

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE PROCESS?

TEMPORARY ORDER

- You will fill out the forms and ask the courts for a Temporary Protection Order that will last for **14 days**. It is helpful to have the **respondent's address and birth date**.
- You will be asked to describe the most recent incident and/or threat of domestic violence and a history of domestic violence.
- 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.
- A hearing will be held in **two weeks**, at which time the court will grant or deny a Protection Order effective for **one year or more**.
- During these two weeks, the respondent is served with both the Petition and Temporary Order with notice of the date set for the full hearing.

FULL ORDER

- At this hearing, the court will grant or deny a Protection Order 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 of your paperwork.
- Do not bring your children
- 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.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE ORDER IS VIOLATED?

Call 911 immediately! Show the law enforcement officer a certified copy of the Protection Order. 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 Protection Order is enforceable in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Tribal Lands, and U.S. territories.

IS THERE HELP AVAILABLE FOR THE PROCESS?

The Protection Order Advocacy Program is a hybrid model - providing services both in-person and virtually. Our program provides services via scheduled appointments. Appointments can be scheduled in person during triage hours, via phone or via email. Advocates are not attorneys and therefore cannot provide legal advice. Advocates in this program can offer the following assistance:

- Assistance in filing for a temporary order, motion for renewal and/or motion for modification
- Information and referral to social service agencies
- Education and preparation prior to and following court hearings

Anytime prior to the expiration date of the Protection Order, you may return to court and request that the order be modified or terminated. Contact the Protection Order Advocacy Program for information.

SERVICE CRITERIA

The Protection Order Advocacy Program can provide services on Domestic Violence Protection Orders. Due to program capacity our program can only offer assistance to the following relationship types:

- spouse or former spouse
- persons having a child in common
- persons 15 years and older who have or had a dating relationship
- persons filing on behalf of their child against the person's current or former intimate partner
- persons filing on behalf of their child against the other parent's current or former intimate partner

Crisis Clinic: 206-461-3222

DV Hopeline:

206-737-0242



KING COUNTY 

PROTECTION ORDER ADVOCACY PROGRAM

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

LOCATIONS:

King County Courthouse
Room C213
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Maleng Regional Justice Center
Room 2B
401 Fourth Avenue N.
Kent, WA 98032

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Kent open	CLOSED (Virtual only)	Kent open	Seattle open	Kent open
10am-12pm; 1pm-4pm		10am-12pm; 1pm-4pm	10am-12pm; 1pm-4pm	10am-12pm; 1pm-4pm

Contact Information:

Phone: 206-477-1103

Email: protectionorder@kingcounty.gov

Please visit: www.protectionorder.org

WHO CAN GET A PROTECTION ORDER?

If you or your children are victims of **domestic violence** by a **family or household member**, you can apply for a Domestic Violence Protection Order.

1 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

is defined as:

- physical harm, bodily injury, assault or stalking
- infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault
- sexual assault
- coercive control

2 FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER

is defined as:

- 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 15 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 A PROTECTION ORDER?

Nothing.

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?

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

A PROTECTION ORDER 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 contacting the petitioner (in person, by mail, by telephone, by email, by third party, 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

A PROTECTION ORDER CANNOT:

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

“Victim-defined systemic advocacy improves and increases options necessary to strengthen comprehensive safety plans and seeks to make all victims safer.”

— Jill Davies, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

HOW DO I GET A PROTECTION ORDER?

You can file for a Temporary Protection Order at Superior Court or at the district or municipal court nearest you. Under certain conditions your Temporary Protection Order may be transferred to Superior Court for the Full Order hearing.

SUPERIOR COURT

King County Courthouse Room E-607 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104	Regional Justice Center Room 2C 401 Fourth Avenue N Kent, WA 98032
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ONLINE PROTECTION ORDER PORTAL (POP)



DISTRICT COURT

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

MUNICIPAL COURT

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