

Connecticut General Statutes Annotated

Title 46b. Family Law (Refs & Annos)

Chapter 815. Court Proceedings in Family Relations Matters (Refs & Annos)

C.G.S.A. § 46b-1

§ 46b-1. Family relations matters and domestic violence defined

Effective: October 1, 2022

Currentness

(a) Matters within the jurisdiction of the Superior Court deemed to be family relations matters shall be matters affecting or involving: (1) Dissolution of marriage, contested and uncontested, except dissolution upon conviction of crime as provided in [section 46b-48](#); (2) legal separation; (3) annulment of marriage; (4) alimony, support, custody and change of name incident to dissolution of marriage, legal separation and annulment; (5) actions brought under [section 46b-15](#); (6) complaints for change of name; (7) civil support obligations; (8) habeas corpus and other proceedings to determine the custody and visitation of children; (9) habeas corpus brought by or on behalf of any mentally ill person except a person charged with a criminal offense; (10) appointment of a commission to inquire whether a person is wrongfully confined as provided by [section 17a-523](#); (11) juvenile matters as provided in [section 46b-121](#); (12) all rights and remedies provided for in chapter 815j;¹ (13) the establishing of parentage; (14) appeals from probate concerning: (A) Adoption or termination of parental rights; (B) appointment and removal of guardians; (C) custody of a minor child; (D) appointment and removal of conservators; (E) orders for custody of any child; and (F) orders of commitment of persons to public and private institutions and to other appropriate facilities as provided by statute; (15) actions related to prenuptial and separation agreements and to matrimonial and civil union decrees of a foreign jurisdiction; (16) dissolution, legal separation or annulment of a civil union performed in a foreign jurisdiction; (17) custody proceedings brought under the provisions of chapter 815p;² and (18) all such other matters within the jurisdiction of the Superior Court concerning children or family relations as may be determined by the judges of said court.

(b) As used in this title, “domestic violence” means: (1) A continuous threat of present physical pain or physical injury against a family or household member, as defined in [section 46b-38a](#); (2) stalking, including, but not limited to, stalking as described in [section 53a-181d](#), of such family or household member; (3) a pattern of threatening, including, but not limited to, a pattern of threatening as described in [section 53a-62](#), of such family or household member or a third party that intimidates such family or household member; or (4) coercive control of such family or household member, which is a pattern of behavior that in purpose or effect unreasonably interferes with a person’s free will and personal liberty. “Coercive control” includes, but is not limited to, unreasonably engaging in any of the following:

(A) Isolating the family or household member from friends, relatives or other sources of support;

(B) Depriving the family or household member of basic necessities;

(C) Controlling, regulating or monitoring the family or household member's movements, communications, daily behavior, finances, economic resources or access to services;

(D) Compelling the family or household member by force, threat or intimidation, including, but not limited to, threats based on actual or suspected immigration status, to (i) engage in conduct from which such family or household member has a right to abstain, or (ii) abstain from conduct that such family or household member has a right to pursue;

(E) Committing or threatening to commit cruelty to animals that intimidates the family or household member; or

(F) Forced sex acts, or threats of a sexual nature, including, but not limited to, threatened acts of sexual conduct, threats based on a person's sexuality or threats to release sexual images.

Credits

(1958 Rev., §§ 51-182c, 51-330; 1959, P.A. 531, § 3; 1967, P.A. 183, § 3; 1973, P.A. 73-373, § 36; 1976, P.A. 76-436, § 89, eff. July 1, 1978; 1977, P.A. 77-336, § 2; 1977, P.A. 77-452, § 15, eff. July 1, 1978; 1977, P.A. 77-576, § 37, eff. July 1, 1978; 1978, P.A. 78-318, § 26; 1978, P.A. 78-379, § 13, eff. July 1, 1978; 1986, P.A. 86-337, § 9; 2003, P.A. 03-19, § 101, eff. May 12, 2003; 2012, P.A. 12-133, § 32, eff. July 1, 2012; 2013, P.A. 13-194, § 1; 2021, P.A. 21-15, § 109, eff. Jan. 1, 2022; 2021, P.A. 21-78, § 1, eff. June 28, 2021; 2021, P.A. 21-104, § 16, eff. June 28, 2021; 2022, P.A. 22-37, § 22, eff. Oct. 1, 2022.)

Footnotes

1

C.G.S.A. § 46b-40 et seq.

2

C.G.S.A. § 46b-115 et seq.

C. G. S. A. § 46b-1, CT ST § 46b-1

The statutes and Constitution are current with all enactments of the 2023 Regular Session and the 2023 September Special Session.