

Personal Protection Orders

Personal Protection Orders (PPOs) are orders by the Circuit Court that forbid or require a person to do something.

The person filing a PPO is the *petitioner*, and the person you file a PPO against is the *respondent*.

A PPO may *order* the respondent *not to*:

- **Enter your property.**
- **Assault, attack, beat, or wound you.**
- **Threaten to kill or physically harm you.**
- **Remove children from you if you have legal custody.**
- **Interfere at your place of employment.**
- **Interfere with your efforts to remove your children or personal property.**
- **Contact you by telephone.**
- **Send you mail (including E-Mail).**
- **Purchase or possess a firearm.**

Penalties for Violating a PPO:

- Maximum 93 days in jail and/or
- Maximum \$500.00 fine.

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Two Types of Personal Protection Orders

Domestic Restraining PPO

(For victims of dating or domestic violence)

To qualify for a Restraining PPO, you **MUST** establish *one* the following *relationships* with the respondent:

- A current or former spouse.
- A current or former dating relationship
(MCL 764.15a defines a dating relationship as “frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affectional involvement. This term does not include a casual relationship or an ordinary fraternization between two individuals in a business or social context.”)
- Reside or resided in the same household.
- A child in common.

Stalking PPO

(For victims of stalking)

To qualify for a Stalking PPO, you are *not required to show a relationship* with the respondent. However, you *must establish* that the respondent has shown:

- A pattern of behavior,
- Including 2 separate stalking incidents,
- That would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested,
- And that actually causes the petitioner to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested.

For *either* order you must also establish:

- Reasonable cause to believe that the respondent may commit one or more of the acts listed on the previous page.

If you do not meet these requirements, you may be eligible for a **“Peace Bond,”** available at the District Court Clerk’s Office. *Peace Bonds* are often used for neighbor and non-violent family disputes not covered by

How to File a Personal Protection Order

- Provide** a detailed statement, including:
 - Date(s)**, time(s), and location(s) of the incident(s).
 - Details** of injuries.
 - Names** of witnesses.
 - Respondent’s** full name, address and date of birth
- Complete** the PPO forms.
- File** the order with the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office. The Clerk’s Office will then assign a judge to your case and send the order to the Judge and the Judge will review and make a ruling.
- Call** the PPO Office to see if judge’s ruling is ready.
- Pick up order at PPO Office.**
- Arrange** for prompt service of the order.
- File** the **“Proof of Service”** form with the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office.
- Keep a copy** of the order with you at all times.

Helpful information to include:

- A police report.
- A doctor’s report.
- Pictures of injuries or destruction of property.
- Lease or mortgage agreement.
- Custody, support and/or visitation orders.
- Divorce Decree.
- Affidavits from witnesses.

Safety Planning

WARNING: Violence often gets worse when you try to leave or show signs of independence. **Take Special Care.**

When you are in a violent relationship, here are some things to keep in mind:

- Are there physical signs? Clenched fist, threats, a red face, throwing things, etc.
- Try to get out or get help before anything happens.
- Are there weapons in the house? Can you remove them or lock them up?
- Can you signal the neighbors?
- Can your children learn to call the police?
- How will you get out of the house? Set a routine of walking the dog, getting a paper, or taking out the garbage so that it is normal for you to leave the house for short period of time.
- Your children — Send children to a friend or relative or take them with you.
- Take ID and documents:
 - Driver's license.
 - State ID card.
 - Birth certificates.
 - Social Security Card
 - Divorce Decree, Custody papers, etc.
 - DHS Identification.
 - Immunization records.
 - Pictures of your bruises or injuries.
 - Any other papers you think you may need.

Derived from the SURVIVORS HANDBOOK, produced by the Domestic Violence Project of Ann Arbor.

What to Do If There is a Violation

- If the respondent violates the PPO, immediately call your local Police or 911.
- When the police arrive, they may arrest the respondent for violating the PPO.
- To request a violation hearing when no arrest is made if the respondent leaves before the police arrive, contact the PPO Office.

Other available resources are:

- National Domestic Violence Help Line
1-800-799-SAFE
- EVE, Inc. formerly known as CADA
(517) 372-5572 24-hour Crisis Line
- MSU Safe Place
(517) 355-1100
- Legal Services of South Central Michigan
(517) 394-3121
- Prosecutors' Victim/ Witness Unit
(517) 483-6108

Personal Protection Order Office

Veteran's Memorial Courthouse
313 W. Kalamazoo (Floor 3R)
Lansing, MI 48933
517-483-6545
email: ppooffice@excite.com

Hours of Operation
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Mason Office - Domestic Violence Support Unit
Ingham County Sheriff Office
630 N. Cedar
Mason, MI 48854
517-676-8285

by appointment
Walk-ins 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
office supported by the Mason Area United Way

Personal Protection Order Office



Provides:
**Support and Advocacy
to Victims Experiencing**

- * Family Violence
- * Dating Violence
- * Sexual Assault
- * and/or Stalking

A Program of EVE, Inc.



EVE, Inc. Mission
Provide shelter and supportive services for the victims of domestic violence, while seeking to end domestic violence through public awareness and community education.