

## Guidelines of Attorney General of February 22

Guidelines of Attorney General of February 22, 2016 on the principles of conduct of common organizational units of the prosecutor's office in the field of counteracting domestic violence

The guidelines set out the tasks of the prosecutor's office in contacting victims of domestic violence. Prosecutors were obliged to inform the victims of their rights in criminal proceedings, to provide additional detailed information and instructions on their rights under the Act on Prevention of Domestic Violence.

The prosecutors shall also inform the victims about the forms of assistance provided under the municipal and district systems for counteracting domestic violence, the activities of assistance centres for victims of crime and the activities of non-governmental organisations in the area providing assistance to victims of domestic violence.

In addition to informational (educational) duties, the new guidelines also set out the rules of conduct for prosecutors with regard to the handling and, in particular, the collection of evidence in criminal cases involving domestic violence, as well as what additional (non-criminal) action the prosecutor's office should take.

The Attorney General's guidelines are also binding on the Police and other authorities authorised to conduct pre-trial investigations.