



CIVILIAN PROTECTION ORDER – STATE OF GEORGIA



FACT SHEET

What is a protective order?

A protective order restrains the accused person, also known as the respondent from harassing, stalking, or threatening the physical safety of the petitioner.

How much does it cost and where can I get one?

There is no cost to file a petition for a protective order under the state's Family violence Act. Petitions must be filed with the Clerk's Office of the Superior Court of the county where the respondent resides.

Are there different types of restraining orders?

There are three types of protective orders available in Georgia: family violence protective orders, stalking protective orders, and employer protective orders.

1. Family violence protective orders: Victims of family violence can petition for a protective order against a spouse, family member, or household member that has committed an act of violence against the petitioner.
2. Stalking protective orders: Victims of stalking can petition for a protective order against someone who has followed, surveilled, or threatened the safety of the petitioner without their consent.
3. Employer protective orders: Victims of workplace violence can petition for a protective order against an employer that has threatened or committed an act of violence against the petitioner.

What will I need to bring with me?

1. Proof of identify, such as a valid driver's license
2. Information about the person who the order will be issued against. You may need their name, date of birth, home address, and contact information
3. Petition for temporary protective order. These forms may vary by county and can be provided by the Clerk's Office of the Superior Court.
4. Evidence that is specific and clearly documented. You may need to present proof of relationship to the respondent and proof of violence, such as assault, stalking, or threats.

5. Explanation of why you believe you need protection. You may need to explain why you believe violence may occur in the future and why you fear for your safety.
6. Witnesses who can provide testimony that supports the claims in your petition. This can include a family member or police officer. Your witnesses must be able to appear in person in court during a full hearing.



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