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Advocates Denounce A.G.'s Rollback of Domestic Violence Victim Asylum Protections

Madison—Yesterday, Attorney General Jeff Sessions chose to limit asylum protections for domestic violence victims fleeing other countries. To do so, he personally intervened and overturned the decision of immigration law judges. Joining advocates for domestic violence victims [around the country](#), Patti Seger, executive director of End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin, condemned the attorney general's move and issued the following statement:

"Our grief is mixed with anger because Attorney General Sessions' order will have life and death consequences for victims and children who have experienced horrendous acts of violence. Sadly, the decision is all too consistent with the extreme callousness this administration has shown to victims and vulnerable people from other countries. We urge communities around Wisconsin and across the nation to reject these uncompassionate and often inhumane attitudes. We should be better than this."

The ruling does not definitively prevent all domestic violence survivors from seeking asylum. However for many victims, Attorney General Sessions' decision effectively creates insurmountable barriers to safety. End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin urges immigration judges to recognize the deadly situations facing domestic violence victims who are seeking asylum, to the greatest extent legally possible.

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End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin: The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence is the leading voice for victims of domestic abuse in Wisconsin. At End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin, we educate shelter and program volunteers and advocates, law enforcement, legislators, and community members to provide safety and support to survivors. We strive to shift Wisconsin from the attitudes and beliefs that cause domestic violence to values of mutual respect and equality, and we partner with communities in the effort to prevent and end domestic abuse.

We encourage reporters to include the National Domestic Violence Hotline number [1-800-799-SAFE(7233)] in their stories for victims who need help. A list of local Wisconsin domestic violence victim service providers can be found at <http://www.endabusewi.org>.