



**Department  
of State**

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT:  
ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM**

*PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION (8) OF SECTION 108 OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW*

**FOR SUBMISSION TO:**

**TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE JOHN J. FLANAGAN  
SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY CARL E. HEASTIE**

**February 5, 2016**

**Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor**

**Cesar A. Perales  
Secretary of State**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In compliance with subdivision 8 of section 108 of the Executive Law, the Department of State (the “Department”) respectfully submits the following report regarding the Address Confidentiality Program (the “Program”). This report covers the period from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

Established in June of 2012, pursuant to Chapter 502 of the Laws of 2011, the Program is a cost-free initiative, administered by the Department that allows victims of domestic violence to shield their actual addresses. Participants are assigned a substitute address they may use for receipt of all first-class, registered, and certified mail. The Secretary of State also accepts service of process on behalf of Program participants. Participants' mail is re-packaged and forwarded forthwith to their actual mailing addresses. Victims of domestic violence, who have moved or are planning to move to a new location due to safety concerns, may be eligible to participate in the Program. Persons living in the same household as the victim, such as children, parents, or siblings, may also be eligible.

## **2015 PROGRAM STATISTICS**

The Department received and processed 244 applications in 2015, up from 186 applications in 2014. The Program had a total of 1,016 participants at the end of 2015, up from 596 participants at the end of 2014. In 2015, the Program forwarded 15,450 pieces of mail, up from 9,210 pieces of mail in 2014. A breakdown, by county, of these statistics for 2015 is contained in Table 1.

**Table 1.**

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>APPLICATIONS RECEIVED</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>PIECES OF MAIL FORWARDED</b>
Albany	48	152	415
Allegany	0	3	15
Bronx	12	48	571
Broome	12	59	1073
Cattaraugus	0	2	1
Cayuga	2	7	50
Chautauqua	2	6	334
Chemung	0	6	6
Chenango	2	1	6
Clinton	2	7	13
Dutchess	1	13	2
Erie	6	80	1681
Essex	0	3	130
Franklin	0	2	250
Fulton	0	3	0
Genesee	0	3	71
Greene	0	17	756
Herkimer	1	10	11
Jefferson	0	2	0

Livingston	4	13	252
Monroe	25	93	1429
Nassau	1	17	805
New York	6	25	676
Niagara	0	15	24
Oneida	3	7	106
Onondaga	3	8	74
Ontario	1	3	85
Orange	5	29	166
Orleans	0	4	0
Oswego	2	6	139
Otsego	0	4	261
Putnam	1	2	0
Queens	14	42	324
Rensselaer	3	6	94
Richmond	2	14	855
Rockland	1	11	241
Saratoga	10	13	72
Schenectady	7	20	353
Schuyler	1	2	46
Seneca	0	1	196
St. Lawrence	2	5	51
Steuben	2	8	77
Suffolk	17	70	485
Sullivan	0	2	76
Tioga	7	37	590
Ulster	3	8	19
Warren	4	9	61
Washington	4	13	249
Wayne	1	2	80
Westchester	6	21	340
Wyoming	0	2	123
Yates	2	4	159
Out of State	3	13	528
<b>Total</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>1016</b>	<b>15,450</b>

## **APPLICATION ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS**

Subdivision 3 of section 108 of the Executive Law requires that the Secretary of State designate local, State, or not-for-profit agencies that provide counseling, referral, shelter, or other specialized services to victims of domestic violence to assist persons applying to be program participants. By the end of 2015, 42 not-for-profit domestic violence agencies and public entities have been trained and designated by the Secretary as application assistance providers, as indicated in Table 2. By comparison, at the end of 2014, 37 such organizations had registered with the Program for this purpose.

**Table 2.**

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>COUNTY</b>
ACCORD Corporation	Allegany
Advocacy Center of Tompkins County	Tompkins
Albany County Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center	Albany
Alternatives for Battered Women (ABW)	Monroe
Catholic Charities of Fulton and Montgomery Counties	Montgomery
Catholic Charities of Schoharie County	Schoharie
Cattaraugus Community Action	Cattaraugus
Cayuga Seneca Community Action Agency, Inc.	Cayuga
Center Against Domestic Violence	Kings
Chances and Changes, Inc.	Livingston
Community Action of Greene County, Inc.	Greene
Crisis Services	Erie
Day One	New York
Delaware Opportunities, Inc. – Safe Against Violence	Delaware
Domestic Violence Project of Warren & Washington County	Warren/Washington
Erie County DA’s Office BE SAFE Domestic Violence Program	Erie
Genesee Justice	Genesee
Grace Smith House, Inc.	Dutchess
Her Justice	New York
Hope’s Door	Westchester
The Legal Project	Albany
A New Hope Center	Tioga
New York City Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project	New York
New York State Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline	All Counties
NY State Police Crime Victim Specialist Program, Troop D	Onondaga
NY State Police Crime Victim Specialist Program, Troop G	Albany
The Retreat, Inc.	Suffolk
The Safe Center LI, Inc.	Nassau
Safe Homes of Orange County	Orange
Sexual Assault & Crime Victims Assistance Program	Rensselaer
SOS Shelter, Inc./dba Rise NY	Broome
Steps to End Family Violence	New York
STOP Domestic Violence / Behavioral Health Services North, Inc.	Clinton
Town of Newburgh Police Department	Orange
Ulster County Crime Victim Assistance Program	Ulster
Unity House Domestic Violence Services	Rensselaer
Urban Justice Center	New York
Vera House, Inc.	Onondaga
Westchester County Family Justice Center	Westchester
Westchester County Office for Women	Westchester
Willow Domestic Violence Center	Monroe
Wyoming County District Attorney’s Office – Domestic Violence Program	Wyoming
YWCA of Schenectady (d/b/a YWCA Northeastern NY)	Schenectady

## **PROMOTION OF THE PROGRAM**

In 2015, the Department continued its active outreach to service providers and other not-for-profit organizations in order to identify individuals that may benefit from the Program. We reached out to a large number of organizations via phone, email, and direct mail to assure such providers were aware of this service and are actively steering potential participants to it. At the request of Domestic Violence Project of Warren & Washington Counties, Department staff also held an outreach event at its offices on February 11, 2015.