

What are some limitations of a protection order?

- If a protection order has not been officially served, it is not enforceable. If the order has not been served within 120 days of filing the lawsuit, the order may be dismissed by the court.
- While a protective order is an extremely helpful resource, it is important to continue to plan for safety in the event of an emergency.

¿What is an Order of Protection?

- A protective order is a civil court order that is designed to protect a victim of physical abuse from further harm, threats of harm, stalking, and/or harassment.

¿What steps should I take if an Order of Protection is violated?

- Contact the police or sheriff's department, depending on whether you live in the city or county, as soon as a violation occurs.
- Go to the City Attorney's Office or the District Attorney's Office, depending on whether you live in the city or county, and file a criminal complaint against the abuser.



Orders of Protection





How can an Order of Protection help me?

Una orden de protección puede:

- Order an abuser to stop hurting you
- Order an abuser to stay away from you and from your home, work, school, and other places you might go.
- Order an abuser to stop contacting you directly or through another person.
- Order temporary custody or visitation rights for the children involved.

Who can file an Order of Protection?

- Spouses or ex-spouses
- Fathers
- Kids
- On behalf of a minor
- People related by consanguinity or affinity up to the fourth degree of consanguinity (in addition to those already indicated, they include: grandparents, great-grandparents, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and first cousins)
- People who currently live with you or have lived with you in the past
- People with whom you have or have had a child in common
- People you are currently dating or have dated in the past

What are some ways I can help the abuser get the protection order?

- Provide the address where your abuser resides.
- Provide the address of your abuser's workplace.
- Please let us know if your abuser is currently on supervised probation.
- Please let us know if your abuser has other court cases that may require an appearance and any court dates that you are aware of.

What is the difference between a Protection Order, a No Contact Order and a Restraining Order?

- A protective order is a civil case filed by a victim of domestic violence designed to protect a victim from immediate threats of physical harm.
- A no contact order is usually issued by a judge as a condition of bail in a criminal case, and is not something you can apply for.
- A restraining order is usually issued during a divorce case or other domestic relations case to prevent the parties from harassing each other.

