



**CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP TO
End Domestic Violence**

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Court Rules in Favor of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors, Protecting Crucial Grants to Support Victims of Violence Nationwide

Final Ruling Follows Series of Court Orders Blocking Unlawful Administration Attempt to Weaponize Violence Prevention Funding

Providence, R.I. – A judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island has ruled in favor of state domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions and providers, successfully ending a lawsuit brought by the coalition that has blocked the administration's unlawful conditions on federal funding for programs administered by the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women and Office of Justice Programs.

The summary judgment order resolves *Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence, et al. v. Blanche* — a [case](#) filed in June 2025 by state domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions and providers. The case challenged DOJ's efforts to target grantees that implement diversity, equity, and inclusion programs; serve immigrants; recognize and respect people regardless of gender identity; and acknowledge systemic causes of abuse, among other things.

The court first issued [an order](#) in the case in August 2025, blocking those unlawful restrictions, which would have made it impossible for many grantees to operate legally or effectively. DOJ then imposed additional conditions on grant funding administered by the Office of Justice Programs and the Office for Victims of Crime. Those new, unlawful, and potentially devastating additional conditions included restrictions that would have prevented providers from serving certain noncitizen survivors and others who couldn't immediately prove their citizenship, prompting an amended complaint, which [also earned intervention](#) from the court. Today's order invalidates the unlawful conditions that DOJ attempted to impose.

The coalition released the following statement in response to today's order.

"We are relieved to see this summary judgment order from the court and that our case has successfully stopped an unlawful and unconscionable attack on vital federal funding for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. These grants help sustain shelters, crisis response services, legal assistance, and coordinated community efforts that survivors rely on in moments of profound danger. We are grateful that this ruling means that this critical funding will have lasting, permanent protection."



The coalition behind the lawsuit includes the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence; Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault; District of Columbia Coalition Against Domestic Violence; End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin: The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence; Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Jane Doe Inc. (The Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence); Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence; Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence; Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence; Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence; New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence; North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence; Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence; ValorUS; Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence; Violence Free Minnesota; Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance; Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

Plaintiffs are represented by Kristin Bateman and Robin Thurston with Democracy Forward, Lynn Eisenberg, Dan Jacobson, Nina Cahill, and Brian Rosen-Shaud with Jacobson Lawyers Group; Amy Romero for the Lawyers' Committee for Rhode Island; Lynette Labinger for the ACLU of Rhode Island; and Lauren Khouri and Elizabeth Theran with the National Women's Law Center.

Read today's summary judgment order [here](#).

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ValorUS® (VALOR) is a California-based, national anti-sexual violence organization and California's sexual assault coalition, representing the 84 rape crisis center programs across the state. Since our founding in 1980, we have continued to build dynamic relationships across a diverse range of communities, institutions and systems, and mobilize our network of survivors and advocates to influence change. Through advancing equity, leadership, prevention, and advocacy, we are fearlessly pursuing a world free from violence where the dignity of every person is valued and respected. For more information, visit valor.us.

The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (the Partnership) works to prevent and end domestic violence in California by mobilizing over 1,000 survivors, advocates, organizations, and allies. Via public policy, prevention, communications, and community-based strategic engagement, we strive to build healthy relationships at all levels by eliminating the injustices which perpetuate cycles of violence, elevating and expanding opportunities for innovative solutions that center survivors, and building and funding support for local programs. For more information, visit cpedv.org.



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Democracy Forward Foundation is a national legal organization that advances democracy and social progress through litigation, policy, public education, and regulatory engagement. For more information, please visit www.democracyforward.org.

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