trained to provide.
- Officer(s) shall request transportation in the form of an ambulance, taxi, etc., if required to do so.

To better assist victims or witnesses of domestic abuse, refer to the Victim – Witness Assistance directive.