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FOR RELEASE AT WILL

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LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER FOCUSES ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND RELATED ISSUES

EDISON — The latest newsletter of Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) centers on important laws and rights involving domestic violence, harassment, and related matters.

The bilingual publication, "Looking Out For Your Legal Rights," may be viewed online at <u>www.lsnjlaw.org</u>.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and the newsletter lists and offers explanations of the 19 crimes under state laws that can be linked to situations of alleged abuse and other acts of domestic violence involving couples.

"If you think you have been a victim of any of these crimes, you should contact an attorney or your local domestic violence agency," it is stressed. The New Jersey Domestic Violence Hotline can be reached at 1-800-572-7233. Additionally, help is available from the LSNJLAW Hotline at *www.lsnjlawhotline.org* or 1-888-576-5529.

The newsletter deals with obtaining temporary restraining orders against abusers, as well as how to deal with cyber-harassment when threats are made from the phone or computer or even through social networking sites, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat, among others.

Victims are advised to keep detailed notes and other documentation, but always "to make sure the abuser does not have knowledge of or access to the information you are recording." Further, they are warned, "You can never be certain that what you are doing or posting online is completely private."

The publication also offer articles on new lead paint inspections at rental properties, as well as revised procedures for filing for name changes.

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