



Extending Project Passport

Genesis and Goals of the Project

The goal of Extending Project Passport is to build upon the earlier success of the original Project Passport. Project Passport was designed to improve recognition and enforcement of orders of protection within and between states and tribes by encouraging states to adopt a recognizable first page for orders of protection (i.e., by including common elements and format). The project originated with Kentucky and its seven bordering states that came together to develop a recognizable template. The model template of the recognizable first page for protection orders developed by the Kentucky project is now used in Kentucky and six of its border states. Since that initiative, the model template has been adopted as a first page by several other states. It has also recently been used in a similar regional initiative for the Southeastern U.S.

Extending Project Passport will convene two different regional meetings to create consensus on further adoption of the model template of the recognizable first page. Approximately 16 to 18 U.S. states and territories, as well as contiguous tribal regions, are expected to participate in the Western-Pacific and Central-Southwestern meetings. Using a recognizable first page for protection orders will strengthen the safety net for battered women and their children by offering greater consistency in the issuance and enforcement of orders of protection. The meetings will also serve to educate state teams about the intricacies associated with federal laws that pertain to orders of protection.

A major component of this project is also the promotion and use of XML (Extensible Markup Language) technology to improve the comparability of data entered in protection order registries across states. NCSC will accomplish this in several ways:

- (1) An educational overview of XML, related applications, and the Global Justice XML Data Model and Data Dictionary will be presented – specifically as it relates to domestic violence and protection orders.
- (2) An XML-based protection order form (using the Kentucky model first page as the basis) will be developed and demonstrated.
- (3) A dialogue with front-line personnel, in regard to paper and electronic information sharing, will be facilitated through the regional meetings.

Project Team Dynamics

This collaborative effort builds upon the Regional Meetings on Full Faith and Credit convened by the National Center for State Courts in partnership with the National Center on Full Faith and Credit (NCFFC), a project of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA), the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA), and the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ). Our partners for Extending Project Passport once again include the NCFFC, NCJA, COSCA, and CCJ, as well as the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the National Sheriffs' Association, and the National Tribal Justice Resource Center.

Contact Information

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