



NEW LAWS AFFECTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE FROM THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MNCASA Supported Laws and Additional Laws of Interest

- 1) Nonconsensual Dissemination of Private Sexual Images: New laws provide a civil cause of action and criminal penalties for the nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images. In addition, the stalking law was amended to include nonconsensual sexual solicitation and the list of qualified domestic violence-related offenses now includes the nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images. The defamation and coercion laws were also updated. See [Session Law Chapter 126](#). These sections went into effect on August 1, 2016 except for the section on defamation, which went into effect upon enactment.
- 2) Orders for Protection: Two bills passed into law affecting orders for protection. With regard to subsequent orders and extensions, a new law states that a hearing is not required if the relief is limited to what can be requested in an ex parte order. A hearing will be held if the court denies the request for the order or extension or the respondent requests one. A second law waives the filing fee for respondents in order for protection cases. See [Session Law Chapters 141](#) and [176](#). These sections went into effect upon enactment.
- 3) Eligibility for Safe Harbor Services: Youth age 24 or younger shall be eligible for all services, support and programs provided under Safe Harbor including all shelter, housing beds and services provided by the commissioner of human services to sexually exploited youth and youth at risk of sexual exploitation. However, it is still a crime for anyone 18 or older to engage in prostitution. See [Session Law Chapter 189, Article 15](#). This section was effective July 1, 2016.
- 4) Definition of Sexual Abuse in Child Maltreatment Statute: The definition of “sexual abuse” will include all reports of known or suspected child sex trafficking as defined in section 609.321, subdivisions 7a and 7b, which provides child protection and child welfare with the authority to screen in these reports. See [Session Law Chapter 189, Article 15](#). This section will be effective May 29, 2017.
- 5) Safe Harbor/Sexual Exploitation of Youth: \$33,000 in fiscal year 2017 is provided for emergency shelter and transitional and long-term housing beds for sexually exploited youth and youth at risk of sexual exploitation, and for statewide youth outreach works. The base for the appropriation is \$750,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$750,000 in fiscal year 2019. The general fund base will be increased by \$2,134,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$2,134,000 in fiscal year 2019. See [Session Law Chapter 189, Article 23](#). This section was effective July 1, 2016.

- 6) Registration: Registration is now required for persons who are convicted of a prostitution offense involving a minor. See [Session Law Chapter 189, Article 4](#). This section was effective July 1, 2016.
- 7) Engaging in, Hiring, or Agreeing to Hire a Minor in Prostitution: Provisions were added to include “reasonable belief” by the actor that they are engaging in, hiring or agreeing to hire a minor in prostitution. See [Session Law Chapter 189, Article 4](#). This section was effective August 1, 2016.
- 8) Multidisciplinary Child Protection Teams: Children’s Advocacy Centers were added to list of agencies involved in “case consultation” through multidisciplinary child protection teams. A definition of “children’s advocacy center” is also included. See [Session Law Chapter 189, Article 15](#). This section was effective July 1, 2016.

As of August 9, 2016