

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 377, *approved January 18, 2022*
Senate, No. 384 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning ²**[domestic violence]** certain² training for
2 ²**[certain]**² judges ¹**[and]** ²**[,**¹ judicial personnel, ¹**and]** ² law
3 enforcement,¹ and ²assistant county prosecutors and² amending
4 P.L.1991, c.261.

5
6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
7 of New Jersey:
8

9 1. Section 4 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 4. a. (1) The Division of Criminal Justice shall develop and
12 approve a training course and curriculum on the handling,
13 investigation and response procedures concerning reports of
14 domestic violence and abuse and neglect of the elderly and
15 disabled. This training course and curriculum shall be reviewed at
16 least every two years and modified by the Division of Criminal
17 Justice from time to time as need may require. The Division of
18 Criminal Justice shall distribute the curriculum to all local police
19 agencies.

20 (2) The Attorney General shall be responsible for ensuring
21 ²**[that]** training as follows:

22 (a)² all law enforcement officers ²shall² attend initial training
23 within 90 days of appointment or transfer and annual **[inservice]**
24 in-service training of at least four hours as described in this section.
25 ²Once every three years, this in-service training requirement shall be
26 satisfied through in-person instructor-led training.

27 (b) all assistant county prosecutors involved in the handling of
28 domestic violence cases shall attend initial training within 90 days of
29 appointment or transfer and annual in-service training of at least four
30 hours as described in this section.²

31 b. (1) The Administrative **[Office]** Director of the Courts
32 shall develop and approve a training course and a curriculum **[on**
33 the handling, investigation and response procedures concerning
34 allegations of domestic violence. This training course] for all
35 municipal court judges, Superior Court judges responsible for the
36 adjudication of domestic violence matters, and judicial personnel
37 involved with the intake and processing of domestic violence
38 complaints. All judges and judicial personnel identified in this
39 section shall participate in core training regarding issues such as the
40 dynamics of domestic violence, the impact of domestic violence on
41 children, trauma-informed danger assessments, batterer intervention
42 ¹**[and anger management]**¹ programs, and domestic violence risk
43 factors and lethality. In addition, municipal court judges shall

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SJU committee amendments adopted June 21, 2021.

²Assembly AJU committee amendments adopted November 15, 2021.

1 receive specific training related to the issuance of temporary
2 restraining orders in emergent situations. Superior Court judges
3 responsible for the adjudication of domestic violence matters shall
4 receive supplemental training related to the issuance and
5 enforcement of temporary and final restraining orders, including
6 factors considered when determining if a final restraining order
7 should be issued, child custody and parenting plans, the setting of
8 child support, distribution of property and ongoing housing
9 expenses, and counseling. The core curriculum and individualized
10 training programs shall be reviewed at least every two years and
11 modified by the Administrative [Office] Director of the Courts
12 from time to time as need may require.

13 (2) The Administrative Director of the Courts shall be
14 responsible for ensuring that all municipal court judges , Superior
15 Court judges responsible for the adjudication of domestic violence
16 matters, and judicial personnel involved with the intake and
17 processing of domestic violence complaints attend initial training
18 within 90 days of appointment or transfer and annual [inservice]
19 in-service training as described in this section.

20 (3) The [Division of Criminal Justice] Attorney General and the
21 Administrative [Office] Director of the Courts shall provide that all
22 training on the handling of domestic violence matters ²required
23 under this subsection² shall include information concerning the
24 impact of domestic violence on society, ²and include topics
25 regarding² the dynamics of domestic violence ²[¹and]² ,the impact
26 of domestic violence on children,² the impact of trauma on survivors,
27 ²[high risk indicators for potential lethality, ¹and] risks for lethality
28 in domestic violence cases, safety planning and services for
29 survivors of domestic violence,² the impact of racial bias and
30 discrimination on survivors and²marginalized² communities¹, the
31 statutory and case law concerning domestic violence, the necessary
32 elements of a protection order, ²the guidelines regarding when
33 domestic violence incidents trigger mandatory or discretionary arrest,²
34 policies and procedures as promulgated or ordered by the Attorney
35 General or the Supreme Court, and the use of available community
36 resources, support services, available sanctions and treatment
37 options.

38 ²c.² Law enforcement agencies shall: (1) establish domestic
39 crisis teams or participate in established domestic crisis teams, and
40 (2) shall train individual officers in methods of dealing with
41 domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and
42 disabled. The teams may include social workers, clergy or other
43 persons trained in counseling, crisis intervention or in the treatment
44 of domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and
45 disabled victims.

46 (cf: P.L.1999, c.433, s.1)

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

5

6 Expands training for judges, law enforcement officers and
7 assistant county prosecutors concerning handling of domestic
8 violence cases.