

Information About Protection from Abuse

The Protection from Abuse Act is a state law which gives a court the power to issue a civil (non-criminal) order to protect certain people. They are:

- Spouses, or persons living as spouses, whether they live together now or did in the past
- Parents, children and other persons related by blood or marriage including persons who share biological parenthood
- Current or former sexual or intimate partners.

To be eligible for an Order for Protection from Abuse, you must have been physically abused or be in real fear of serious physical abuse because of threats or menace, or have been sexually abused, or have been knowingly restrained (kept somewhere against your will with no safe way to escape).

You can file a petition asking a Judge to grant you an Order for Protection from abuse. You do not need a lawyer to file the petition. You can do it Pro Se (which means for yourself).

Getting Help

Getting Help

Getting Help

Petition forms: The petition forms which must be completed to start a protection from abuse action may be obtained from the Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania or from the Prothonotary -Family Court Division, 100 N. Main Street, Doylestown, PA. Emergency petitions may be obtained from the Magisterial District Courts when the Court of Common Pleas is unavailable.

Help with the forms: Free assistance, advice and guidance is provided by A Woman's Place-Legal Advocacy Program 215-348-0445 or Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania:

Doylestown Office
50 North Main Street, 2nd Floor
Doylestown, PA 18901
Phone: (215)340-1818

Legal representation in court: An attorney will represent you in court free of charge through a cooperative effort of the Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania and the Bucks County Bar Association. If you want a lawyer to be supplied for you through this program, contact the Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania. If you file your petition on your own, without help from Legal Aid, make sure to call Legal Aid or your own private lawyer as soon as you file so that you can be represented at the hearing.

Shelter: Contact A Woman's Place at 1-800-220-8116 if you need shelter, want to arrange for someone to accompany you to the court hearing or want legal guidance and information.

Full Order for Protection from Abuse

This order can last for up to three years. It is issued by the Judge at a hearing at the Court of Common Pleas in Doylestown, which both you (the Plaintiff) and the person who is abusing you (the Defendant) must attend. To apply for a full order, you must fill out a petition asking the Judge to order any of the following types of relief:

- Protection from abuse, harassment, threats or stalking.
- Evicting the defendant from the residence and/or granting you sole possession of the residence.
- Ordering the defendant not to have any contact with you and/or your children (if they have been physically abused or threatened with abuse) and/or an incompetent adult for whom you are a guardian.
- Ordering the defendant not to harass your relatives.
- Granting you temporary custody of the children.
- Ordering the defendant to pay financial support for you and the children (if the defendant has a duty to support).
- Ordering the defendant to give the police or sheriff any weapons which were used or threatened to be used in an incident of abuse.
- Ordering the defendant to reimburse out-of-pocket expenses you had as a result of the abuse.
- Ordering the defendant to pay your legal fees.

An ORDER page for the Judge to fill in and sign on the day of the hearing is included in your petition. **Do not write on the ORDER page.**

Temporary Order

Temporary Orders may be entered by the court to provide protection between the time a petition is filed and the time of the court hearing. Court hearings take place within ten business days after the date petitions are filed and last until the date of the court hearing.

If there is an immediate and present danger of abuse while you wait for your hearing, you may fill out the part of your petition which asks the Judge for a Temporary Order. When making this request you must appear before a Judge for an Ex parte Hearing. **Ex parte Hearings are held Monday – Friday at 12 pm. In order to have the hearing on the same day you file your petition you must be in the Prothonotary's Office no later than 11:45 am with your petition fully complete.** The Judge will decide whether to enter a Temporary Order based on the information about your case which you include in your petition and provide at the hearing. **If you do not meet the required time you will not be turned away from filing your petition you will simply be scheduled for an ex parte hearing on the following business day.**

Emergency Order

A Magisterial District Judge may only issue an Emergency Order when there is a true emergency AND the Court of Common Pleas is not available. **Any Emergency Order issued will expire at the close of the next business day.** Under certain circumstances the Court of Common Pleas may replace the Emergency Order with a Temporary Order and schedule a hearing which will be held within 10 business days.

If you need immediate Protection from Abuse when the Court of Common Pleas is not available, which would include weekends, holidays, after 4:15 Monday – Thursday or after 12:00 PM on Friday, the police may assist you in contacting the appropriate Magisterial District Judge to request an Emergency Order.

If an Emergency Order is **GRANTED**:

You must contact the Court of Common Pleas the next business day to confirm that your order was extended or if any further action needs to be taken pending your hearing.

If an Emergency Order in **NOT GRANTED**:

You may still request a Temporary Order and/or a Final Order directly from the Court of Common Pleas. You will need to appear in person to make this request.

Where to File

When the Court of Common Pleas is open: Go to the Prothonotary's Family Court Office, 100 North Main Street, Doylestown, PA. You may call the Doylestown office of Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania at 215-340-1818 if you would like assistance preparing your petition.

On ***weekends, holidays, after 4:15 Monday – Thursday or after 12:00 PM on Fridays***: Go to the office of the Magisterial District Judge or contact the police to find out which Magisterial District Judge is on call.

Court Costs

No fees are charged to the plaintiff however, the court may assess costs upon the defendant at the time of the hearing.

Contempt: Violation of the Court Order

If the defendant violates any type of Protection from Abuse Order call the police. If the police do not arrest the defendant and file contempt charges, you may file an affidavit to hold the defendant in contempt. (Contempt means the defendant has willfully disobeyed the court order.) Such an affidavit may be obtained and filed at the office of the Magisterial District Judge. You can also file a contempt action against the defendant at the Prothonotary's Family Court Office. An attorney from the District Attorney's Office is present for contempt proceedings and will review your petition to determine whether the allegations rise to the level of indirect criminal contempt and thus will be prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office. If the District Attorney's Office does not elect to prosecute the case, you may present your petition to the Court on your own behalf. If the Defendant commits a criminal act such as assault or terroristic threats, you can also file criminal charges at the Magisterial District Judge Office if the police don't do so.

Filing a Foreign (Out of State) Protection Order

Filing of a foreign protection order is not necessary for service or enforcement however, a plaintiff may file a certified copy of a Foreign Protection Order or Restraining Order with the Prothonotary in any county within this Commonwealth where the plaintiff believes enforcement may be necessary.

A plaintiff can mail or hand-deliver a certified copy to the Prothonotary. If you mail the order please include a written request that the order be registered along with a self-addressed stamped envelope for the Prothonotary to return a certified copy to you.

Upon the filing of a Foreign Protection Order, the Prothonotary shall transmit, in a manner prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Police, a copy of the order to the Pennsylvania State Police Registry of Protection Orders.

Orders Issued in another Judicial District (County) Within Pennsylvania

The filing of an order issued in another Judicial District within this Commonwealth is not required for enforcement purposes.

NOTICE OF EX PARTE HEARING

An Ex Parte hearing on the matter is scheduled for the _____ day of _____, 20____
at 12 PM., in **Courtroom _____** located in **the Bucks Justice Center, 100 N. Main St., Doylestown,**
PA, 18901.

Deputy Prothonotary

Date

If this order directs you to relinquish any firearm, other weapon, ammunition or any firearm license to the sheriff, you may do so upon service of this order. As an alternative, you may relinquish any firearm, other weapon, or ammunition listed herein to a third party provided you and the third party first comply with all requirements to obtain a safekeeping permit. 23 Pa. C.S.A. §6108.3. You must relinquish any firearm, other weapon, ammunition or any firearm license listed in the order no later than 24 hours after service of the order. If, due to their current location, firearms, other weapons or ammunition cannot reasonably be retrieved within the time for relinquishment, you must provide an affidavit to the sheriff listing the firearms, other weapons or ammunition and their current location no later than 24 hours after service of the order. Failure to timely relinquish any firearm, other weapon, ammunition or any firearm license shall result in a violation of this order and may result in criminal conviction under the Uniform Firearms Act, 18 Pa. C.S.A. §6105.

Notice: Even if this order does not direct you to relinquish firearms, you may be subject to federal firearms prohibitions and federal criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. §922(g)(8).

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE A LAWYER REPRESENT YOU AT THE HEARING. THE COURT WILL NOT, HOWEVER, APPOINT A LAWYER FOR YOU. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW. THIS OFFICE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HIRING A LAWYER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT AGENCIES THAT MAY OFFER LEGAL SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE PERSONS AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE. IF YOU CANNOT FIND A LAWYER, YOU MAY HAVE TO PROCEED WITHOUT ONE.

Bucks County Bar Association
135 East State Street
Doylestown, PA 18901
800-273-2929

BY THE COURT:

Date: _____ **J.**

**PETITION FOR PROTECTION
FROM ABUSE ORDER**

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
A06-**

1. PLAINTIFF

First	Middle	Last

Plaintiff's Address:

Plaintiff's address is confidential or Plaintiff's address is:

V.

2. DEFENDANT

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First Middle Last Suffix

Defendant's Address:

<p>CAUTION:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Weapon Involved</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Weapon Present on the Property</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Weapon Requested Relinquished</p>	DEFENDANT IDENTIFIERS			
	DOB		HEIGHT	
	SEX		WEIGHT	
	RACE		EYES	
	HAIR			
	SSN			
	DRIVER'S LICENSE #			
	EXP DATE		STATE	

Defendant's place of employment is:

Check here if you have reason to believe that Defendant is a licensed firearms dealer; is employed by a licensed firearms dealer or manufacturer; is employed as a writer, researcher or technician in the firearms or hunting industry; or is required to carry a firearm as a condition of employment.

3. I am filing this Petition on behalf of: Myself and/or Another Person

If you checked "myself", please answer all questions referring to yourself as "Plaintiff". If you ONLY checked "another person", please answer all questions referring to that person as the "Plaintiff", and provide your name and address here, as filer, unless confidential.

Filer's Name:

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First Middle Last Suffix

Filer's address is confidential or Filer's address is:

If you checked "Another Person", indicate your relationship with Plaintiff:

- parent of minor Plaintiff(s)
- applicant for appointment as guardian ad litem of minor Plaintiff(s)
- adult household member with minor Plaintiff(s)
- court appointed guardian of incompetent Plaintiff(s)

4. Names(s) of all persons, including minor child/ren who seek protection from abuse:

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5. Indicate the relationship between the Plaintiff and the Defendant:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- spouse or former spouse of Defendant
- parent of a child with Defendant
- current or former sexual or intimate partner with Defendant
- child of Plaintiff
- child of Defendant
- family member related by blood (consanguinity) to Defendant
- family member related by marriage or affinity to Defendant
- sibling (person who shares parenthood) of Defendant

Check here if the Defendant is 17 years old or younger.

6. Have the Plaintiff and the Defendant been involved in any of the following court actions?

- Divorce Custody Support Protection from Abuse

If you checked any of the above, briefly indicate when and where the case was filed, and the court number, if known: _____

7. Has the Defendant been involved in any criminal court action? _____

If you answered "Yes" is the defendant currently on probation or parole? _____

8. Plaintiff and Defendant are the parents of the following minor child/ren:

Name(s)	Age(s)	who reside at (list address unless confidential)
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

9. If Plaintiff and Defendant are parents of any minor child/ren together, is there an existing court order regarding their custody? _____

If you answered "Yes," describe the terms of the order (e.g., primary, shared, legal and/or physical custody):

If you answered "yes", in what county and state was the order issued?

If you are now seeking an order of child custody as part of this petition, list the following information:

(a) Where has each child resided during the past five years? (Please include the Child's name, Person(s) child lived with, Address unless confidential, and When.)

Child's name	Person(s) child Lived with	Address, unless confidential	When
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(b) List any other persons who are known to have or claim a right to custody of each child listed above.

Name	Address	Basis of Claim
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

10. The following other minor child/ren presently live with Plaintiff:

Name(s)	Age(s)	Plaintiff's relationship to child/ren
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

11. The facts of the most recent incident of abuse are as follows:

Approximate Date: _____

Approximate Time: _____

Place: _____

Describe in detail what happened including any physical or sexual abuse, threats, injury, incidents of stalking, medical treatment sought, and/or calls to law enforcement. (Attach additional sheets of paper if necessary):

13. (a) Has Defendant used or threatened to use any firearms or other weapons against Plaintiff or the minor child/ren? If so, please describe the use or threatened use below and list on Attachment A to Petition, which is incorporated by reference into this petition, any firearms, other weapons or ammunition Defendant used or threatened to use against Plaintiff and/or the minor child/ren:

(b) Other than the firearms, other weapons or ammunition Defendant used or threatened to use against Petitioner or the minor child/ren, does Defendant, to the best of your knowledge or belief, own or possess any additional firearm, other weapon, ammunition or any firearm license? _____

(c) If the answer to (b) above is "yes" list any additional firearm, other weapon or ammunition owned by or in the possession of Defendant on Attachment A to Petition, which is incorporated by reference into this petition.

(d) Plaintiff (check one) DOES DOES NOT request that the court order Defendant to relinquish firearms, other weapons or ammunition listed on Attachment A to Petition. If Plaintiff does seek relinquishment, identify on Attachment A to Petition the firearms, other weapons and ammunition Plaintiff requests the court to order Defendant to relinquish.

14. Identify the sheriff, police department or law enforcement agency in the area in which Plaintiff lives that should be provided with a copy of the protection order: _____

15. There is an immediate and present danger of further abuse from the Defendant.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING BOXES ONLY IF THEY APPLY TO YOUR CASE AND PROVIDE THE REQUESTED INFORMATION

Plaintiff is asking the court to evict and exclude the Defendant from the following residence:

owned by (list owners, if known): _____

rented by (list all names, if known): _____

Defendant owes a duty of support to Plaintiff and/or minor child/ren:

Plaintiff has suffered out-of-pocket financial losses as a result of the abuse described above. Those losses are:

FOR THE REASONS SET FORTH ABOVE, I REQUEST THAT THE COURT ENTER A TEMPORARY ORDER, AND AFTER HEARING, A FINAL ORDER THAT WOULD DO THE FOLLOWING (CHECK ALL FORMS OF RELIEF REQUESTED)

- Restrain Defendant from abusing, threatening, harassing, or stalking Plaintiff and/or the minor child/ren in any place where Plaintiff and/or the child/ren may be found.

- B. Evict/exclude Defendant from Plaintiff's residence and prohibit Defendant from attempting to enter any temporary or permanent residence of Plaintiff.

- C. Require Defendant to provide Plaintiff and/or minor child/ren with other suitable housing.

- D. Award Plaintiff temporary custody of the minor child/ren and place the following restrictions on contact between Defendant and the child/ren: _____

- E. Prohibit Defendant from having any contact with Plaintiff and/or the minor child/ren, either in person, by telephone, or in writing, personally or through third persons, including but not limited to any contact at Plaintiff's school, business, or place of employment, except as the court may find necessary with respect to partial custody and/or visitation with the minor child/ren.

- F. Prohibit Defendant from having any contact with Plaintiff's relatives and Plaintiff's children listed in this petition, except as the court may find necessary with respect to partial custody and/or visitation with the minor child/ren. The following persons are Plaintiff's relatives or family and household members that Plaintiff believes require protection from stalking and harassment by Defendant.

Name	Address (optional)	Relationship to Plaintiff
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

- G. Order Defendant to temporarily relinquish some or all of the firearms, other weapons and/or ammunition listed on Attachment A to Petition and any firearm license to the sheriff of this county and/or prohibit Defendant from transferring, acquiring, or possessing some or all firearms for the duration of the order.

- H. Order Defendant to pay temporary support to Plaintiff and/or the minor child/ren, including medical support and payment of the rent or mortgage on the residence.

- I. Direct Defendant to pay Plaintiff for the reasonable financial losses suffered as the result of the abuse, to be determined at the hearing.
- J. Order Defendant to pay the costs of this action, including filing and service fees.
- K. Order Defendant to pay Plaintiff's reasonable attorney's fees.
- L. Order the following additional relief, not listed above:

- M. Grant such other relief as Plaintiff requests and/or the court deems appropriate.
- N. Order the police, sheriff or other law enforcement agency to serve the Defendant with a copy of this petition, any order issued, and the order for hearing. Plaintiff will inform the designated authority of any addresses, other than the Defendant's residence, where Defendant can be served.

VERIFICATION

I verify that I am the petitioner as designated in the present action and that the facts and statements contained in the above Petition are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false statements are made subject to the Penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Signature

Date

 Plaintiff

v.

 Defendant

: IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
 : OF BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

:
 :
 : A06- _____
 :
 :
 :

**ATTACHMENT A TO PETITION
 FIREARMS, OTHER WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION INVENTORY**

I, _____, Plaintiff in this Protection from Abuse Action, hereby

_____ (a) state that Defendant used or threatened to use the following firearms, other weapons and ammunition against Plaintiff and/or the minor child/ren (include addresses or locations, if known, such as "front seat of blue truck", "gun cabinet", "bedroom closet", etc.)

Request Relinquishment	Firearm/Other Weapon/Ammunition	Location
1. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
2. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
3. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
4. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
5. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

_____ (b) state that Defendant, to the best of my knowledge or belief, owns or possesses the following firearms, other weapons or ammunition not set forth in (a) above (include addresses or locations if, known):

Request Relinquishment	Firearm/Other Weapon/Ammunition	Location
1. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
2. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
3. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
4. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
5. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

____ (c) request that the court order Defendant to relinquish the following firearms, other weapons, and ammunition (include addresses or locations, if known):

Request Relinquishment	Firearm/Other Weapon/Ammunition	Location
1. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
2. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
3. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
4. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
5. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

____ All firearms, other weapons and ammunition owned or possessed by Defendant.

Additional

Notes: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

NOTICE: This attachment will be withheld from public inspection in accordance with 23 Pa. C.S.A. §6108 (a)(7)(v)

**SERVICE INFORMATION FORM
SHERIFF'S OFFICE USE ONLY**

Important: The law requires that the defendant receive a copy of your petition for protection from abuse, of any Protection Order entered, and of the notice of the court hearing date and time. Getting these papers to the Defendant is called service.

You or any other adult may serve the papers on the Defendant. If you believe that service can only be made safely by a Law Enforcement Officer, then service will be made by the Sheriff's Office. If you want the Sheriff to make service, complete this form accurately and deliver it to the Sheriff's Office located on Level B2 of the Bucks County Justice Center, 100 N. Main Street, Doylestown, PA along with your petition, any Protection Order, and the notice of the court hearing.

Please note that if your hearing is postponed and rescheduled, you must again complete this form accurately and deliver it to the Sheriff's Office located on Level B2 of the Bucks County Justice Center, 100 N. Main Street, Doylestown, PA along with your NEW Notice of Hearing, petition and any Protection Order.

Plaintiff's name: _____ **I can be contacted by the following information:**

Address: _____

Phone number: (home or cell) _____

The Defendant's name: _____

Description: Date of Birth (must have): _____ **sex:** _____ **race:** _____

Miscellaneous description: approximately _____

Height: _____ **Weight:** _____ **Hair Color:** _____ **Eye color:** _____

Vehicle description (if any): _____

IMPORTANT: State a full and complete address, which includes: house number; apt. number; complete street name; city; state; zip code. If the Defendant is in a Correctional Facility, please provide the name of facility and address, along with a possible second (2nd) address in case the Defendant is released prior to the Sheriff attempting service.

The information provided is used to attempt service on the Defendant:

ADDRESS: _____

Alternative Address: _____

Phone #: _____ **Cell Phone #:** _____

Other information which may help locate or identify Defendant:

List the police departments which should receive copies of orders entered for your protection. For example, if you work in Richboro and live in Levittown, you would list the Northampton Police and the department which covers the section of Levittown where you live. If you do not know the police department, then simply write in the address or location where you believe that protection might be necessary.

Police department

Address/location

<hr/>	<hr/>

To be completed by Prothonotary or Judge's staff

Service of the following needs to be made: _____

- Code: A PFA petition
B PFA hearing date
C PFA temporary order
D PFA emergency order
E PFA order

To be completed by Sheriff's Department

Service of _____ was made. Cost: _____

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

_____	:	AO6-_____
Plaintiff	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
_____	:	
Defendant	:	
_____	:	
Address	:	
_____	:	
City State Zip Code	:	

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I, _____, the undersigned, hereby state I served a copy of

Notice of Hearing Petition Temporary Order

in the above-captioned action upon the Defendant by handing the papers to

at the following address _____

on this date _____ at approximately _____.

Additional Notes:

I verify that the statements made in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Title of Person Who Served the Papers

Address of the Person Who Served the Papers

Signature

Date of this Affidavit

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY THE PERSON WHO SERVES THE DEFENDANT WITH THE NOTICE OF HEARING AND ORDER, PETITION AND TEMPORARY ORDER. IT MUST BE FILED WITH THE PROTHONOTARY OR BROUGHT TO COURT ON THE HEARING DATE.

**TEMPORARY PROTECTION
FROM ABUSE ORDER**

Amended Order Continued Order

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

A06- _____

PLAINTIFF

First	Middle	Last	Plaintiff's DOB

Name(s) of all protected persons, including minor child/ren and DOB:

V.

DEFENDANT

First	Middle	Last	Suffix

Defendant's Address:

DEFENDANT IDENTIFIERS

DOB		HEIGHT	
SEX		WEIGHT	
RACE		EYES	
HAIR			
SSN			
DRIVER'S LICENSE #			
EXP DATE		STATE	

CAUTION:

- Weapon Involved**
- Weapon Present on the Property**
- Weapon Ordered Relinquished**

The Court Hereby Finds: That it has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter, and the Defendant will be provided with reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard.

The Court Hereby Orders:

- Defendant shall not abuse, harass, stalk or threaten any of the above persons in any place where they might be found.
- Except for such contact with the minor child/ren as may be permitted under paragraph 5 of this order, Defendant shall not contact Plaintiff, or any other person protected under this order, by telephone or by any other means, including through third persons.
- Additional findings of this order are set forth below.

Order Effective Date

Order Expiration Date

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT

Defendant is hereby notified that violation of this order may result in arrest for indirect criminal contempt, which is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or up to six months in jail. 23 Pa.C.S.A. §6114. Consent of Plaintiff to Defendant's return to the residence shall not invalidate this order, which can only be changed or modified through the filing of appropriate court papers for that purpose. 23 Pa.C.S.A. §6108(g). If Defendant is required to relinquish any firearms, other weapons or ammunition or any firearm license, those items shall be relinquished to the sheriff within 24 hours of the service of this order. As an alternative, Defendant may relinquish any firearm, other weapon or ammunition listed herein to a third party provided Defendant and the third party first comply with all requirements to obtain a safekeeping permit. If, due to their current location, firearms, other weapons or ammunition cannot reasonably be retrieved within the time for relinquishment, Defendant shall provide an affidavit to the sheriff listing the firearms, other weapons or ammunition and their current location no later than 24 hours after the service of this order. Defendant is further notified that violation of this order may subject him/her to state charges and penalties under the Pennsylvania Crimes Code and to federal charges and penalties under the Violence Against Women Act, 18 U.S.C §§2261-2262.

AND NOW, on _____ upon consideration of the attached Petition for Protection From Abuse the court hereby enters the following Temporary Order:

- Plaintiff's request for a Temporary Protection Order is **denied**.
- Plaintiff's request for a Temporary Protection Order is **granted**.

1. Defendant shall not abuse, harass, stalk or threaten any of the above persons in any place where they might be found.

2. Defendant shall be evicted and excluded from the residence at: _____

(NONCONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS FROM WHICH DEFENDANT IS EXCLUDED) or any other permanent or temporary residence where Plaintiff or any other person protected under this order may live. Plaintiff is granted exclusive possession of the residence. Defendant shall have no right or privilege to enter or be present on the premises of Plaintiff or any other person protected under this order.

3. Except for such contact with the minor child/ren as may be permitted under paragraph 5 of this order, Defendant is prohibited from having ANY CONTACT with Plaintiff, or any other person protected under this order, either directly or indirectly, at any location, including but not limited to any contact at Plaintiff's or other protected party's school, business, or place of employment. Defendant is specifically ordered to stay away from the following locations for the duration of this order:

4. Except for such contact with the minor child/ren as may be permitted under paragraph 5 of this order, Defendant shall not contact Plaintiff, or any other person protected under this order, by telephone or by any other means, including through third persons.

5. CUSTODY

There is a custody order as to the child/ren of the parties:

(Enter the county court and docket number.)

THIS ORDER SHALL NOT SUPERSEDE THE CURRENT CUSTODY ORDER.

THIS ORDER SUPERSEDES ANY PRIOR ORDER RELATING TO CHILD CUSTODY.

Until the final hearing, all contact between Defendant and the child/ren shall be limited to the following:

Pending the outcome of the final hearing in this matter, Plaintiff is awarded temporary custody of the following minor child/ren:

The local law enforcement agency and the sheriff in the jurisdiction where the child/ren are located shall ensure that the child/ren are placed in the care and control of the Plaintiff in accordance with the terms of this order.

6. FIREARMS, OTHER WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION RESTRICTIONS

(Check all that apply.)

- Defendant is prohibited from possessing transferring or acquiring any firearms for the duration of this order.
- Defendant shall relinquish to the sheriff the following firearms licenses owned or possessed by Defendant.

-
- Defendant is directed to relinquish to the sheriff any firearm, other weapon or ammunition listed in Attachment A to Temporary Order, which is incorporated herein by references.

Defendant may relinquish any firearms, other weapons or ammunition to the sheriff. As an alternative, Defendant may relinquish firearms, other weapons and ammunition to a third party provided Defendant and the third party first comply with all the requirements to obtain a safekeeping permit. Defendant must relinquish any firearm, other weapon, ammunition or firearms license ordered to be relinquished no later than 24 hours after service of this order. If, due to their current location, firearms, other weapons or ammunition cannot reasonably be retrieved within the time for relinquishment, Defendant shall provide to the sheriff an affidavit listing the firearms, other weapons or ammunition and their current location no later than 24 hours after service of this order. Failure to timely relinquish any firearm, other weapon, ammunition or any firearm license shall result in a violation of this order and may result in criminal conviction under the Uniform Firearms Act, 18 Pa. C.S.A. §6105.

7. The following additional relief is granted:

- Defendant is prohibited from stalking, as defined in 18 Pa.C.S.A. §2709.1, or harassing, as described in 18 Pa.C.S.A. §2709, the following family and household members of Plaintiff:

1.	_____	_____
	Name	Relationship to Plaintiff

	Address (optional)	
2.	_____	_____
	Name	Relationship to Plaintiff

	Address (optional)	
3.	_____	_____
	Name	Relationship to Plaintiff

	Address (optional)	

- (Other relief)

- 8. A certified copy of this order shall be provided to the sheriff or police department where Plaintiff resides and any other agency specified hereafter: _____

- 9. The sheriff, police or other law enforcement agencies are directed to serve Defendant with a copy of the petition, any order issued, and the order for hearing. Petitioner will inform the designated authority of any addresses, other than Defendant's residence, where Defendant can be served.
- 10. THIS ORDER SUPERSEDES ANY PRIOR PROTECTION FROM ABUSE ORDER OBTAINED BY THE SAME PLAINTIFF AGAINST THE SAME DEFENDANT.
- 11. THIS ORDER APPLIES IMMEDIATELY TO DEFENDANT AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL: _____ OR UNTIL OTHERWISE MODIFIED OR TERMINATED BY THIS COURT AFTER NOTICE AND HEARING.

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT

Defendant is hereby notified that violation of this order may result in arrest for indirect criminal contempt, which is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or up to six months in jail. 23 Pa.C.S.A. § 6114. Consent of Plaintiff to Defendant's return to the residence shall not invalidate this order, which can only be changed or modified through the filing of appropriate court papers for that purpose. 23 Pa.C.S.A. § 6108 (g). If Defendant is required to relinquish any firearms, other weapons or ammunition or any firearm license, those items must be relinquished to the sheriff within 24 hours of the service of this order. As an alternative, Defendant may relinquish any firearm, other weapon or ammunition listed herein to a third party provided Defendant and the third party first comply with all requirements to obtain a safekeeping permit. If, due to their current location, firearms, other weapons or ammunition cannot reasonably be retrieved within the time for relinquishment, Defendant shall provide an affidavit to the sheriff listing the firearms, other weapons or ammunition and their current location no later than 24 hours after the service of this order. Defendant is further notified that violation of this order may subject him/her to state charges and penalties under the Pennsylvania Crimes Code and to federal charges and penalties under the Violence Against Women Act, 18 U.S.C. § § 2261-2262.

NOTICE TO SHERIFF, POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

This order shall be enforced by the police department or sheriff who has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's residence OR any location where a violation of this order occurs OR where Defendant may be located. If Defendant violates Paragraphs 1 through 6 of this order, Defendant shall be arrested on the charge of indirect criminal contempt. An arrest for violation of this order may be made without warrant, based solely on probable cause, whether or not the violation is committed in the presence of a police officer or sheriff. Subsequent to an arrest, the law enforcement officer or sheriff shall seize all firearms, other weapons and ammunition in Defendant's possession which were used or threatened to be used during the violation of the protection order or during prior incidents of abuse and any other firearms in Defendant's possession. Any firearm, other weapon, ammunition or any firearm license must be delivered to the sheriff's office of the county which issued this order, which office shall maintain possession of the firearms, other weapons and ammunition until further order of this court, unless the weapon/s are evidence of a crime, in which case, they shall remain with the law enforcement agency whose officer or sheriff made the arrest.

BY THE COURT:

Judge

Date

