

DELIVERY OF LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Submit Letter

(REQUIRES AN ATTACHED LETTER)

Directions:

Based on the requirement listed below, applicants for VAWA funds must certify in the form of a letter, on letterhead, signed and dated by the authorizing official. States will be responsible to ensure that subgrantees meet the requirement. UOVC will not award funds for legal assistance to any subgrantee that has not submitted a sufficient letter.

A sample letter is provided below. Please have your authorizing official on your grant sign a letter, as instructed above and submit the letter with your grant application.

Delivery of Legal Assistance Requirement: Any grantee or subgrantee providing legal assistance with funds awarded under this program shall certify in writing that:

- (1) any person providing legal assistance with funds through this program
 - (A) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or
 - (B) (i) is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in subparagraph (A); and
(ii) has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;
- (2) any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a tribal, state, territorial, or local domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate tribal, state, territorial, and local law enforcement officials;
- (3) any person or organization providing legal assistance with funds through this program has informed and will continue to inform state, local, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate state and local law enforcement officials of their work; and
- (4) the grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

Additional Information

OVW in their circular 1122-0020 states: "Legal assistance" includes assistance to adult and youth victims of sexual assault, intimate partner domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking in: a) family, Tribal, Territorial, immigration, employment, administrative agency, housing matters, campus administrative or protection or stay away order proceedings, and other similar matters;

and b) criminal justice investigations, prosecutions and post-trial matters (including sentencing, parole, and probation) that impact the victim's safety and privacy.

Sample Certification Letter Regarding Delivery of Legal Assistance

[Applicant Letterhead]

[Date]

Director
Utah Office for Victims of Crime
350 E. 500 S. #200
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Dear Director:

This letter serves to certify that **[Applicant]** is in compliance with the following statutory requirements:

- (1) Any person providing legal assistance through a program funded under the LAV Program
 - (A) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking in the targeted population; or
 - (B) (i) is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in subparagraph (A); and
 - (ii) has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide.
- (2) Any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a state, local, territorial, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate tribal, State, territorial, and local law enforcement officials.
- (3) Any person or organization providing legal assistance through a program funded under this Program has informed and will continue to inform state, local, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence or sexual assault programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate State and local law enforcement officials of their work.

(4) The grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

Sincerely,
[Applicant's Authorizing Official]