




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Domestic and Family Violence, Court Video Launch

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (2.37 pm): On 22 September this year, I launched a series of videos aimed at clarifying the court process for Queenslanders impacted by domestic and family violence. It was a great honour to have as guest speaker at the launch Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO, Chair of the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence and Chair of the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council.

Through engaging with our stakeholders across the domestic and family violence sector, a real need emerged for easy-to-understand information about the court process. These videos will help people seeking protection, as well as respondents to applications, become aware of what to expect when they attend court. This information will help ease any feelings of fear, uncertainty or anxiety about the court process itself. The video series also provides a valuable resource for lawyers, police, domestic violence practitioners and other support workers to assist in explaining the process to their client and preparing them for their time at court.

The six short educational videos outline how to apply for a domestic violence order, how the court hears applications, the conditions that can be made as part of an order and what happens if an order is breached. Importantly, the videos show people the inside of a courtroom, the court process itself and the other participants who will be in court. This knowledge can greatly help to alleviate the unknowns and make the court experience less daunting.

To reach culturally and linguistically diverse communities, the videos will be published by November this year in six languages other than English, including Mandarin, Spanish, Arabic, Persian, Thai and Vietnamese. To ensure the videos are accessible to people across Queensland, the Department of Justice and Attorney-General is working with the legal community, domestic and family violence support services, community legal centres, health organisations and government agencies to promote the videos on their websites and social media platforms. In the two weeks since its launch on 22 September, there have been nearly 3,000 hits across the six videos on the Queensland courts website. The videos are a collective effort by the judiciary, the Queensland Courts Service, Legal Aid Queensland, Queensland Corrective Services, the Queensland Police Service, the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Over 30 people across these agencies as well as from Women's Legal Service and Victim Assist Queensland volunteered to be the unpaid actors in these videos. I think there would be great benefit in having these videos, including the videos talking about what is domestic violence, playing on a loop in our courthouses and also in medical centres, in emergency departments and in clubs and hotels where there are TV screens. While people are sitting there having a beer or a drink they could actually watch

these videos explaining what is domestic violence and the consequences of such actions. It would certainly be beneficial to get that message out into the broader community and send the very clear message: not now, not ever to domestic violence.