

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 384

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

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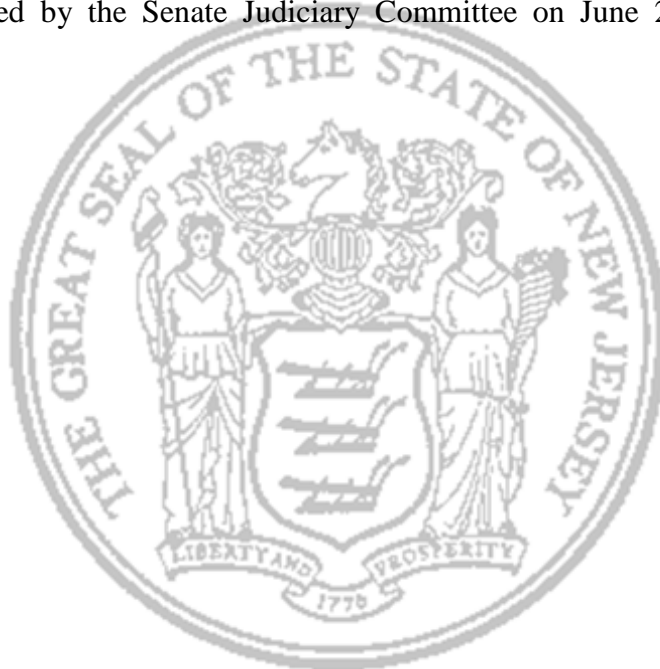
Senators Corrado, Ruiz and Pou

SYNOPSIS

Establishes certain requirements for domestic violence training for certain judges, judicial personnel, and law enforcement.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 21, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2021)

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

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. Section 4 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) is amended to
9 read as follows:

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

19 (2) The Attorney General shall be responsible for ensuring that
20 all law enforcement officers attend initial training within 90 days of
21 appointment or transfer and annual **[inservice]** in-service training
22 of at least four hours as described in this section.

23 b. (1) The Administrative **[Office]** Director of the Courts
24 shall develop and approve a training course and a curriculum **[on**
25 **the handling, investigation and response procedures concerning**
26 **allegations of domestic violence. This training course]** for all
27 municipal court judges, Superior Court judges responsible for the
28 adjudication of domestic violence matters, and judicial personnel
29 involved with the intake and processing of domestic violence
30 complaints. All judges and judicial personnel identified in this
31 section shall participate in core training regarding issues such as the
32 dynamics of domestic violence, the impact of domestic violence on
33 children, trauma-informed danger assessments, batterer intervention
34 ¹**[and anger management]**¹ programs, and domestic violence risk
35 factors and lethality. In addition, municipal court judges shall
36 receive specific training related to the issuance of temporary
37 restraining orders in emergent situations. Superior Court judges
38 responsible for the adjudication of domestic violence matters shall
39 receive supplemental training related to the issuance and
40 enforcement of temporary and final restraining orders, including
41 factors considered when determining if a final restraining order
42 should be issued, child custody and parenting plans, the setting of
43 child support, distribution of property and ongoing housing
44 expenses, and counseling. The core curriculum and individualized
45 training programs shall be reviewed at least every two years and

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.

1 modified by the Administrative **【Office】** Director of the Courts
2 from time to time as need may require.

3 (2) The Administrative Director of the Courts shall be
4 responsible for ensuring that all municipal court judges , Superior
5 Court judges responsible for the adjudication of domestic violence
6 matters, and judicial personnel involved with the intake and
7 processing of domestic violence complaints attend initial training
8 within 90 days of appointment or transfer and annual **【inservice】**
9 in-service training as described in this section.

10 (3) The **【Division of Criminal Justice】** Attorney General and the
11 Administrative **【Office】** Director of the Courts shall provide that all
12 training on the handling of domestic violence matters shall include
13 information concerning the impact of domestic violence on society,
14 the dynamics of domestic violence ¹and the impact of trauma on
15 survivors, high risk indicators for potential lethality, and the impact
16 of racial bias and discrimination on survivors and communities¹, the
17 statutory and case law concerning domestic violence, the necessary
18 elements of a protection order, policies and procedures as
19 promulgated or ordered by the Attorney General or the Supreme
20 Court, and the use of available community resources, support
21 services, available sanctions and treatment options.

22 Law enforcement agencies shall: (1) establish domestic crisis
23 teams or participate in established domestic crisis teams, and (2)
24 shall train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic
25 violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled. The
26 teams may include social workers, clergy or other persons trained in
27 counseling, crisis intervention or in the treatment of domestic
28 violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled victims.
29 (cf: P.L.1999, c.433, s.1)

30

31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.