

General Questions Regarding Orders of Protection ("O/P")

WHAT IS AN "O/P"?

It is a court order that can keep the person (respondent) you are filing against (including same gender) away from you because he/she has committed one of the following acts against you or your child: assault, attempting to assault, threatening to assault, coercion, harassment or false imprisonment.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR AN "O/P"?

Yes, if:

- You and respondent are both 18 years or older or emancipated; **and**
- Respondent is one of the following:
 - * A spouse, former spouse, or related to you by blood or marriage;
 - * Someone with whom you presently live or with whom you formerly lived; or
 - * A parent of your child;
 - * Is, or has been in a continuing social relationship; or
- You or your child have been stalked by respondent.

WHAT RELIEF CAN YOU GET FROM THE "O/P"?

The Court can restrain respondent from:

- Physically harming you, or causing you fear of immediate physical harm;
- Having any type of contact with you;
- Entering your family home.

The Court may also order custody, visitation, support or counseling for respondent.

HOW LONG DOES AN "O/P" LAST?

6 months to 1 year and is renewable.

Applying for an Order of Protection

Make sure that you mark all of the proper boxes in your application and give detailed information on the abuse or stalking.

BRING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING IF YOU CAN:

- **Addresses** for respondent;
- **Car description and license plate number** for respondent;
- **Social security number** of respondent;
- **Birth date** of respondent;
- **Specific dates of the most recent abuse or instance of stalking.**

YOU DO NOT NEED:

- Filing fee, court costs or bond.
- An attorney to appear in Court.

YOU MUST appear in Court at the time and date for a hearing or the "O/P" will expire

An order of protection DOES NOT GUARANTEE your safety. To enforce the order or to report a violation, contact the police.

WHERE CAN YOU FILE AN APPLICATION FOR AN "O/P"?

St. Louis County Family Court
 Adult Abuse Office
 7900 Carondelet Avenue,
 Plaza Level 1, Room 156A
 Clayton, MO 63105
 Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

After hours: call your local police department

Who can you talk to if you need assistance when filing?

County Order of Protection Assistance Program (COPA)

*Provided by
 Legal Advocates for Abused Women (LAAW)*

St. Louis County Family Court
 7900 Carondelet
 Plaza Level I, Room 156A
 Clayton, MO 63105
 314.615.3210
 Monday through Friday
 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Other Resources

Crisis Support/Counseling/ Advocacy/Shelter

ALIVE	314.993.2777
Bridgeway Women's Center	636.946.6854
Comtrea's A Safe Place	877.266.8732
Fortress	314.381.4422
Life Source Consultants	314.524.0686
Safe Connections	314.531.2003
Formerly Women's Support & Community Service	
St. Martha's Hall	314.533.1313
The Women's Safe House	314.772.4535
Weinman Center	314.645.4848
Woman's Place	314.645.4848
YWCA Women's Resource Center ...	314.726.6665

Legal Services and Court Advocacy

Lasting Solutions	314.534.4200
	x1244
Legal Advocates for Abused Women	314.535.5229
Catholic Legal Assistance Ministry	314.977.3993

Victim Services

Victim Service Division	314.615.4872
(St. Louis Co. Prosecutor's Office)	

What can you do if an adult friend or relative is a victim of abuse?

- Provide them with information about local resources.
- Listen without judgment.
- Share your concerns for the person's safety and safety of the children.
- Offer your support and assistance.

No one deserves to be abused.

If you see or hear an assault in progress,
CALL THE POLICE.

DOMESTIC ABUSE
IS AGAINST THE LAW.

THE FAMILY COURT
OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY
CAN HELP.

*Remember you are not alone.
Everyone deserves to be safe.*



Adult Abuse Office

Family Court of St. Louis County
7900 Carondelet
Plaza Level I, Room 156A
Clayton, MO 63105
314.615.4725

www.stlouiscodvcouncil.com

**Are You
or
Your Child
a Victim of
Abuse?**

Has your spouse or partner :

- Physically attacked you or your child?
- Threatened you or your child?
- Held or confined you or your child against your will?

Has your spouse or partner stalked you or your child?

If you answered "YES" to any of the above questions, you and/or your child may file for an Order of Protection with the Family Court of St. Louis County.

St. Louis County can help you.

**St. Louis County
Adult Abuse Office
314.615.4725**