

Client Limited Confidentiality Agreement for people who use DFV

The purpose of this form is to outline the importance of confidentiality and its limits in relation to the SFV Program.

This will help us provide you and your family with the best support.

1. Program Participation Agreement

You are required to sign an agreement in order to participate in our Stopping Family Violence program. The details of this agreement are explained to you in this document and by your SFV practitioner. Your practitioner is also available to answer any questions about this program participation agreement before you sign it.

2. Limited Confidentiality

Our program will respect and support your efforts and commitment to:

- Work on stopping your use of abusive and violent behaviour towards female partners and/or children
- Work for the greater safety of your partner and children
- Be respectful of yourself and others

We need to be respectful to all the people who are affected by our work. We also have legal responsibilities. This means that there are some matters that we cannot keep confidential.

We will report incidents of violence or threats to safety to police and any other relevant authorities, such as High Risk Team's and probation and parole officers.

We will provide feedback to your partner, or former partner, and convey any concerns we have about your behaviour, attitudes, and actions with a focus on overall safety. We will provide information about, or relevant to, your use of violence to any services that are supporting your (ex) partner and children.

If it seems that any counselling you are receiving is inconsistent with the principles of our program, or if it would be beneficial for your counsellor to know about our program, we will contact them to discuss our work with you. We may also share with them information that is relevant to your use of violence and/or your (ex) partner's and children's safety.

3. Partner contact

Our work with you needs to be respectful to all members of your family, and sensitive to their needs. We need to understand what is important for your (ex) partner and children, for their safety. This means that we will attempt to contact your (ex) partner on a regular basis.

In our Domestic Violence Programs, we do not provide family or couple counselling, because these are not effective when there is the use of violence. The focus of your work with us will be about working with you on stopping your use of abusive and violent behaviour.

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4. Program Behaviour

Throughout your participation in the program, if you engage in disrespectful or abusive behaviours toward other group members or the facilitators, your ongoing participation in the program will be reviewed.

5. Observers

Observers are other people who watch the group sessions, either live, via videoconferencing or a recorded session. Observers are an important part of our program. Observers are other professionals, practitioners, and students working in this area. This is part of our funding obligations. All observers sign confidentiality forms.

6. Information Sharing

The program can only provide a letter confirming attendance and participation to a Court if requested by the Court or you. You must provide us with copies of any Court Orders that you are subject to. These include Domestic Violence Orders, Family Law Court and Children's Court Orders. You must inform program employees of breaches or changes to any of these orders should they occur.

If there is information about you that is relevant to your use of violence and the safety of others, program employees may exchange this within RAQ Safety Meetings and/or agencies such as Probation and Parole, Queensland Police, Department of Child Safety and any other organisation that works towards keeping your partner/ex-partner safe as per information sharing provisions within the Queensland Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012.

Program employees are not responsible for you meeting the orders provided by other organisations.

7. Client Agreement			
I understand and agree to all the conditions attached in this program participation agreement concerning limited confidentiality, partner contact, program behaviour, and information sharing as stated above.			
Client Name		Date	
Signature			
Practitioner Name		Date	
Practitioner Signature			

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8. Verbal Client Agreement and Consent

Verbal client consent should only be used where it is not practicable to obtain written consent.

Only Verbal Client Consent provided ☐

I have discussed the required information on this form with the client or their authorised representative. I am satisfied that the client (or their representative) understands the information in this document and has provided their agreement and consent.

Practitioner Name		Date	
Practitioner Signature			