

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](http://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.

The Family Court of  
St. Louis County can help you.

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

# 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 17 years or older or emancipated (an O/P for your child requires respondent to be at least 18); **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;
  - \* Someone who is, or has been, in a continuing social relationship with you; or
  - \* A stalker

## 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 "O/P"

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 OF YOUR HEARING OR YOUR CASE WILL BE DISMISSED.**

An "O/P" 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 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday - 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 Hotline ..... 314.993.2777  
Bridgeway Women's Center ..... 636.946.6854  
Comtrea's A Safe Place ..... 877.266.8732  
Life Source Consultants Hotline .. 314.524.0686  
Safe Connections Hotline ..... 314.531.2003  
St. Martha's Hall ..... 314.533.1313  
The Women's Safe House ..... 314.772.4535  
Weinman Shelter ..... 314.423.1117  
Woman's Place ..... 314.645.4848  
Women of Grace Hotline ..... 314.652.2572  
YWCA Women's Resource Center .. 314.726.6665

### Legal Services and Court Advocacy

Lasting Solutions ..... 314.534.4200  
(Legal Services of Eastern Missouri) x1244  
Legal Advocates for  
Abused Women ..... 314.664.6699  
Catholic Legal  
Assistance Ministry ..... 314.977.3993  
Washington U Law School Civil  
Law Clinic ..... 314.993.7238

### Victim Services

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