



**7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordination Council**  
*Serving Sangamon, Morgan, Macoupin, Jersey, Greene and Scott Counties*

**Council Chair:** Hon. Kenneth Deihl, Circuit Judge, 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit

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The purpose of the Family Violence Coordinating Councils, at both the state and local/circuit level, is to establish a forum to improve the institutional, professional and community response to family violence including child abuse, domestic abuse, and elder abuse; to engage in education and prevention; the coordination of intervention and services for victims and perpetrators; and, to contribute to the improvement of the legal system and the administration of justice.

The Council consists of County Committees with each county in the circuit having a distinct committee and a Steering/Planning Committee. Members of the County Committees include Victim Witness Coordinators, State's Attorneys, Attorneys, Clergy, Judges, Probation, Medical Professionals, School personnel, Law Enforcement, Social Workers, Community and County members

The Council has successfully presented programs in some of the schools in the circuit, developed guidelines and trained clergy on responding to family violence, developed checklists and information packets for law enforcement, medical professionals and dentists for assistance in responding to family violence situations.

In addition to many community awareness events, the council has hosted several trainings:

- Internet Stalking and Child Solicitation
- The Correlation Between Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse
- Break the Cycle of Violence
- Human Trafficking and Prostitution
- Elder Abuse Prevention
- Domestic Violence Through the Eyes of A Child
- Firearms and Domestic Violence
- Child Sexual Abuse-How To Identify and Respond
- Animal Abuse & Domestic Violence
- The Developmental Impact on Children From Exposure to Domestic Violence
- Domestic Violence Comes to Work

The direction for the future is to continue to educate and raise awareness throughout the community, schools, and train professionals who respond to family violence.