

## What will Happen in the Protection Order Process?

### Temporary Order for Protection:

You will fill out the forms and ask (petition) the court for a Temporary Order for Protection that will last for 14 days. You will be asked to describe the most recent incident and/or threat of domestic violence and a history of domestic violence. You will need to know the respondent's address and birth date. A judge or commissioner will review your paperwork, may ask you some questions, and will then decide whether to grant or deny the Temporary Order for Protection. A hearing will be held in two weeks, at which time the court will grant or deny an Order for Protection effective for one year or more. During these 2 weeks the respondent is served with both the Petition and the Temporary Order with notice of the date set for the full hearing.

### Full Order for Protection:

At this hearing the court will grant or deny an Order for Protection effective for one year or more. It is important to come to this hearing even if the respondent has not been served. The court will ask you and the respondent to talk about the abuse and/or threats described in the Petition. You have the right (but do not need) to have an attorney present.

### Helpful Hints:

- Be on time and bring all your paperwork.
- Do not bring your children (childcare is available at the Regional Justice Center only).
- Talk directly to the judge, not the respondent.
- Tell the truth.
- Be courteous, sincere, and speak clearly.
- Bring police reports and affidavits, if available.
- The process may take 2-4 hours so please arrange for child care, if possible.

### Can I Make Changes in or Drop the Order?

Anytime prior to the expiration date of the Order for Protection, you may return to the court and request that the order be modified or terminated. Call (206) 296-9547 or (206) 205-7406 for information.

## What Happens if the Order for Protection is Violated?

Call 911 immediately! Show the law enforcement officer a certified copy of the Order for Protection. If the respondent has been served the order (or was present at the final hearing to receive the order), he or she may be immediately arrested or issued a citation.

A full Order for Protection is enforceable in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Tribal Lands and U.S. territories.

### Is there Help Available for the Protection Order Process?

The Protection Order Advocacy Program is a part of the Domestic Violence Unit, King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. The Protection Order Advocacy Program provides advocacy services which includes:

- Assistance in filing for the temporary order
- Information and referral to social service agencies
- Education and preparation prior to court hearings
- Advocacy during and after court proceedings

### Locations:

King County Courthouse, Room C-213  
516 Third Avenue (206) 296-9547  
Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 205-6198 TTY

Regional Justice Center, Room 2B  
401-4<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.  
Kent, WA 98032 (206) 205-7406

Please visit: [www.protectionorder.org](http://www.protectionorder.org)

### Emergency Phone Numbers:

Crisis Clinic: (206) 461-3222  
WA State Domestic Violence Hotline:  
1-800-562-6025

# ORDER FOR PROTECTION



King County

Prosecuting Attorney's Office  
Domestic Violence Unit



THIS QUILT WAS MADE BY VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF OF THE PROTECTION ORDER ADVOCACY PROGRAM IN HONOR OF SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH.

**D**omestic Violence is a crime that will no longer be tolerated. The Protection Order Program is designed to help victims obtain court orders to stop the cycle of family violence before victims suffer any further injury.”

–Norm Maleng, former King County Prosecuting Attorney

### Who Can Be Protected?

If you or your children are victims of “domestic violence” by a “family or household member,” you can apply for an Order for Protection.

Domestic Violence includes:

- Physical harm, bodily injury, assault or stalking
- Infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault
- Sexual assault

Family or Household Member:

- Spouse or former spouse
- Persons having a child in common
- Adult persons related by blood or marriage
- Adult persons who presently (or in the past) reside together
- Persons 16 years and older who have or had a dating relationship
- Persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship

### What is the Cost of the Order for Protection?

There is no filing fee. You will be provided with the necessary number of certified copies of the order at no cost to you.

### What is an Order for Protection?

An Order for Protection is a civil order that restrains the person who has been committing acts of violence from further acts of assault or threat.

An Order for Protection can:

- Restrain respondent from committing acts of domestic violence
- Exclude respondent from petitioner's residence or residence shared by petitioner and respondent
- Prohibit respondent from harassment and/or contacting the petitioner (on the street, by mail, by telephone, by e-mail, at school, at work)
- Award temporary custody of minor children to one parent, establish temporary visitation, and restrain one parent from interfering with custody
- Order respondent to participate in treatment or counseling
- Prohibit respondent from removing the children from the jurisdiction of the court
- Order respondent to pay for the costs incurred in obtaining the order

An Order for Protection **cannot**:

- Order child support
- Order maintenance income
- Assign property to either party
- Establish permanent child custody or designate ownership of family home

### How Do I Get an Order for Protection?

You can file for Temporary Order for Protection at the district or municipal court nearest you or at either King County Superior Court. Under certain conditions your Temporary Order for Protection may be transferred to Superior Court for the Full Order hearing. For information call:

(206) 296-9547 (Seattle)

(206) 205-7406 (Kent)

(206) 205-6198 TTY

#### King County Superior Court

King Co. Courthouse Room W378 or C213 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104	Regional Justice Center Room 2C or 2B 401-4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue N. Kent, WA 98032
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#### King County District Court

Call the King County District Court Central Phone Bank at (206) 205-9200 for information about filing an Order for Protection at any King County District Court: Kent, Burien, Bellevue, Issaquah, Redmond, Shoreline or Seattle.

#### Municipal Courthouses in King County

Please call the municipal courthouse in your city for information about filing in that location. Please be aware that many smaller municipalities will refer you to the Protection Order Advocacy Program in either Kent or downtown Seattle to allow you access to advocacy services which are often unavailable in smaller towns.