WomensLaw.org offers plain-language legal information for 54 states and territories, federal legal information, and non-legal information related to domestic violence. To provide the most updated information to survivors, their loved ones, and the professionals who help them, this past year, the WomensLaw team reviewed amendments to 365 statutes and added 163 new statutes. Based largely upon these new and amended statutes, we created 245 new questions & responses and revised an additional 245 existing questions & responses on WomensLaw.org. We also translated more than 350 pieces of content into Spanish. In our Places that Help section, we added 132 new state-specific resources and revised 626 existing ones.

Here are the top four additions to WomensLaw.org that are not specific to any state. To learn more about all of our legal and non-legal updates and additions in 2022, please visit our What’s New page.

1. New Live Chat Feature Launched!

WomensLaw added a new live chat option to our Email Hotline in October 2022! After submitting their initial inquiry, users of the Email Hotline can now schedule a chat session to ask follow-up questions in real time, chatting online with a WomensLaw attorney.

2. Safety in School

Title IX provides protections to students who are victims of “sexual harassment,” which includes sexual assault and other offenses. The new Safety in School section addresses the schools’ overall obligations, supportive measures available, and explains school-issued no-contact orders.

3. Preparing for Court - By Yourself

Representing yourself in court can be daunting, especially when facing an abusive partner. We expanded the question What do I keep in mind when going to court? to better prepare pro se litigants for court. We also revised How do I know if I can appeal my case? to more thoroughly explain the concept of preserving the record for appeal.

4. Federal Gun Laws

Recent changes to federal law could impact whether or not an abuser can possess a firearm. We updated What is the definition of a domestic violence misdemeanor? and If the abuser has been convicted of a crime, can s/he legally keep or buy a gun? so that survivors have the most up-to-date information and can safety plan accordingly.