

FSJ Life Defenders - Code of Conduct

Consenting to the Code of Conduct is paramount for the prayer warrior to participate as a responsible Life Defender at abortion facilities. The behavioral and attitudinal suggestions listed below will provide the spiritual foundation necessary to guide your thoughts, words, and actions, and in the process, ensure a peaceful and protected vigil experience.

- To maintain a loving and respectful attitude toward abortion facility staff, pro-abortion activists, and especially vulnerable women (and their families) seeking abortions.
- To remain peaceful, prayerful, and law-abiding throughout the prayer vigil **even in the face of hostile, combative, and antagonistic behavior** from pro-abortion staff and activists.
- To use positive and educational pro-life signage that cooperates with the Holy Spirit's grace to open the hearts and minds of abortion facility staff, pro-abortion activists, and especially vulnerable women (and their families) seeking abortions.
- To remain in assigned areas during the prayer vigil, avoid trespassing on facility property or blocking entrance to facility parking (or sidewalks), and ensure a minimum of two prayer vigil participants at the abortion facility.
- To cooperate and comply with on-site law enforcement for any perceived infractions, and discreetly record any incident that appears to be unsafe or threatening.
- To responsibly commit to caring for any minors assigned to chaperones during the prayer vigil as a first priority.

FSJ Life Defenders - Code of Conduct FAQs

1. *Where do I go for the prayer vigil?*

Answer: Prayer vigils take place on public sidewalks in front of the abortion facility. Standing on abortion facility property (or in the street) is strictly prohibited. Prayer vigils should never be conducted alone or after dark.

2. *Can children participate in the prayer vigil?*

Answer: Children can participate in the prayer vigil if the **Parental Consent Form** is signed by the parent or legal guardian. Children will be under the supervision of an adult chaperone(s) if the parent or legal guardian elects not to attend.

3. *What if an abortion facility staff or pro-abortion activist approaches the prayer vigil with questions or taunts?*

Answer: If approached, use caution and care in responding to the individual(s). One example of an appropriate response would be, "We are peacefully praying for an end to abortion." Keep in mind your purpose for being at the prayer vigil and the first of Jesus Christ's final words at his crucifixion: **"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing."**