



## **Program Summary**

The goal of the Address Confidentiality Program, as established by the 2008 Idaho State Legislature, is to assist persons fleeing from domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking and attempting a fresh start for themselves and their children and/or incapacitated persons.

The program is simple and has three basic parts:

- 1. A confidential mailing address**
- 2. A mail forwarding system**
- 3. Confidential voter registration records**

This program provides victims with a substitute address designated by the Secretary of State when interacting with State and local government agencies. Acceptance of the address enables agencies to respond to requests for public records without disclosing the location of the victim. In this way, ACP participants are at a reduced risk for being tracked using state and local public records.

The ACP is not designed to work by itself but is intended to be included in an overall safety plan.

## **Criteria for Participation**

To participate in the Address Confidentiality Program, a client must meet the following criteria:

1. Has obtained an order of protection or has obtained certification from a prosecutor stating that the individual is the victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
2. Fear for the safety of self, children, or household members;
3. Live in Idaho;
4. Has recently moved or is intending to move soon to an address unknown to the abuser;
5. Be 18 years old or older, or a parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor or incapacitated person.

## **How the Program Works**

1. The victim should be living at or is planning on moving to a location that is unknown to the abuser and has not revealed that address to any public entities.
2. The victim completes an application and submits it to the Idaho Secretary of State Office.
3. After reviewing and accepting the application, the ACP manager from the Office of the Secretary of State certifies the applicant as a program participant and assigns an ACP#, a substitute address, and issues an authorization card.
4. The participant may now apply for State and local government services using the substitute address as their legal address.
5. The ACP forwards all first-class mail received at the substitute address to the participant using the address provided in the application. Magazines, packages, and bulk mail will not be forwarded.
6. Only the ACP has a record of the participant's street address which can not be revealed without a court order or requested from a law enforcement agency for the agency.

## **Cancellation from ACP**

Participants shall be certified for four (4) years following the date of filing unless the certification is withdrawn or invalidated before that date. Once accepted into the ACP, a participant may reapply at the end of four (4) years if they still feel they are at risk.

A participant can withdraw their certification at any time by:

1. Submitting a notarized letter requesting to do so.

The Secretary of State can cancel a participant if:

1. There is a change in the name or the residential address from that listed on the application, unless the program participant provides the Secretary of State with seven (7) days prior notice of the change of name or address;
2. Program participant's mail is returned as nondeliverable;
3. Participant fails to renew prior to the expiration date;
4. Participant knowingly provides false information.