

What are Vermont Laws and Where Can I Find Them?

<p>Vermont Constitution</p>	<p>Provides for your most basic rights and the form of Vermont's government. Broadest rules - Apply generally to all VT citizens.</p>	<p>chp. 1, art. 1: All persons are born equally free and independent, and they have certain natural rights such as enjoying life, liberty, acquiring property, and obtaining happiness, and safety.</p>	<p>https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/</p>
<p>General Assembly (Statutes)</p>	<p>Enacts/creates statutes. Examples-criminal law, landlord/tenant, wills, probate, guardianships, and divorce Broad rules to cover a range of situations.</p>	<p>15 VSA 1103 allows someone who had been physically or sexually abused, or stalked to seek a protective order against their abuser/stalker. What is stalking? 12 VSA 5131(6) - a course of conduct by a person who knows or should know that their conduct would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or cause them substantial distress.</p>	<p>https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/ While on this page in the left-hand column headed, "Statutes", you can select "Vermont Statutes at LexisNexis for easier searching.</p>
<p>Administrative Agency (Rules)</p>	<p>Create rules that flesh out statutes to explain more specifically how they are applied. (Dept. of Taxes, Agency of Human Services) Rules help to explain how or if a given situation fits within the requirements of the statute.</p>	<p>CVR (Code of Vermont Rules) 04-000-003 (Agency-Secretary of State) Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program for victims of domestic abuse, violence, stalking etc. How to apply for confidentiality and requirements to qualify.</p>	<p>https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/ Similarly in lefthand column scroll down to "Rules" and select "state agency rules at Lexis" for easier searching.</p>
<p>Judiciary (Opinions/Orders)</p>	<p>Interprets statutes and rules and applies them to individual fact situations. Decisions can become new law. Most specific - applies to individual situations & facts.</p>	<p>Does a former best-friend (BF) of alleged victim (AV) engage in a course of conduct of stalking by posting a half-naked picture of AV on TikTok, and a video threatening to hurt her, followed by two more videos suggesting that BF still had the photo and might send it others? Held: A threat is an expression of intent to cause physical harm, and here there was only one such threat, which is not a course of conduct. Morton v. Young 2023 VT 29.</p>	<p>Google Scholar: https://scholar.goggle.com/ Court Listener: https://www.courtlistener.com/</p>