

## New Domestic Violence Message System



Hamilton County is the first in Ohio and one of the first in the country to initiate a new warning system to help protect survivors of domestic violence. This new program will send a text message or email notification to survivors who opt in advising in a matter of minutes when a civil protection order has been issued and served to the abuser. In the past, it could take a couple of days for the papers to be served and up to five days for survivors to be notified according to the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts. This real time notification is extremely important to the survivors because the clerk further indicated that studies have shown that once the abusers have been served with papers, there is a 21% chance of an escalation in violent behavior.

Survivors receiving the notification also get the phone number for Women Helping Women, an organization in southwest Ohio, whose mission is to help prevent gender-based violence and empower survivors.