



JOHN FORREST
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PROTECTIVE ORDER INFORMATION

I. WHAT IS A PROTECTIVE ORDER

A protective order is a civil court order issued by a Court to prevent acts of family violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault against the victim and the victim's household members.

The Office of the County Attorney does not issue or grant Protective Orders. Only a judge can grant a protective order. After one or several court hearings, the protective order (if granted) will be sent to local law enforcement.

The person against whom the Protective Order is granted, may be subject to criminal prosecution if any of the prohibited acts listed in the Protective Order are violated and there is legally sufficient proof of a violation.

II. WHO MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A PROTECTIVE ORDER

1. Family members (includes individuals who are married, or ex-spouses if you have a child together);
2. People in a dating relationship;
3. Members of the same household;
4. Victims of sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, indecency with a child, indecent assault, compelling prostitution, etc.

III. WHAT MAY BE ORDERED IN A PROTECTIVE ORDER

A protective order **may** order the abuser to:

1. Not commit family violence or threaten to commit family violence;
2. Not communicate with you at all except through attorneys or court-appointed individuals;
3. Not communicate with you or a member of the household in a threatening or harassing manner;
4. Not to go near your residence or place of employment;
5. Not go near the school or daycare of your children;



6. Not possess a firearm unless that person is a certified peace officer and is actively employed as a sworn, full-time peace officer;
7. Not to remove your children from your care;
8. Not to harm or remove your pets or companion animals;
9. Not track or monitor you.

IV. TYPES OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS

There are several types of protective orders but the 3 main types of protective orders are:

1. Emergency Protective Order (also sometimes called a Magistrate's Protective Order);
2. A Temporary Ex Parte Protective Order;
3. A Final Protective Order

An Emergency Protective Order may be issued by a Magistrate and is provided to the abuser upon his or her bonding out of jail. It is in force anywhere from 30-90 days.

A Temporary Ex Parte Order may be issued after Judge reviews the Application for Protective Order. If a Temporary Ex Parte Protective Order is granted, it will be in force for up to 20 days so that you are protected until a hearing before a Judge to hear evidence and decide whether or not to issue a Final Protective Order.

A Final Protective Order if granted by a Judge, may be in place for up to two years, or up to a lifetime in limited circumstances. A Final Protective Order is not the same as a restraining order.

IF YOU BELIEVE YOU QUALIFY FOR A PROTECTIVE ORDER PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY AT (817) 594-8409, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00AM AND 4:30 PM AND ASK FOR THE ASSAULT FAMILY VIOLENCE UNIT.