

New law authorizes exemplary damages to be awarded in suits between certain household members arising from acts of domestic abuse when the injuries are caused by a wanton and reckless disregard for the rights and safety of the household member through acts of domestic abuse resulting in serious bodily injury or severe emotional and mental distress.

Further provides that if the court finds an action alleging domestic abuse is frivolous or fraudulent, it shall award costs of court, reasonable attorney fees, and other related costs to the defendant and other sanctions and relief requested under CCP Article 863.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Adds C.C. Art. 2315.8)