

PLACEMENT NAME:

New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

1) A brief statement about your office generally (e.g., mission, jurisdiction, size, nature of practice, etc.)

The mission and vision of the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) is:

Our Mission:

To improve New York State's response to and prevention of domestic violence with the goal of enhancing the safety of all New Yorkers in their intimate and family relationships.

Our Vision:

To create a State in which communities and systems are committed to supporting and promoting equality, dignity and respect so that individuals can feel safer in their intimate and family relationships.

The NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV), is a New York State agency responsible for advising the Governor and the Legislature on statewide domestic violence policy and legislation, as well as providing statewide community outreach and public education. OPDV also promotes cross-systems response to domestic violence through centralized training, technical assistance and policy development in the areas of criminal justice, child welfare, health care and substance abuse.

2) A description of the experiences law students are likely to have at your office, including the types tasks a student may perform.

Students will be working under the supervision of highly-trained and experienced attorneys. Students can expect to research and draft memoranda of law, participate in the drafting of legislation, and attend appropriate meetings. Specific topics will be determined based both on the immediate needs of the office, and the interests of the individual students. Topics likely to arise include human trafficking, domestic violence in the workplace, child welfare, criminal justice and family law. Legal issues researched could include confidentially, firearms and domestic violence, record retention by criminal justices agencies, national laws regarding domestic violence and analysis of new legislation.

3) Any special requirements you have for student selection (e.g., writing sample, class standing, experience, third year students only, background check, etc.)

Interested students should submit a writing sample. Students with relevant backgrounds or coursework preferred (such as domestic violence, criminal justice, and/or family law). Students in/or entering their second or third-year will be considered.

4) Website for further information

Further information about OPDV can be found at our website: www.opdv.state.ny.us.

5) Anything else that you think would be helpful or informative.

The work done at OPDV can and does have an affect on the lives of others; either directly through victim support, or indirectly through our trainings, publications and/or creation and implementation of various laws, polices and procedures.

Students who work with our agency will have an opportunity to:

1. develop a better understanding of domestic violence and the issues that surround it;
2. work with experts in the field of domestic violence;
3. gain an understanding of New York State government and the work that it performs; and
4. cultivate a network of relationships and resources that will serve them well in their future endeavors.