

## 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.

For **ANY** Personal Protection Order you must establish reasonable cause to believe that the respondent may commit one or more of the acts listed above.

## Types of Personal Protection Orders

### Domestic PPO *(For victims of dating/domestic violence)*

To qualify for a Domestic 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.

### Sexual Assault PPO *(For victims of sexual assault)*

To qualify for a sexual assault PPO, you are not required to show a relationship with the respondent

- Conviction of sexual assault with you as the victim (if there is a conviction, a PPO shall be issued, however, the judge still has discretion in the types of protections to grant)
- Conviction furnishing of obscene material to a minor petitioner
- Threat of Sexual Assault
- Evidence that the respondent has furnished obscene material to a minor petitioner

### 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.

## 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.

**Visit [eveinc.org](http://eveinc.org) for detailed instructions on filing a personal protection order.**

## 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.

- 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 or if the respondent leaves before the police arrive, contact the PPO Office.

**Personal Protection Order Office**  
Veteran's Memorial Courthouse  
313 W. Kalamazoo (Floor 3R)  
Lansing, MI 48933  
517-483-6545  
email: ppooffice@ingham.org

**Hours of Operation:**  
**Monday and Friday**  
8:00 am - Noon, 12:30 - 4:30 pm  
**Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday**  
10:00 am - Noon, 12:30 - 4:30 pm

**Mason Office - Domestic Violence Support Unit**  
Ingham County Sheriff Office  
630 N. Cedar Mason, MI 48854  
517-676-8285  
by appointment  
Walk-ins 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm  
office supported by the  
Mason Area Community Foundation

### Other available resources are:

#### 24 hour crisis lines and other services

- National Domestic Violence Help Line  
1-800-799-SAFE
- EVE (517) 372-5572
- MSU Sexual Assault (517) 372-6666
- Firecracker Foundation (517) 242-5467

#### General Domestic Violence Services or related assistance

- MSU Safe Place (517) 355-1100
- Legal Services of South Central Michigan  
(888) 783-8190
- Prosecutors' Victim/ Witness Unit

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*A member of the Capital Area Domestic and  
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# Personal Protection Order Office



Provides Support  
and Advocacy to  
Victims Experiencing

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



A Program of EVE  
(End Violent Encounters)  
www.eveinc.org