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REPLY TO:

Avi Levy

[avi@TLFamLaw.com](mailto:avi@TLFamLaw.com)

(310) 453-6226

March 13, 2021

The Honorable Assembly Member Marc Levine  
Member of the Assembly, 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Room 5135  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0010

Re: AB 887 (Levine)  
Position: Support

Dear Assembly Member Levine,

On behalf of the California Association of Certified Family Law Specialists, a non-profit organization with 646 members who are certified family law specialists by the State Bar of California, Board of Legal Specialization, I write to support Assembly Bill 887.

AB 887 would require court facilities that receive and process petitions for domestic violence restraining orders (DVROs) and temporary restraining orders (TROs) to allow for electronic submission of the petitions. Stay-at-home orders issued during the COVID-19 pandemic have led to an alarming spike in acts of domestic violence. For months, victims have been locked in with abusers with little ability to seek out resources. The ability for a victim to receive relief from the courts in the form of a restraining order could mean the difference between life and death for them. As courts continue to operate on a limited basis for the foreseeable future, it is integral that the system is allowed to adapt to the rapidly changing needs of the public during this pandemic, and especially of those in harm's way.

We are cognizant of the pressures the state and the judicial branch are facing, but we simply cannot stop moving forward with

creating additional safe alternatives for victims and survivors to seek safety and justice. AB 887 increases access to justice and will provide victims with an important option to ensure safe access and prevent future harm to these victims.

For these reasons, ACFLS supports AB 887.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Levy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

AVI LEVY, CFLS  
Legislative Director, ACFLS

