



Protect Domestic Violence Shelters

Support Senate Bill 144

Summary

Senate Bill 144 provides that a domestic violence shelter is not liable for damages in a tort action for any harm that a client or other person on the shelter's premises sustains as a result of the tortuous conduct of a perpetrator that is committed on the shelter's premises. Immunity would not apply in cases of gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing.

Talking Points

- Approximately 90 local domestic violence programs in the state provide crisis intervention services for victims of domestic violence in all 100 counties, including emergency shelter, safety planning, crisis counseling, court advocacy and support groups.
- At least **561** women, children, and men have been murdered as a result of domestic violence in NC from January 1, 2002 – March 2, 2009, according to information collected by NCCADV.
- In FY 2007, local domestic violence programs served over **41,000** victims and responded to over **101,000** crisis line calls, according to the Council for Women/ Domestic Violence Commission.
- Local domestic violence programs should not be held liable for the harmful acts committed by a perpetrator on their premises.
- Protect domestic violence shelters so that they can provide necessary and lifesaving services to victims in our state.

For more information please contact Colleen Kochanek, NCCADV Lobbyist at 919.755.8741 or colleen.kochanek@smithmoorelaw.com or Beth Froehling, NCCADV Public Policy Director at 919.956.9124 or bfroehling@nccadv.org.