



National Association for Court Management

Resolution # _____1_____ Year _____2017_____

- In Support Of The Violence Against Women Act -

WHEREAS, the National Association for Court Management (NACM) recognizes that domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking endanger lives and have significant impacts on individual and family well-being, child welfare, economic security, public safety, and criminal justice; and

WHEREAS, NACM acknowledges that no single institution or branch of government in isolation can adequately respond to interpersonal violence, and that an effective intervention requires the concerted and collaborative efforts of all branches of government at all levels (federal, state, and local), communities, and private service providers; and

WHEREAS, NACM is committed to working with all levels and branches of government in their respective roles to eliminate interpersonal violence; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has specifically recognized the important role of courts in addressing interpersonal violence; and

WHEREAS, state courts have effectively used federal grant funds to implement improved practices, procedures, and other systems reforms and collaborations, and continue to meaningfully contribute to the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act to meet the needs of individual states through efforts such as judicial and court staff training, domestic violence courts, innovative programs, and coordinated community responses; and

WHEREAS, the Violence Against Women Act authorizes grant programs designed to develop and grow the nation's multidisciplinary capacity to reduce domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking by strengthening services to victims and holding offenders accountable; and

WHEREAS, Congress has appropriated federal funds to assist states in implementing the provisions and programs of the Violence Against Women Act;

WHEREAS, NACM is updating its guide *Court's Responses to Domestic Violence* on the guide's 10th anniversary to continue to encourage courts to adopt best practices for supporting victims of domestic violence;

On April 4, 2017 the NACM Board voted to approve this resolution.



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for Court Management urges the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act again in 2018 to: strengthen housing, employment, and security; improve the criminal justice response to victims; fortify protections for the most vulnerable groups, and increase funding to support survivors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NACM urges Congress to continue to support the provisions and programs of the Violence Against Women Act and to provide sufficient federal funding to all entities involved in addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NACM encourages Congress to sustain and ensure that state courts are able to access the federal grant funds specifically targeted to assist state courts, including allocating funds directly to state courts when the purpose of the funds is to assist state courts to implement the provisions and programs of the Violence Against Women Act.

(Adapted from a Resolution of the NACM of Chief Judges as proposed by the CCJ Courts, Children and Families Committee at the Conference of Chief Justices 2017 Midyear Meeting on January 29, 2017.)

On April 4, 2017 the NACM Board voted to approve this resolution.