



---

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
RICHMOND COUNTY

MICHAEL E. MCMAHON  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

130 STUYVESANT PLACE  
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301  
TELEPHONE (718) 876-6300

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release March 12, 2021

Contact: Ryan Lavis (718) 556-7150  
[Ryan.Lavis@rcda.nyc.gov](mailto:Ryan.Lavis@rcda.nyc.gov)

### **RCDA, Staten Island Family Justice Center, Central Family Life Center, NYPD, True 2 Life Cure Violence, Host “Domestic Violence 101” Webinar**

*\*\*Meeting held Thursday evening for Staten Islanders to learn about different forms of domestic violence, discover how to report abuse safely and confidentially, and access available resources\*\**

Staten Island, N.Y. — The office of Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon on Thursday joined the Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender Based Violence/Staten Island Family Justice Center, Central Family Life Center, the New York Police Department, and True 2 Life Cure Violence, to co-sponsor the “Domestic Violence 101” webinar. Presented via Zoom and Facebook Live, leaders from each of the participating agencies, service providers, and organizations discussed several topics with community members participating in the session. Topics included types of services offered for domestic violence survivors, steps for victims to safely and confidentially report abuse, how to make a safety plan, and ways to access available domestic violence resources. The webinar was organized following an uptick in calls and inquiries from community members wanting to know more about resources for domestic violence victims on Staten Island. A video of the webinar can be viewed [here](#).

**District Attorney Michael E. McMahon said**, “My office takes domestic violence incredibly seriously and we are committed to working with our partners to ensure survivors of abuse have access to the resources and help they need to thrive. While my Domestic Violence Bureau is always ready and able to help victims move forward with the prosecution of a criminal case, we are also cognizant of the difficult circumstances many victims face in not wanting to report abuse to law enforcement. Regardless of their situation, my office, the NYPD, and all of our partners are here to serve as a lifeline for those struggling with domestic violence. Do not hesitate to contact us if you are in need of assistance.”

**Police Commissioner Dermot Shea said**, “The NYPD’s Domestic Violence Unit works tirelessly to reduce domestic violence and to keep families safe. Every New Yorker has the right to be safe in their own home and our professional cadre of domestic violence officers are committed to securing this right. We urge anyone who has been a victim of domestic violence to contact the NYPD so we can initiate comprehensive investigations and offer support and services to victims and survivors. Through our collaboration with other specialized units within the NYPD, and

with our partnerships with city agencies and community-based stakeholders, we aim to provide the best assistance possible to survivors of Domestic Violence.”

**Commissioner Cecile Noel, Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV):** “Our partnerships with community-based organizations, the legal and the law enforcement community during this especially difficult and isolating time for survivors has been nothing short of crucial in serving these clients. COVID-19 puts into sharp focus the vulnerabilities that many people in our city face every day, especially gender-based violence survivors; and it highlights the barriers and challenges that we know keep people from seeking help and finding safety. Survivors need us now more than ever in these extraordinary times, and our top priority remains to ensure continuity of services and unwavering support. Together, we can tell survivors that they are not alone, they are never alone...and help is here for them.”

**Dr. Demetrius Carolina, Sr., Executive Director, Central Family Life Center, said,** “The social emotional health and wellbeing of everyone is of vital importance for our communities to thrive. As such, the issues surrounding domestic violence are many and must be examined, discussed and mitigated. The DV conference is a step towards that end. Let's come together as partners for the betterment of our families and friends. Many hands make light work and lifts many people.”

### **STATEN ISLAND FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER**

- Contact the Staten Island Family Justice Center at (718) 697-4300 for vital services including immediate safety planning, shelter assistance, legal consultations, counseling sessions, case management sessions, mental health counseling, and more. All services are free, confidential, and available to survivors of intimate partner and family violence, stalking, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and elder abuse. People of all ages, sexual orientations, and gender identities, regardless of language spoken, income, or immigration status are welcome. Domestic violence shelters are operating. For evenings and weekends, survivors can call NYC’s 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline ([1-800-621-4673](tel:1-800-621-4673)), to access assistance with immediate safety planning, shelter assistance and community resources. Survivors with access to the internet can visit [nyc.gov/NYCHOPE](https://nyc.gov/NYCHOPE) for additional resources and information. Survivors are additionally encouraged to call NYC Well ([1-888-692-9355](tel:1-888-692-9355)) for help with stress and anxiety, as well as to **call 911 for emergencies.**