



DVPO Changes

HB 1320 & Trailer Bill 1901

RCW 7.105

Protection Order Advocacy Program

The Protection Order Advocacy Program assists survivors of intimate partner violence and those filing on behalf of a minor against the minor's parent file for a domestic violence protection order. We also assist throughout the court process.

Advocates based out of the KCCH and the MRJC

POAP responds and triages a number of calls and emails re the protection order process

Who Qualifies?

Intimate Partner

- **Current or Former Dating**
- **Current or Former Spouse**
- **Current or Former Cohabitant as intimate partner**
- **Parent of child in common**

Family Member

- **Parent/Child**
- **Stepparent/Stepchild**
- **Sibling**
- **Blood relation other than parent or child**

Household Member

- **Current or Former Roommate**
- **NEW: Parent's Intimate Partner and Child**

Jurisdiction

- Petitioner may file for a DVPO in King County if:
 - Petitioner lives in King County or
 - If filed on behalf of a minor, the minor primarily resides in King County or
 - Petitioner lived in King County but fled due to the alleged behavior of the other party or
 - **New: The behavior being alleged in the petition occurred in King County**





Electronic Service

- Electronic service- including service by email, text message, social media applications, is to be the first option used, except in those types of cases enumerated as still requiring personal service.
- Requiring personal service:
 - Transfer of custody of children from respondent to petitioner
 - Surrender of firearms
 - Vacating respondent from the shared residence
 - If respondent is incarcerated

Coercive Control

- Has been added to the definition of domestic violence

Coercive control**

Emotional abuse*

Verbal abuse*

Psychological abuse*

Name-calling*

Isolation*

Controlling funds*

Threats to take to court*

Defined as: a pattern* of behavior that is used to cause another to suffer physical, emotional, or psychological harm, and in purpose or effect unreasonably interferes with a person's free will and personal liberty. In determining whether the interference is unreasonable, the court shall consider the context and impact of the pattern of behavior from the perspective of a similarly situated person.

So: coercive control requires:

- a) a pattern;
- b) used to cause harm; AND
- c) in purpose or effect UNREASONABLY interferes with a person's free will and personal liberty

