



## VICTIM RESOURCE PROGRAM

Denver City Attorney's Office | Prosecution and Code Enforcement

### WHAT MAY HAPPEN WHILE YOUR CASE IS PENDING

#### THE DEFENDANT MAY ATTEMPT TO "REWRITE HISTORY" OR TRY TO CONFUSE YOU ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED DURING THE INCIDENT.

- "I never said those things - I would never threaten you or hurt you."
- "It's my property - I can do what I want to it."
- "This is all a misunderstanding."
- "You're not really hurt."

#### HE/SHE MAY MINIMIZE WHAT HAPPENED.

- "We were just arguing! I shouldn't go to jail for this."
- "The police blew this way out of proportion. I barely touched you."

#### THE DEFENDANT MAY MAKE EXCUSES FOR WHAT HAPPENED, APOLOGIZE, SEND YOU GIFTS, AND PROMISE TO CHANGE.

- "You know how much stress I'm under."
- "I was drunk. I promise I'll get sober."
- "It was an accident. You know I would never intentionally hurt you."
- "I'm sorry - I just snapped. You know how much I really love you."
- "It will never happen again, I promise."

#### THE DEFENDANT MAY BLAME YOU FOR THE ARREST, ATTEMPT TO MAKE YOU FEEL GUILTY, AND CLAIM TO BE THE VICTIM.

- "This never would have happened if you had (had not) . . ."
- "You started it! You're always nagging me."
- "You never should have called the police. Now look at the mess we're in!"
- "Why are you doing this? You're tearing our family apart."
- "This could cost me my job."
- "What did you tell them? How am I supposed to defend myself?"

#### THE DEFENDANT MAY TRY TO TALK YOU OUT OF APPEARING IN COURT.

- "If you don't show up in court, this will all go away."
- "You can get them to drop the charges."

#### THE DEFENDANT MAY THREATEN YOU.

- "If you show up in court, you'll pay for it."
- "You have to drop the protection order! If you don't, I'll be homeless."
- "If you don't drop the charges, I'll report you to Child Protective Services."
- "If you show up in court, I'll fight you for custody of the kids."
- "If you testify against me, I'll have to teach you a lesson."

#### NO MATTER WHAT S/HE SAYS

- The abuse is not your fault.
- You do not deserve to be abused.
- Any consequences the defendant receives are not your fault.
- You cannot drop the charges. The City of Denver is bringing the charges.



This case results from a City charge. The maximum penalty for a City charge is up to one year in jail and/or a fine of up to \$999. In most cases defendants will be given the opportunity for probation and counseling.

### VICTIM OUTREACH OFFICE

490 W. COLFAX,  
FIRST FLOOR  
DENVER, CO 80202

**720.913.8020**

Please call for information on your case and community referrals or come in to meet with a victim specialist or city attorney.