

How do I file for a stalking personal protection order?

The county clerk or circuit court in the county where you live can provide forms with step-by-step instructions on how to file for the stalking personal protection order.

What information will I need to file for a personal protection order?

Some of the things you may need before you fill out the forms include:

- a copy of your complaint for divorce, annulment or separate maintenance;
- copies of custody orders if there are any, and;
- the costs of serving papers on the restrained person. (*The cost for personal service may vary from county to county.*)
- there may be a fee for the motion to the court.

You will also need information about the person to be restrained such as name, address, place of employment, date of birth, physical description, etc.

The court will provide you with the necessary forms to fill out.

IMPORTANT: *If you have notarized written statements from witnesses and copies of supporting documents or materials from police, doctors, or social agencies, bring them with you.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE

BY USING THE DO-IT-YOURSELF PERSONAL PROTECTION ORDER YOU ARE CHOOSING TO REPRESENT YOURSELF IN A COURT ACTION.

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE PROTECTION YOU SEEK, YOU MUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS YOU ARE GIVEN. IF YOU FAIL TO DO EVEN ONE OF THE REQUIRED STEPS, THE ORDER YOU GET FROM THE COURT COULD BE INEFFECTIVE AND YOU COULD REMAIN UNPROTECTED.

For immediate assistance with or information about a domestic violence situation, contact:

The Family Violence Hotline:

1-800-99-NO-ABUSE

(1-800-996-6228)

For further information contact:

Michigan Women's Commission

(517) 373-2884

or

(313) 224-5510

Room 201

City County Building

Detroit, MI

PERSONAL PROTECTION ORDER



How to get a

DO-IT YOURSELF PERSONAL PROTECTION ORDER

Thirty-Fifth District Court

John E. MacDonald, *District Judge*

Ronald W. Lowe, *District Judge*

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What is a personal protection order?

A personal protection order (PPO) is an order issued by the court. It can protect you from harassment, assault, beating, molesting, wounding, or stalking by another person. The order can also prohibit him/her from entering your premises and from removing minor children unless the removal is part of court-ordered visitation.

There are two types of personal protection orders. One is issued only after the other person has been notified that you have filed for a restraining order and after a court hearing has been held.

The other type is issued without notifying the other person and with no court hearing. This is called an **ex parte order**.

**INFORM
YOURSELF**

How do I file for a personal protection order?

Go to the county clerk's office or circuit court in the county where you live and ask for a "*do-it-yourself*" personal protection order packet. The packet will provide the forms you will need and instructions on how to fill out the forms. If you are in immediate danger, ask the court for an *ex parte* order and check the *ex parte* box on the form.

Isn't it a crime for someone to assault me or threaten to assault me? So why do I need this order?

Yes, it is a crime in Michigan for someone to assault or threaten another person. But, if you are the abuser's spouse, former spouse or a person residing or having resided in the same household, a person having a child in common, or are having or have had a dating relationship, Michigan law provides extra protection by allowing you to file a PPO.

**HELP
YOURSELF**

When will the personal protection order go into effect?

The order goes into effect as soon as the judge signs it. The County Clerk's office is responsible for providing a copy of the order to the local police agency so that it can immediately be entered into the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN).

Do I need an attorney?

No. These forms will allow you to file a protective order yourself.

Can I get a personal protection order to protect me from a stalker?

Yes. Stalking involves harassment that causes you to feel terrorized, threatened, intimidated, frightened, or molested. This could include following you, making unwanted calls or mailings, or showing up repeatedly at your home or work.

**PROTECT
YOURSELF**