



## **COLORADO ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM**

### **SUMMARY**

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) provides relocated survivors of domestic violence, sexual offenses or stalking, with a substitute address to use in place of their actual address when they apply for or receive state or local government services (i.e. driver's license, voter registration, public school records). The goal of the ACP is to prevent an abuser or potential abuser from finding the survivor through the state's public records. The ACP is a records protection program, not a witness protection program. The ACP does not assist participants with legal advice, obtaining new names, or social security numbers, or with relocating to a new residence. Laws governing the program are located at §24-21-201, C.R.S.

### **APPLYING FOR PARTICIPATION**

The ACP is available to men, women and/or children who are survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Survivors must have relocated to a location unknown to the abuser. Survivors (or their parent or guardian) apply by meeting with registered application assistants who are available at application centers. The ACP website has a current listing of all Colorado application centers. The ACP processes applications upon receipt. Participants may begin using the services as soon as they receive their letter of certification and ACP authorization card, which typically takes 7-10 business days from the day of application.

### **SUBSTITUTE ADDRESS**

The ACP substitute address is a legal address, which may be used by program participants in lieu of their actual address. All participants are issued the same address, but each address contains an individual code number (similar to an apartment number) for distinguishing individual mail. The ACP substitute address is also the program address. This substitute address is unrelated to the real location of any participant or the ACP program.

### **ACP AUTHORIZATION CARD**

An ACP authorization card is issued to each participant. Each authorization card contains the ACP substitute address, the participant's name, signature, date of birth, individual authorization code and card expiration date. Each card also reflects the ACP program contact information for questions about program use or card verification.

### **ACP MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE**

ACP Participants designate the Colorado ACP as their agent for purposes of service of process and receipt of first-class, certified or registered mail. The ACP receives participant mail and forwards the mail to the participant's actual mailing address. There is no cost to the participant for this service.

### **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

ACP program participants may use the ACP address when creating records or changing recently created records with state and local agencies. When a program participant presents his or her valid ACP authorization card, state and local government agencies must accept the ACP substitute address as an actual address and cannot require a participant to disclose their true address. [Note: There are some limited exceptions.] Agencies are free to make copies of the participant's identification card for their records.

### **CONTACT THE ACP**

For more information about the Colorado ACP, please contact us at:

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