

State Confidentiality Statutes

Introduction¹

Domestic violence shelters, sexual assault crisis centers, and similar service providers actively promote the safety and healing of victims who turn to them for help. Protecting confidential information about victims is a core responsibility required to promote such victim safety and healing. The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) require that any shelter, rape crisis center, domestic violence program, or similar service, in order to maintain its federal funding, are barred from disclosing to anyone any information about a victim receiving services.² These federal statutes act as integral protections for victims of violent crime that wish to keep their location and records confidential from abusers, crime perpetrators, family, community members, state or local law enforcement, and federal immigration officers.

In addition to federal laws that protect the confidentiality of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, many states also have statutes in place that protect communications between domestic violence and sexual assault service providers and victims.

The purpose of this state by state survey of state confidentiality laws and protections is to help service providers work with immigrant crime victims to help victims weigh their choices and any safety risks should shelter records be potentially subpoenaed and used against battered immigrant women. This state confidentiality review also helps programs be better prepared should federal immigration officers or state and local law enforcement approach shelters for information about an undocumented immigrant crime

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State Statutes

Many state statutes address shelters' responsibilities when approached for information or records about a client. A significant majority of states have statutes in place that protect communications between domestic violence or sexual assault advocates and victims. Under a privilege statute, neither the victim nor the domestic violence counselor can be forced by courts, law enforcement, or immigration officials to reveal information unless the victim waives her privilege. Some states will allow a court to order the release of otherwise privileged information in very limited circumstances. The major circumstances are:

- 1. A court finds that the probative value of the information outweighs the harm
- 2. Reports of child neglect or abuse
- 3. Criminal, mental health, or perjury proceedings against the victim
- 4. Court actions against the counselor
- 5. Information in the records is exculpatory evidence about the abuser/defendant.

Even if all communications are not privileged, some states have laws making any information that may identify a victim confidential. Many state and federal grant programs require that grantees maintain confidentiality of identifying information as a requirement for domestic violence program funding. Combining these state confidentiality statutes with federal confidentiality provisions mandated by VAWA and FVPSA, shelters, domestic violence advocates, sexual assault advocates, and other service providers can be assured that they are required to keep client information, records, and whereabouts confidential in order to maintain their state and federal funding. Immigration laws do not have an effect on domestic violence and sexual assault service providers' obligation to maintain victim confidentiality.

Finally, many states provide protection for communications to professionals who may provide counseling or other needed services to victims. The various protections for communications may be between clients and social workers, licensed counselors, mental health professionals, marriage/family counselors, psychiatrists, psychologists/mental health therapists, registered nurses, or school counselors.

If no confidentiality protection exists in your state, consider using the following options when assisting a battered immigrant:

- 1. Determine if the victim qualifies for VAWA, T-visa, or U-visa relief and if the victim wants to pursue this relief.
- 2. Discuss with the victim the protections the form of immigration relief for which she qualifies could provide.
- 3. Assess with the battered immigrant whether you are collecting any information that could be used to harm her if the victim or shelter was ordered to turn over the information to the perpetrator in family court or discovery.
- 4. If possible, any harmful information should be disclosed to and recorded by another professional at the shelter or program who does have a state recognized confidentiality privilege such as a social worker or physician.
- 5. Allow the victim to make an informed choice about whether she wants the shelter to maintain information for her. In many cases, information that initially appears to be damaging may not be if advocates collect this information and help the client file

quickly for VAWA, T-visa, or U-visa relief. Once this information is submitted to the INS, it is automatically considered confidential.

6. Remember that even if your state does not have a confidentiality statute, shelters and service providers are still legally required to maintain confidentiality under the federal confidentiality provisions in FVPSA and VAWA.

Below is a mini-chart briefly summarizing each state's confidentiality statutes. The mini-chart is followed by a detailed chart for each U.S. state and territory. For more information please refer to the cited statute for your state.

Table of Most Common Privileged Relationships by State

State	Shelter and Victim	DV Advocate and Victim	SA Advocate and Victim	Attorney and Client	Physician and Patient	Psychotherapist and Patient	Religious	Husband and Wife	Social Worker and Client	Translator/Interpreter and Client	Peer Support Group Counselors	School Counselors	Address Confidentiality Program	Chiropractor and Patient	Human Trafficking Counselor and Victim	Journalist	Accountant and Client
Alabama		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х									
Alaska		Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х									
Arizona		Х		Х	Х		Х	Х								Х	
Arkansas	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х									
California		Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X (human trafficking)			Х			Х		
Colorado		Χ	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х									
Connecticut		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х					
Delaware				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х								
D.C.		X		X	X	Х	Х	X (and domestic partners)							Х		
Florida		Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х		Х						Х	Χ
Georgia				Х	Х	Х		Х	Х								
Hawaii		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х									
Idaho				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				Х					

State	Shelter and Victim	DV Advocate and Victim	SA Advocate and Victim	Attorney and Client	Physician and Patient	Psychotherapist and Patient	Religious	Husband and Wife	Social Worker and Client	Translator/Interpreter and Client	Peer Support Group Counselors	School Counselors	Address Confidentiality Program	Chiropractor and Patient	Human Trafficking Counselor and Victim	Journalist	Accountant and Client
Illinois*		X	Х	X	X	X (only for violent crimes)		Х		Х			X				
Indiana		Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х			Χ				Х	
Iowa*		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х						Χ					
Kansas				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				Χ					
Kentucky			Х	Х		Х	Х	Х				Χ					
Louisiana	Х			Х	Х		Х	Х			Х						
Maine			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х									
Maryland				Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Χ				Х	Х
Massachusetts		Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х									
Michigan		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х								Х	
Minnesota		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х							
Mississippi				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				Χ	Х				
Missouri	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х		Х			Χ	Х	Х			
Montana		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				Χ					
Nebraska		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х					Х				
Nevada		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			Χ	Х			Х	Х
New		Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х					Х			
Hampshire																	
New Jersey		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х							Х	
New Mexico		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х								
New York			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X					Х			
North Carolina	X (agent of the center)	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	Х		X	X				X	
North Dakota	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X									
Ohio				Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х			Χ	Х				
Oklahoma				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		X (for deaf)	Х		Х			Х	Х

* Other relationships covered by confidentiality statutes include: union agent and union member (735 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/8-803.5) and the stenographer or confidential clerk of a party of a relationship covered by confidentiality statutes and the client (I.C.A. 622.10).

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
			function of rendering advice,	- Husband-wife (Rule 504)
			counseling, or assistance to victims of	- Clergyman privilege (Rule 505)
			domestic violence; who supervises	
			the employees or volunteers of the	
			program; or who administers the	
			program.	
			Exception: when providing evidence	
			in proceedings concerning suspected	
			child abuse or elder abuse.	
Alaska	Confidentiality	Alaska Stat. §	Victim counselor means an employee	- Lawyer-client (Rule 503)
	between victim	18.66.200-250	or supervised volunteer of a victim	- Physician-patient,
	counselor and		counseling center that provides	Psychotherapist-patient (Rule
	victim.		counseling to victims; who has	504)
			undergone at least forty (40) hours of	- Husband-wife (Rule 505)
			training in domestic violence or	- Communications to clergymen
			sexual assault, crisis intervention,	(Rule 506)
			victim support, treatment and related	
			areas; or whose duties include victim	
			counseling.	
			Exceptions: If a court or hearing	
			officer determines that the (otherwise	
			confidential) information is necessary	
			and relevant to the facts of the case.	
			No privilege in cases of child abuse,	
			where the victim is about to commit a	
			crime, if the proceeding occurs after	
			the victim's death, if victims service	
			counselor was sought to enable	
			anyone to commit or plan a crime or	
			to escape detection or apprehension	
			after committing a crime, or if in	
			criminal proceedings against a victim	
			of domestic violence or sexual assault	

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State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
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State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
			violence. The domestic violence	
			victim advocate-victim privilege does	
			not extend to cases in which the	
			domestic violence victim advocate	
			has a duty to report nonaccidental	
			injuries and physical neglect of	
			minors as required by § 13-3620.	
Arkansas	Confidentiality	Ark. Code §	"Advocate" means an employee,	- Lawyer-client (Rule 502)
	between DV	9-4-106(5)	supervisor, or administrator of a	- Physician-patient,
	advocates and		shelter. "Shelter" means any entity	psychotherapist-patient (Rule
	volunteers who		that: provides services including	503)
	provide direct		food, housing, advice, counseling,	- Husband-wife (Rule 504)
	services to the victim		and assistance to victims of domestic	- Religious privilege (Rule 505)
	and the victim: all		abuse and their minor dependent	
	advocates and		children in this state; and meets the	
	volunteers who		program, fiscal, and training	
	provide direct		requirements of this chapter.	
	services to victims			
	must sign a written		Exceptions: Confidentiality	
	confidentiality		agreement shall not apply to	
	agreement that		advocates who testify in court, and	
	prohibits the release		shall not prevent disclosure from	
	of the names or		federal grant review, audit, or	
	other personal and		reporting.	
	identifying			
	information about			
	the victims who are			
	served at the shelter;			
	and the names or			
	other personal			
	identifying			
	information about			
	the family or			
	household members			
	of the victims who			

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
			the sexual assault counselor/domestic abuse counselor which constitutes relevant evidence of the facts and circumstances involving an alleged sexual assault about which the victim is complaining and which is the subject of a criminal proceeding if the court determines that the probative value outweighs the effect on the victim, the treatment relationship, and the treatment services if disclosure is	

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
			confidential communication.	
			However, that person may not claim	
			the privilege if there is no holder of	
			the privilege in existence or if he or	
			she is otherwise instructed by a	
			person authorized to permit	
			disclosure.	
Colorado	Confidentiality	Colo. Rev.	"Victim's advocate" means a person	- Husband-wife
	between victim's	Stat. § 13-90-	at a battered women's shelter or rape	- Attorney-client
	advocate and victim.	107	crisis organization or a comparable	- Clergy Member
			community-based advocacy program	communication
			for victims of domestic violence or	- Physician-patient
			sexual assault: whose primary	- Surgeon-patient
			function is to render advice, counsel,	- Nurse-patient
			or assist victims of domestic or	(C.R.S.A. § 13-90-107(a)-(d))
			family violence or sexual assault;	
			who has undergone not less than	
			fifteen (15) hours of training as a	
			victim's advocate or, with respect to	
			an advocate who assists victims of	
			sexual assault, not less than 30 hours	
			of training as a sexual assault	
			victim's advocate; and, who	
			supervises employees of the program,	
			administers the program, or works	
			under the direction of a supervisor of	
			the program.	
Connecticut	Confidentiality	Conn. Gen.	"Battered women's counselor" means	-Attorney-Client (Conn. Gen.
	between battered	Stat. § 52-	any person engaged in a battered	Stat. § 46a-12)
	women's	146k	women's center who has undergone a	- Husband-wife (Conn. Gen.
	counselor/sexual		minimum of twenty (20) hours of	Stat. § 52-146)
	assault counselor		training which shall include, but not	- Privileged communications
	and victim.		be limited to, the dynamics of	made to Clergymen (Conn. Gen.
			battering, crisis intervention,	Stat. § 52-146B)
			communication skills, working with	- Psychologist-patient (Conn.

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
			diverse populations, an overview of the state criminal justice system and information about state and community resources for battered women; who is certified as a counselor by the battered women's center which provided such training; who is under the control of a direct service supervisor of a battered women's center; and whose primary purpose is the rendering of advice, counsel and assistance to, and the advocacy of the cause of, battered women.	Gen. Stat. § 52-146C) - Psychiatrist-patient (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-146D) - Interpreter privilege (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-146L)
			"Sexual assault counselor" means any person engaged in a rape crisis center who has undergone a minimum of 20 hours of training which shall include, but not be limited to, the dynamics of sexual assault and incest, crisis intervention, communication skills, working with diverse populations, an overview of the state criminal justice system, information about hospital and medical systems and information about state and community resources for sexual assault victims; is certified as a counselor by the sexual assault center which has provided such training; is under the control of a direct services supervisor of a rape crisis center; and whose primary purpose is the rendering of advice, counseling and assistance to, and the advocacy of the cause of, victims of	

State

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
			and resources available to victims;	
			and is or is under the supervision of a	
			licensed social worker, nurse,	
			physician, psychologist, or	
			psychotherapist; or is or is under the	
			supervision of a person who has a	
			minimum of 5 years of experience	
			rendering support, counseling, or	
			assistance to persons against whom	
			severe emotional abuse or a criminal	
			offense has been committed or is	
			alleged to have been committed, of	
			which at least 2 years of experience	
			involves human trafficking victims.	
			Confidential communications are not	
			waived by the presence of a sign	
			language or foreign language	
			interpreter.	
			Exceptions: as required by statute or	
			by a court of law; as voluntarily	
			authorized in writing by the victim; to	
			other individuals employed by the	
			domestic violence program and third	
			party providers when and to the	
			extent necessary to facilitate the	
			delivery of services to the victim; to	
			the Metropolitan Police Department	
			or other law enforcement agency to	
			the extent necessary to protect the	
			victim or another individual from a	
			substantial risk of imminent and	
			serious injury; to compile statistical	
			or anecdotal information, without	
			personal identifying information, for	

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
State	Confidential Relationships Confidentiality between sexual assault counselor/trained volunteer/domestic violence advocate and victim.	Applicable Statute FSA §§ 90.5035-5036	 research or public information purposes; or for any confidential communications relevant to a claim or defense if the victim files a lawsuit against a domestic violence counselor or a domestic violence program. A "sexual assault counselor" is any employee of a rape crisis center whose primary purpose is the rendering of advice, counseling, or assistance to victims of sexual assault or sexual battery. A "trained volunteer" is a person who volunteers at a rape crisis center, has completed thirty (30) hours of training in assisting victims of sexual violence and related topics provided by the rape crisis center, is supervised by members of the staff of the rape crisis center, and is included on a list of volunteers that is maintained by the rape crisis center. 	Other Confidential Relationships- Journalist's privilege (FSA § 90.5015)- Lawyer-client (FSA § 90.502)- Psychotherapist-patient (FSA § 90.503)- Husband-Wife (FSA § 90.504)- Communications to Clergy (FSA § 90.505)- Accountant-client (FSA § 90.5055)- Interpreters and translators (FSA § 90.606)- Interpreter services for deaf persons (FSA 90.6063)
			A "domestic violence advocate" means any employee or volunteer who has thirty (30) hours of training in assisting victims of domestic violence and is an employee of or	
			volunteer for a program for victims of domestic violence whose primary purpose is the rendering of advice, counseling, or assistance to victims of domestic violence.	

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
Georgia	No confidentiality, but phone service providers are required to keep shelter locations confidential.	OCGA § 46- 5-7	 Exceptions: A communication between a sexual assault counselor/trained volunteer/domestic violence counselor and a victim is "confidential" if it is not intended to be disclosed to third persons other than: those persons present to further the interest of the victim in the consultation, examination, or interview; those persons necessary for the transmission of the communication; and those persons to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary to accomplish the purposes for which the sexual assault counselor/trained volunteer/domestic violence counselor is consulted. Each person, corporation, or other entity that provides telephone service in this state and each person, corporation, or other entity that publishes, disseminates, or otherwise provides telephone directory information or listings of telephone subscribers in this state shall file a plan with the commission setting forth in detail how such person, corporation, or other entity will protect the confidentiality of the address or location of family violence shelters, as defined in Code Section 19-13-20, in this state. Such plan shall describe the manner in which the person, corporation, or other entity will identify all such shelters 	 Psychiatrist-patient Psychologist-patient Social Worker-client Mental Health Professional- patient Husband-wife Privilege between grand jurors Attorney-client (Ga. Code Ann. § 24-9-21)

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
			A victim has a privilege to refuse to disclose and to prevent any other person from disclosing confidential communications made to a victim counselor for the purpose of counseling or treatment of the victim for the emotional or psychological effects of sexual assault, domestic violence, or child abuse or neglect, and to refuse to provide evidence that would identify the name, location, or telephone number of a safe house, abuse shelter, or other facility that provided temporary emergency	

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
	victim is a class A		confidential nature of the	
	misdemeanor. (720		communication is not waived by the	
	ILL Comp. Stat.		presence at the time of the	
	5/12-3.6)		communication of any additional	
			persons, including but not limited to	
			an interpreter, to further express the	
			interests of the domestic violence	
			victim or by the advocate's or	
			counselor's disclosure to such an	
			additional person with the consent of	
			the victim when reasonably necessary	
			to accomplish the purpose for which	
			the advocate or counselor is	
			consulted.	
			Exceptions: in cases that involve the	
			provisions of the Abused and	
			Neglected Child Reporting Act or in	
			cases where failure to disclose is	
			likely to result in an imminent risk of	
			serious bodily harm or death of the	
			victim or another person.	
Indiana	Confidentiality	IC § 35-37-6-	Victim counselor means an individual	- Attorney-client (IN ST RPC
	between victim	9	who is an employee or supervised	Rule 1.6)
	counselor and		volunteer of a victim counseling	- Physician-patient (IC § 34-46-
	victim.		center and provides treatment to a	3-1)
			victim for an emotional or	- Mental Health Service
			psychological condition incurred by	Provider-patient (IC § 34-46-5-
			the victim as a result of a covered act.	1)
				- Psychologist-patient (IC § 34-
			Exceptions: (a) A victim does not	46-2-23)
			waive the protections afforded by this	- Clergy privilege (IC § 34-46-3-
			chapter by testifying in court about an	1)
			offense. However, if the victim	- Spousal privilege (IC § 34-46-
			partially discloses the contents of a	3-1)

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
			crime, sexual assault, and domestic	
			violence, crisis intervention	
			techniques, communication skills,	
			working with diverse populations, an	
			overview of the state criminal justice	
			system, information regarding	
			pertinent hospital procedures, and	
			information regarding state and	
			community resources for victims of	
			crime.	
			Exceptions: if a victim has deceased	
			or has been declared to be	
			incompetent; in matters of proof	
			concerning the chain of custody of	
			evidence, in matters of proof	
			concerning the physical appearance	
			of the victim at the time of the injury	
			or the counselor's first contact with	
			the victim after the injury, or where	
			the counselor has reason to believe	
			that the victim has given perjured	
			testimony and the defendant or the	
			state has made an offer of proof that	
			perjury may have been committed; in	
			a court of law if: the information	
			sought is relevant and material	
			evidence of the facts and	
			circumstances involved in an alleged	
			criminal act which is the subject of a	
			criminal proceeding; the probative	
			value of the information outweighs	
			the harmful effect, if any, of	
			disclosure on the victim, the	
			counseling relationship, and the	
			treatment services; the information	

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
Maryland	No confidentiality	MD Code, Courts and Judicial Proceedings § 9-109	at least 30 hours of training, has a primary function with the program, counsels or assists victims, supervises employees or volunteers who perform that function or administer the program. Exceptions: when a court in the exercise of sound discretion deems the disclosure necessary to the proper administration of justice.	 Spousal privilege (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-106, 107) Attorney-client (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-108) Patient-therapist (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-109) Professional Counselor-client (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-109)1) Client-Psychiatric Nursing Specialist (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-109.1) Client-Psychiatric Nursing Specialist (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-109.1) Accountant-client (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-109.1) Clergy Person privilege (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-110) Clergy Person privilege (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-111) News Media privilege (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-112) Interpreter privilege (MD CTS & JUD PRO § 9-114) Social Worker-client (MD CTS
Massachusetts	Confidentiality	Mass. Gen. L	A sexual assault counselor is a person	& JUD PRO § 9-121) - Husband-wife (M.G.L.A. 233 §
	between sexual	Ann. Ch. 233	who is employed by or is a volunteer	20)

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships	
	assault counselor and domestic violence victims' counselor and victim; and confidentiality of domestic violence victims' program and rape crisis center locations.	§ 20J, 20K, 20L	in a rape crisis center, has undergone thirty-fivee,825 1.15 TD 1.48 118.44 1.4 confidentialit6p.0001 Tw 27.6 (§ se005	•	o ,

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
			information is therein contained before allowing such discovery or the introduction of such evidence.	
Michigan	Confidentiality between sexual assault or domestic violence counselor and victim.	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 600.2157a	 Sexual assault or domestic violence. Sexual assault or domestic violence counselor means a person who is employed at or who volunteers service at a sexual assault or domestic violence crisis center, and who in that capacity provides advice, counseling, or other assistance to victims of sexual assault or domestic violence and their families. Exceptions: Except as provided by section 11 of the child protection law, Act No. 238 of the Public Acts of 1975, being section 722.631 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, a confidential communication, or any report, working paper, or statement contained in a report or working paper, given or made in connection with a consultation between a victim and a sexual assault or domestic violence counselor, shall not be admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceeding without the prior written consent of the victim. 	- Physician-patient (M.C.L.A. § 600.2157).

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
			counseling, or assistance to victims of	- Psychologist, consulting
			sexual assault.	psychologist-patient
				- Licensed Social Worker-client
			Domestic abuse advocate, for the	- Interpreter privilege
			purposes of this section, means an	- Chemical Dependency
			employee or supervised volunteer	Counselor-client
			from a community-based battered	(M.S.A. § 595.02—Proposed
			women's shelter and domestic abuse	Legislation)
			program eligible to receive grants	
			under section 611A.32; that provides	
			information, advocacy, crisis	
			intervention, emergency shelter, or	
			support to victims of domestic abuse	
			and who is not employed by or under	
			the direct supervision of a law	
			enforcement agency, a prosecutor's	
			office, or by a city, county, or state	
			agency.	
			Exceptions: in investigations or	
			proceedings related to neglect or	
			termination of parental rights if the	
			court determines good cause exists.	
			In determining whether to compel	
			disclosure, the court shall weigh the	
			public interest and need for	
			disclosure against the effect on the	
			victim, the treatment relationship, and	
			the treatment services if disclosure	
			occurs. Nothing in this clause	
			exempts sexual assault counselors	
			from compliance with the provisions	
			of sections 626.556 (reporting	
			maltreatment of minors) and 626.557	
			(reporting maltreatment of vulnerable	
			adults).	

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
Mississippi	No confidentiality.	N/A	Address Confidentiality Program: Miss. Code Ann. § 99-47-1.	 Licensed Professional Counselor-client (M.S.A. § 73- 30-17) Attorney-client (M.R.E. Rule 502) Psychologist-patient (M.S.A. § 73-31-29) Physician-patient (M.R.E. Rule 503) Psychotherapist-patient (M.R.E. Rule 503) Husband-wife (M.R.E. Rule 504) Priest-penitent (M.R.E. Rule 505)
Missouri	Confidentiality between shelters and victims.	V.A.M.S. 455.220	Law requires persons employed by or volunteering services to the shelter to maintain the confidentiality of any information that would identify individuals served by the shelter.	 Attorney-client (V.A.M.S. § 491.060(3)) Religious privilege (V.A.M.S. § 491.060(4)) Physician-patient (V.A.M.S. § 491.060(5)) Chiropractor-patient (V.A.M.S. § 491.060(5)) Dentist-patient (V.A.M.S. § 491.060(5)) Psychologist-patient (V.A.M.S. § 491.060(5)) Professional Counselor-client (V.A.M.S. § 337.540) Social Worker-client (V.A.M.S. § 337.636)
Montana	Confidentiality between advocate and victim.	M.C.A. § 26- 1-812	Advocate means an employee or volunteer of a domestic violence shelter, crisis line, or victim's services	 Spousal privilege (M.C.A. § 26- 1-802) Attorney-client (M.C.A. § 26-1-
		Į	sherer, crisis nine, or victim s services	- Autor ney-chent (191.C.A. § 20-1-

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
			provider that provides services for	803)
			victims of sexual assault, stalking, or	- Clergy privilege (M.C.A. § 26-
			any assault on a partner or family	1-804)
			member.	- Doctor-patient (M.C.A. § 26-1-
				805)
			Exceptions: if a report is otherwise	- Speech Language Pathologist,
			required by law.	Audoiologist-client (M.C.A. §
				26-1-806)
				- Psychologist-client (M.C.A. §
				26-1-807)
				- Employee of Education
				Institution-student (M.C.A. § 26- 1-809)
				- Public Officer privilege
				(M.C.A. § 26-1-810)
Nebraska	Confidentiality			
	between victim and			
	victim advocate			
	regarding any			
	criminal, civil,			
	legislative,			
	administrative, or			
	other proceeding			
	where the victim			
	advocate is asked to			
	give testimony or			
	produce records,			
	produce records,			

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
			The privilege provided pursuant to NRS 49.2547 may be claimed by: (a) The victim; (b) The guardian or conservator of the victim; (c) The personal representative of a deceased victim; and (d) The victim's advocate, but only on behalf of the victim. 2. The authority of a victim's advocate to claim the privilege is presumed in the absence of evidence to the contrary. Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 49.2548 (West)	 Doctor-patient (N.R.S. § 49.225) Marriage and Family Therapist-client (N.R.S. § 49.247) Clinical Professional Counselor-client (N.R.S. § 49.2504) Social Worker-client (N.R.S. § 49.252) Confessor-confessant (N.R.S. § 49-255)

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
	between rape crisis counselor and victim.	4510 (McKinney, Proposed Legislation)	person who has been certified by an approved rape crisis program as having satisfied the training standards specified in subdivision fifteen of section two hundred six of the public health law, and who, regardless of compensation, is acting under the direction and supervision of an approved rape crisis program.	 4503- Proposed Legislation) Spouse privilege (NY CPLR § 4502) Physician, Dentist, Podiatrist, Chiropractor, Nurse-patient (NY CPLR § 4504) Clergy privilege (NY CPLR § 4505)

State

State

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
				shelter, on admitting the person, shall determine, if possible, the person's last known residential address and county of residence. The information concerning the address and county of residence is confidential and may be released only to a public children services agency pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code (R.C. § 3113.40)
Oklahoma	Confidentiality between state and local agencies and victims who have relocated.	22 Okl. Ann. § 60.14.	The purpose of this section is to enable state and local agencies to respond to requests for public records without disclosing	

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
				- Psychotherapist-patient
				(O.R.S. § 40.230 Rule 504)
				- Physician-patient (O.R.S. §
				40.235 Rule 504-1)
				- Nurse-patient (O.R.S. § 40.240
				Rule 504-2)
				- School Employee-student
				(O.R.S. § 40.245 Rule 504-3)
				- Regulated Social Worker-client
				(O.R.S. § 40.250 Rule 504-4)
				- Husband-wife (O.R.S. § 40.255
				Rule 505)
				- Clergy Member-penitent
				(O.R.S. § 40.260 Rule 506)
				- Counselor-client (O.R.S. §
				40.262 Rule 507) - Stenographer-employer
				(O.R.S. § 40.265 Rule 508A)
				- Public Officer privilege (O.R.S.
				§ 40.270 Rule 209)
				- Sign Language Interpreter
				privilege (O.R.S. § 40.272 Rule
				509-1)
				- Interpreter privilege (O.R.S. §
				40.273 Rule 509-2)
Pennsylvania	Confidentiality	23 Pa. Cons.	A domestic violence	- Attorney-client (Rules of Prof.
	between a victim	Stat. Ann. §	counselor/advocate is an individual	Conduct, Rule 1.6, 42 Pa.C.S.A.)
	and a domestic	6116, 42	who is engaged in a domestic	- Husband-wife (42 Pa.C.S.A. §
	violence	Pa.C.S.A. §	violence program, the primary	5923)
	counselor/advocate	5945.1	purpose of which is the rendering of	- News Reporter privilege (42
	or a co participant		counseling or assistance to victims of	Pa.C.S.A. § 5942)
	who is present		domestic violence, who has	- Clergymen privilege (42
	during domestic		undergone 40 hours of training (23	Pa.C.S.A. § 5943)
	violence		Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 6102 (West)).	- Psychiatrist, Licensed
	counseling/advocacy.		Savual account acumentar means a	Psychologist-patient (42
			Sexual assault counselor means a	

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
	No sexual assault counselor or an interpreter translating the communication between a sexual assault counselor and a victim may, without the written consent of the victim, disclose the victim's confidential oral or written communications to the counselor nor consent to be examined in any court or criminal proceeding.		person who is engaged in any office, institution or center defined as a rape crisis center under this section, who has undergone 40 hours of sexual assault training and is under the control of a direct services supervisor of a rape crisis center, whose primary purpose is the rendering of advice, counseling or assistance to victims of sexual assault.	Pa.C.S.A. § 5944) - School Personnel privilege (42 Pa.C.S.A. § 5945) - Peer Support Member privilege (42 Pa.C.S.A. § 5952) - Physician-patient (42 Pa.C.S.A. § 5929) - Interpreter, Translator privilege (63 P.S. § 1725.7) - Crime Stopper, Anticrime Program privilege (42 Pa.C.S.A. 5945.2)
Rhode Island	Confidentiality between victim and sexual assault counselor. (Proposed Statute).	R.I. Const. art. I, § 10	Proposed statute would make communications privileged between sexual assault victim and sexual assault counselor. It would also provide for an in-camera hearing to permit trial judge to determine whether the counselor knows or has possession of material that is exculpatory in nature. An in-camera hearing would also ensure that no sensitive and irrelevant evidence is presented to the trier of fact. This strikes the requisite balance between an accused's constitutional right at	 Attorney-client (Sup.Ct.Rules, Art. V, Rules of Prof.Conduct, Rule 1.6) Physician-patient (RI ST § 9- 17-24) Clergy privilege (RI ST § 9-17- 23) Interpreter privilege (RI ST § 9- 17-25) Mental Health Counselor- client (RI ST § 5-63.2-18) Marriage and Family Therapist-client (RI ST § 5-63.2- 18)

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential	
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships	
			assistance concerning a mental,		
			physical, or emotional condition		
			caused by a sexual assault.		
			4. "Confidential communication"		
			shall mean any communication		
			between a sexual assault victim and a		
			sexual assault counselor obtained in		
			his or her professional capacity in the		
			course of rendering assistance or		
			counseling to the sexual assault		
			victim.		
South Carolina	N/A	N/A	N/A	NP02vid97(er-cation) T J(

State	Confidential
	Relationships

State	Confidential	Applicable	Additional Information	Other Confidential
	Relationships	Statute		Relationships
			counselor believes it is in the best	Rev Rule 509)
			interest of the victim to disclose the	
			confidential communication to the	
			victim's parents;	
			(2) the victim is a minor and the	
			minor's parents or guardian have	
			consented to disclosure of the	
			confidential communication to a third	
			party based upon representations	
			made by the counselor that it is in the	
			best interest of the minor victim to	
			make such disclosure;	
			(3) the victim is not a minor, has	
			given consent, and the counselor	
			believes the disclosure is necessary to	
			accomplish the desired result of	
			counseling; or	
			(4) the counselor has an obligation	
			under Title 62A, Chapter 4a, Child	
			and Family Services, to report	
			information transmitted in the	
			confidential communication (Utah	
			Code Ann. § 77-38-204 (West)).	
Vermont	Confidentiality	Vt. Stat. Ann.	Crisis worker means an employee or	
	between victim and	Tit. 12 §		
	crisis worker	1614(b)		

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
			(West)	(WA ST § 5.60.060)
West Virginia	Confidentially between domestic violence program or shelter and victim, IF the program receives funds from the state.	W.Va. Code § 48-26-701	Shelter or family protection shelter means a licensed domestic violence shelter created for the purpose of receiving, on a temporary basis, persons who are victims of domestic violence, abuse or rape as well as the children of such victims. Family protection program or program means a licensed domestic violence program	

State	Confidential Relationships	Applicable Statute	Additional Information	Other Confidential Relationships
				905.06)