
What to Do When Someone Files a Domestic Violence Protective Order Against You.

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Courts may get copies of this booklet from court supply by ordering PUB-23 (11/19).

General Information

The information in this handbook is current as of September 2019. Laws and procedures that came into existence after that date are not reflected here. Check with an attorney or other knowledgeable person about whether any such changes affect your case. How the information in this handbook applies to your case depends on the specific facts of your situation.

What is the purpose of this handbook?

This handbook is designed to make the domestic violence laws easier to understand and use, so that people can effectively represent themselves throughout the domestic violence protective order process. This handbook focuses on how to respond if someone asks the court for a protective order against you. If someone has committed domestic violence against you and you want to understand what protection is available, see [How to Represent Yourself in Alaska's Domestic Violence Protective Order Process, PUB-22](#).

Who is this handbook designed to help?

This handbook is intended to help people who are:

- the respondent in a protective order case. This means that someone has asked the court for a protective order against you.
- preparing for protective order hearings;
- want to modify a current protective order against you;

How does domestic violence impact the custody decision in divorce or custody cases?

A history of [domestic violence](#) between you and the other parent can affect the [custody](#) or [visitation](#) arrangement for your children. The law presumes that the parent who committed the domestic violence will likely not get custody and visitation unless he or she meets certain requirements. These may include completing a batterer's intervention or substance abuse treatment program. If there is any history of domestic violence in your relationship, talk with an attorney about how this law will impact your custody or divorce case.

Domestic Violence Protective Order Process

What is a domestic violence protective order?

Domestic violence protective orders, sometimes called restraining orders, are court orders that prohibit someone from threatening to commit or committing domestic violence against another person. Protective orders may

- limit communication and contact,
- grant temporary custody of children and child support,
- grant temporary possession of a residence and vehicle, and
- require payment for expenses associated with domestic violence.

What are some important words to understand?

Petitioner is the person who files in the court for a protective order.

Respondent is the person whom the petitioner claims committed the domestic violence. The petitioner files a petition for a protective order against the respondent.

Judges and Magistrate Judges work for the court system and preside over domestic violence court proceedings.

Ex parte means that only the petitioner needs to be present to obtain a 20-day protective order. There is no requirement that the respondent be notified about or present at the 20-day hearing.

Service is a legal term that means that you have delivered a copy of a legal document to the person on the other side of your case.

The Certificate of Service is the name of the document that is a written, dated and signed statement telling the judge that you gave or sent a copy to the other side. A copy of every document filed in court must be given to every person involved in the case, including the other side's attorney if he or she has one.

There are strict rules about how to serve different kinds of documents to make sure that the other party gets a copy of all documents involved in a case. In domestic violence protective order cases, usually the police will serve the *ex parte* and long-term protective orders on the respondent. For motions to modify or other motions filed in protective order cases, usually the court will serve the other party by mail after the request is filed with the court.

Are there different types of protective orders?

Yes. There are three types of protective orders that last for different lengths of time and provide different forms of relief. They are:

1. emergency protective orders which last for 72 hours;
2. *ex parte* protective orders which last for 20 days;
3. long term protective orders which last for one year.

What is an emergency protective order?

An emergency protective order is obtained by a police officer on behalf of a victim with the victim's consent and lasts for 72 hours. The police officer may call the judge from the victim's location and describe the domestic violence incident that occurred. Neither the victim nor the police officer is required to notify the respondent that the victim is seeking an emergency protective order. If the judge finds probable cause that a crime of domestic violence has occurred, an emergency protective order can be issued. This order gives the victim 72 hours of protection that provides enough time to request a longer-lasting order.

What is an ex-parte protective order?

Most people begin the protective order process by requesting an *ex parte* protective order. An *ex parte* protective order prohibits the respondent from threatening to commit or committing domestic violence against the petitioner and lasts for approximately 20 days. This order may:

- prohibit or limit the respondent from contacting the petitioner,
- give the petitioner temporary custody of children, and
- give the petitioner possession of the residence and vehicle.

The petitioner does not have to notify the respondent that he/she is seeking an *ex parte* protective order.

To get an *ex parte* order, the petitioner must fill out a petition form that is available at the court, on the internet, at most shelters and possibly through the local police or VPSO. There are two versions of the petition: the [DV-100](#) which is for just the petitioner and the [DV-100-M](#) which is used when the petitioner is filing on behalf of multiple people (the petitioner and his/her child(ren)). The petition is on the internet at <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>.

In the petition, the petitioner can also request a long term protective order and the judge may set a date approximately twenty days later for a hearing. The *ex parte* order will contain information about the date, time, and location of the long term order hearing.

The *ex parte* order is valid at the time the judge signs it.

The petitioner may request police assistance to pick up the children, take possession of the house, the vehicle, or necessary personal items, if the judge ordered those things to the petitioner.

What does “being served” with an order mean?

This means the respondent has received a copy of the order, usually from the police, and is notified of all its provisions. Once the respondent has been served, if he or she does not follow the court order, he or she is violating the order and may be subject to arrest or have to return to court.

Does the petitioner have to serve the respondent?

No, the police will serve the respondent. When requesting a protective order, the petitioner will also fill out a form for the police to serve the order on the respondent:

- a Law Enforcement Information Sheet ([DV-127](#)), **or**
- a Request for Service of Domestic Violence Documents ([DV-125](#) for one petitioner, or [DV-125-M](#) for multiple petitioners (parent with child(ren)))

All forms are available at the court or on the Internet at <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>.

What is a long term protective order?

A long-term protective order prohibits the respondent from threatening to commit or committing domestic violence, stalking, or harassing the petitioner. An order may:

- prohibit the respondent from contacting or communicating directly or indirectly with the petitioner;

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- remove and exclude the respondent from the petitioner's residence, regardless of ownership of the residence;
 - direct the respondent to stay away from the petitioner's residence, school, or work place, or any specified place frequented by the petitioner or designated household member;
 - prohibit the respondent from entering or following a vehicle that the petitioner occupies or possesses;
 - prohibit the respondent from using or possessing a deadly weapon if the court finds the respondent actually possessed or used a weapon during the commission of domestic violence;
 - direct the respondent to surrender any firearm that he or she owns or possesses if the court finds that he or she actually possessed or used a firearm during the commission of domestic violence;
 - request a peace officer to accompany the petitioner to the petitioner's residence to ensure that the petitioner safely gets possession of the residence, vehicle, or personal items and is able to safely remove a vehicle or personal items from the residence;
 - award temporary custody of children to the petitioner and may arrange for visitation;
 - give the petitioner possession and use of a vehicle and other essential items, regardless of ownership of the items;
 - give the petitioner possession of a pet, possibly including requiring the respondent to pay for its care;
 - prohibit the respondent from consuming controlled substances including alcohol;
 - require the respondent to pay support for the petitioner or child in the care of the petitioner;
 - require the respondent to reimburse the petitioner for expenses associated with the domestic violence, including medical expenses, counseling, shelter, and repair or replacement of damages property;
 - require the respondent to pay costs and fees incurred by the petitioner in bringing the protective order action;
 - order the respondent, at the respondent's expense, to participate in a program for the rehabilitation of perpetrators of domestic violence, or treatment for the abuse of drugs or alcohol;
 - order other relief that the judge determines necessary to protect the petitioner or any household member;
 - order law enforcement to assist in retrieving the children if awarded to the petitioner.

All provisions in a long-term protective order will be in effect for one year, except for the prohibition against committing or threatening to commit domestic violence that remains in effect indefinitely until dissolved by a judge.

The most typical way to receive a long-term protective order is to petition the court for both an *ex parte* protective order and a long-term protective order. If the judge grants the *ex parte* order, he or she will schedule a hearing for approximately 20 days later to decide the long-term order request. The respondent will be notified of the hearing date for the long term protective order. The petitioner must appear at the hearing for the long-term order or else the judge will dismiss the

petition. If the respondent does not show up for the hearing, the judge will still consider the petition as long as the petitioner is present.

A petitioner may request a long-term protective order without requesting an *ex parte* order. After receiving the petition, the court will schedule a hearing date. Without an *ex parte* order, there is no order in place until the court grants a long term protective order.

Why would someone get a domestic violence protective order?

The purpose of a protective order is to give the petitioner and his or her children immediate, temporary legal protection from domestic violence. If the respondent violates a protective order, the respondent may be arrested and charged with a crime or have to return to court.

What is the difference between civil and criminal law?

One of the most confusing things about the legal system is the difference between civil cases and criminal cases. In domestic violence situations, there may be both civil and criminal cases occurring at the same time as a result of the act of domestic violence.

What is a criminal case?

A criminal case is filed by the prosecutor who represents the government on behalf of society. In some locations, the prosecutor is known as the District Attorney for the State of Alaska and in other places he or she is a municipal or city prosecutor. The “defendant” is the person whom the case is against because it is believed that he or she committed a crime. In a criminal case, the victim is not a party and does not need to have an attorney. The prosecutor may choose to have the victim testify as a witness to help prove the case against the defendant, by serving the victim with a subpoena.

If the police become involved because someone violates a criminal law, the police may arrest the defendant if they find probable cause. The defendant must then appear before a judge who will decide whether to put the defendant in jail and set a bail amount, release the defendant to a third party custodian, or release the defendant on his or her own recognizance (O.R.). The judge will require the defendant to comply with certain conditions if the defendant is released, one of which might be to prohibit contact with the victim.

A prosecutor files a criminal case when he or she thinks there is enough evidence to prove the defendant has committed a crime.

If the defendant pleads “guilty,” he or she will be sentenced without trial. If the defendant pleads “not guilty,” the case will go to trial, usually with a jury. Throughout the case, the prosecutor may ask the victim to appear in court. The prosecutor must notify the victim of all hearings and the victim can choose whether to attend. At the end of a trial, the jury will decide whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty. If the jury decides the defendant is guilty, the judge may order him or her to go to jail, to do community service, to pay restitution to the victim, and/or to commit no jailable offenses for a period of time. If the jury finds the offender is not guilty, the defendant is free and the case is over.

Frequently, the defendant will plead “no contest,” which means that he or she is not technically admitting guilt, but is accepting the same consequences of a guilty plea. If the defendant pleads no contest, he or she will be sentenced without a trial.

What is a civil case?

In a civil domestic violence case, like when requesting a protective order, both parties are private individuals. The government is not involved. The person who begins the case is called the “petitioner” and the person whom the case is against is the “respondent.” The case only moves ahead if the petitioner participates.

In a civil case, the court may enter an order prohibiting specific actions such as committing domestic violence, and may order the respondent to reimburse the petitioner for expenses from the domestic violence, or may prohibit the respondent from contacting the petitioner.

Requesting A Protective Order

Who can ask the court for a protective order?

A person is eligible to get a protective order if he/she

1. is the victim of a crime involving domestic violence, which is described below, and
2. has a “household relationship” with the person who committed domestic violence against him/her. “Household relationship” has a specific legal meaning that is described below.

Can children get protective orders?

Parents or guardians can request protective orders on behalf of their child who is under age 18. The respondent must have committed a crime of domestic violence against the child and the child must have a household relationship with the respondent.

What are crimes of domestic violence?

The most common domestic violence crimes that are the basis for getting a protective order are assault, stalking, and harassment. However, a petitioner may get an order as long as the respondent commits or attempts to commit a domestic violence crime. To receive an order, the petitioner does not have to state specifically the legal name of the crime the person has committed. The petitioner only needs to describe in detail what the person did and the judge will figure out which, if any, crime was committed.

A petitioner may be able to get a protective order even if the respondent has not physically hit him/her, because not all of these crimes involve actual physical injury. Following is a list of the domestic violence crimes with summary descriptions:

- **Assault** is any kind of physical harm, like hitting. It also includes threats to do physical injury if the threats are capable of being carried out right then. It is important to understand that assault can be committed without actual physical contact, but instead with words that place the other person in fear of imminent physical injury.
- **Arson** occurs when someone intentionally damages any property by starting a fire or explosion that places another in danger of serious physical injury.
- **Burglary** occurs when someone enters or remains unlawfully in a building intending to commit a crime in the building.

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- **Coercion** is when someone compels another person to engage in conduct that he or she doesn't want to do.
 - **Criminal mischief** occurs when someone recklessly or intentionally damages or tampers with someone's property.
 - **Criminal trespass** occurs when someone enters or remains unlawfully on land, in a dwelling, or a vehicle.
 - **Cruelty to animals** occurs when someone knowingly kills or injures a pet with the intent to intimidate, threaten or terrorize another person;
 - **Custodial interference** occurs when a parent or relative of the child takes the child knowing he/she has no legal rights from the lawful custodian and keeps that child for an extended period of time. Returning a child an hour or two late from visitation is not considered custodial interference.
 - **Extortion** occurs when someone obtains another person's property by threatening that person.
 - **Harassment** occurs when someone
 - calls on the phone and will not hang up so that the other person cannot make or receive phone calls;
 - makes repeated telephone calls at extremely inconvenient hours;
 - makes an anonymous or obscene phone call; or
 - makes a call that threatens physical injury.
 - **Human trafficking** is when someone compels another person to come to Alaska to engage in sexual conduct, adult entertainment or labor by force or threat of force.
 - **Homicide** is when someone causes the death of another.
 - **Kidnapping** occurs when someone restrains the victim with the intent to inflict physical injury upon or sexually assault the victim, or places the victim in fear that he or she will be injured. It also occurs when someone moves the victim against their will to a place where he or she is unlikely to be found. It also occurs when an adult who is not a relative of a child takes that child and keeps him or her away from his or her normal guardians.
 - **Reckless endangerment** occurs when someone acts to create a substantial risk of serious physical injury to another.
 - **Robbery** occurs if someone uses or threatens the immediate use of force upon a person when taking or attempting to take an item of property from the victim's presence and control.
 - **Sexual offenses** include all forms of sexual assault, incest, unwanted sexual contact, and rape. Sexual offenses can occur even if the parties are married.
 - **Stalking** occurs when someone engages in repeated acts of non-consensual contact with the victim or a family member that places that person in fear of physical injury or death.
 - **Terroristic threatening** occurs when someone knowingly makes a false report that a circumstance dangerous to human life exists and places another in fear of physical injury. It also happens when someone sends or delivers a harmful substance that causes fear of injury.

For complete descriptions of the domestic violence crimes, read the Alaska Statutes:

- crimes against the person under AS 11.41;
- burglary under AS 11.46.300 - 11.46.310;
- criminal trespass under AS 11.46.320 - 11.46.330;
- arson or criminally negligent burning under AS 11.46.400 - 11.46.430;
- criminal mischief under AS 11.46.475 - 11.46.486;
- terrorist threatening under AS 11.56.807 or 11.56.810;
- violating a protective order under AS 11.56.740(a)(1); or
- harassment under AS 11.61.120(a)(2) - (4); and
- cruelty to animals under AS 11.61.140(a)(5) if the animal is a pet.

Can someone get a protective order if the respondent was not arrested?

Yes. To get a protective order, it is not necessary that the police have arrested or charged the respondent with a crime. A petitioner can get a protective order even if nobody called the police.

Who are “household members”?

To get a protective order, a petitioner must have a specific relationship with the respondent. The law states that the violence must have been committed by a “household member.” This does not mean that they have to live in a house together. A “household member” includes:

- adults or minors (children under the age of 18) who are current or former spouses;
- adults or minors who live together currently or lived together in the past (covers roommates, whether or not they are in an intimate relationship);
- adults or minors who are dating or who have dated;
- adults or minors who have or had a sexual relationship;
- adults or minors who are related to each other up to being first cousins; adults or minors who are related or formally related by marriage;
- people who have a child together; and
- minor children of a person in a relationship described above.

Does the petitioner have to pay to file for a protective order?

No. It is free to file for a protective order.

How does a petitioner begin the protective order process?

The petitioner fills out a petition for a protective order ([DV-100](#) for one petitioner or [DV-100-M](#) for multiple petitioners), which is available at the local court or shelter or on the Internet at <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>. The petitioner may request both an *ex parte* protective order that lasts for 20 days and a hearing for a long term protective order that lasts for one year. The petition includes a section where the petitioner describes the domestic violence.

The petitioner also fills out the confidential Law Enforcement Information Sheet ([DV-127](#)) which describes information about the respondent so the officer knows how to find and identify the respondent.

The petitioner does not need to notify the respondent that he/she is seeking an *ex parte* protective order.

Ex Parte Hearing

When will the hearing for an ex parte protective order happen?

In Anchorage, hearings happen every day. Monday through Friday, hearings are in the afternoon between 2:30 and 4:30 pm. On weekends, hearings will be between noon and 8 pm when a magistrate judge is available.

In other courts, *ex parte* protective order hearings usually occur during court hours between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Check with your local court for the hours when the hearings happen. Some courts don't hold *ex parte* hearings and decide whether to grant an order based on the petition.

Does the court notify the respondent of the ex parte hearing?

No. The law does not provide notification to the respondent if there will be an ex parte hearing. If there will be a hearing on a request for a long term protective order, the court will notify the respondent of the hearing date, time and location.

What does a petitioner need to show to get an ex parte protective order?

To get an *ex parte* protective order, the petitioner has to show:

- that there is a household relationship between the petitioner and respondent,
- there is probable cause that the respondent committed a crime of domestic violence, and
- it is necessary to protect the petitioner from domestic violence.

What type of provisions will the ex parte order contain?

If the judge grants the *ex parte* order, the order will state:

- the respondent is prohibited from committing or threatening to commit domestic violence against the petitioner;
- the specific things that the respondent is prohibited from doing for the 20 days that the order is in effect, which may include:
 - prohibiting the respondent from going to specific places such as the petitioner's home, job, or school;
 - prohibiting or limiting the type of contact and communication the respondent may have with the petitioner;
 - determining temporary custody, visitation and child support;
 - determining spousal support;
 - giving the petitioner possession of the joint residence or a vehicle, regardless of ownership,
 - giving the petitioner possession of a pet and possibly requiring the respondent to pay for its care;
 - requiring the respondent to turn over weapons to the police.

The *ex parte* order is valid when the judge signs it. The judge will give the petitioner a form to fill out with information about where the respondent might be located so that the police can serve him or her: Law Enforcement Information Sheet ([DV-127](#)) or a Request for Service of Domestic Violence Documents ([DV-125](#) for one petitioner, or [DV-125-M](#) for multiple petitioners (parent with child(ren))). These forms are available at the court or on the internet <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>.

The petitioner may also request police assistance to pick up the children, take possession of the house, the vehicle, or necessary personal items, if the judge ordered those things to the petitioner.

Will the judge set a date for a hearing on the long term protective order?

If the petitioner also requested a long term protective order which lasts for one year, the judge will set a hearing date for the long term hearing in approximately 20 days. Unlike the hearing for an *ex parte* order, the respondent has the right to be present at the long term hearing and will be notified of its date and at the hearing will be given the opportunity to present his or her side.

If the judge denies the ex parte order, may a petitioner still get a long term protective order?

If the judge denies the petitioner's request for an *ex parte* order, the petitioner may still request a long-term protective order. However, the court may decide not to schedule the long term hearing if there is not a household relationship between the petitioner and respondent, or that the respondent did not commit a crime of domestic violence. Sometimes, however, the court may schedule the long term hearing even after denying the *ex parte* order if it determines the *ex parte* order was not necessary to protect the petitioner at that time.

What can you do if you think you really are the victim and the petitioner gets an ex parte protective order against you?

Unfortunately, some people attempt to turn the system around and petition the court for a protective order against the real victim by providing the judge with misleading or incomplete information. Since the judge issues *ex parte* orders based on the petitioner's version of events, without notice to the respondent, it is possible that a petitioner can go to court before the real victim and get an *ex parte* order. If this happens, and you believe that you are the real victim of domestic violence, you can petition the court for your own *ex parte* order.

In your petition, describe the facts that show you to be the victim of domestic violence and notify the judge that you believe the other side deceptively received an *ex parte* order against you and of the hearing date for the long-term protective order. Generally, the judge will not dissolve that order until the long-term hearing, when he or she will hear from both sides. If you find yourself in this situation, it is important that you request your own *ex parte* order so that you are eligible to receive the legal protections available only to the person filing a petition for a protective order. Examples of these legal protections are temporary custody of the children, and that the respondent be excluded from the residence or vehicle.

Long-Term Protective Order Hearing

What should I expect at the long term protective order hearing?

The judge holds the long-term protective order hearing to determine whether to grant the petitioner an order that lasts for one year. The court notifies the respondent in advance about the hearing date, time and location. The respondent has the right to participate in the hearing.

The hearings are open to the public. In busy courts, other domestic violence cases may be scheduled at the same time as your hearing so be prepared that many other people may be present. You will wait until the judge calls your case. The petitioner must show up or the case will be dismissed. If the respondent does not show up, only the petitioner's side of the case is heard. While the hearing may not take very long at busier courts, be prepared to be at the court for several hours in the event that your case does not happen until the end of that day's court schedule. Make child care arrangements for this time.

All persons who testify will be sworn to tell the truth. The judge will also ask each person to state their name, address, and occupation. If you or a witness does not want the petitioner to know your address, you can ask the court to keep your address confidential.

Who presents their case first?

The petitioner presents their case first. The judge will then hear from the respondent.

What information does the court consider?

The court considers testimony from the petitioner, the respondent, any witnesses, as well as other information such as photographs, medical records, damaged items, bills or estimates.

Does the respondent get to ask the petitioner questions?

The petitioner will usually speak first. After the petitioner testifies, the judge will usually ask whether the respondent has any questions for the petitioner. Those questions are called "cross-examination." You are supposed to ask leading questions. These often take the form of: "Isn't it true that . . ." These questions are designed to get a "yes" or "no" answer and not to have the petitioner respond with a long story. Sometimes the judge may ask the respondent to provide the questions to the judge to ask and the judge will decide whether the question is relevant. After the respondent has finished questioning the petitioner, if requested the judge may allow the petitioner to further explain his or her answers.

Does the respondent get a chance to testify?

Yes. After the petitioner has testified and presented their case, the respondent will present their case. Witnesses may also testify. If you disagree with what the Petitioner said during his/her testimony, explain what happened simply and directly. Organize your testimony before the hearing because the judge will often give each hearing only a short amount of time, from 15 - 30 minutes in total. You can have a written outline of the points you want to make which you can glance at when testifying. However, you should not write out your testimony word for word in advance and read it at the hearing. **You do not have to testify and have the right to remain silent.**

Will the petitioner ask the respondent questions?

After you are done testifying, the judge will allow the petitioner (or attorney if represented) to ask you questions. Answer only the question asked, keeping your answer as short as possible while being honest and complete. You may answer "yes," "no," or "I don't know," if appropriate, or ask that the question be repeated or clarified if necessary. Even if you do not like the way the petitioner or attorney is characterizing the events that occurred or if you feel like he or she is trying to make you look bad, do not argue with the attorney, the petitioner, or the judge. If you want a chance to explain your answers or add more information, ask the judge to allow this.

What other information can the respondent give the judge?

In addition to your testimony, you may present other witnesses, documents or items, depending on the specifics of your situation.

Witnesses

Other people may testify as witnesses, but only if they have personal knowledge of the situation being addressed in the petition. For example, if someone was present during the event described in the petition and that person can show the petitioner is not telling the truth or mischaracterized what happened, you may call that person as a witness. If there are witnesses, tell the judge at the beginning of the hearing that you have witnesses who will testify that they saw or heard what happened. If the judge wants to hear from any witness, he or she will be sworn in and then will describe what occurred.

The judge may choose not to hear from a witness because of the short amount of time given to each hearing. However, even if the judge does not hear your witness's testimony, you may feel more confident bringing witnesses with you because they can provide moral support.

If your children witnessed the incident at issue, tell the judge that they were present. However, you should seriously consider not having the children testify in court to avoid putting them in the uncomfortable position of possibly testifying against their other parent, especially if the children are young.

If you need to subpoena a witness because he or she does not want to testify in court or their job requires a subpoena to be absent from work, you can get a signed subpoena at the court clerk's office. Learn more about how to subpoena a witness at:

<https://public.courts.alaska.gov/web/forms/docs/civ-109.pdf>.

Photographs

Sometimes petitioners bring photos as evidence in domestic violence cases. Photos may show injuries or property damage that resulted from the domestic violence.

Damaged Items

Petitioners may bring items that were damaged from the domestic violence if they are small enough to bring to court to present as evidence.

Medical Records

A petitioner may bring medical records as evidence if he or she received medical treatment as a result of the domestic violence.

Police Reports and Criminal Complaints

If the police got involved, you can try to get a copy of the police report. Usually you will need a subpoena to get copies of police records or recordings. A subpoena is a legal request signed by a court clerk for the production of some document or witness. You can pick up a subpoena form in the court clerk's office. To get a police report, you will usually need to subpoena the officer who wrote the report to appear in court with the report. This may involve you paying a witness fee to the officer so check in advance with the police department so you are prepared. Be aware that many judges will not consider police reports and instead find it more helpful to have the officer testify.

Also, if the prosecutor has charged the petitioner or the respondent in a criminal case because of a domestic violence incident, the petitioner or the respondent may bring a copy of the criminal complaint to the protective order hearing. If possible, get a certified copy or ask the judge to take judicial notice of the charges.

When should I begin collecting the evidence?

Start gathering your evidence as soon as possible. If there were witnesses, talk to them to see if they have reliable information that will be helpful to your case. Organize and outline your testimony well in advance of the hearing so you are comfortable with what you will say.

What should I expect when the petitioner presents his or her case?

If the petitioner is not represented by an attorney, the petitioner will tell his or her side of the story. If the petitioner has an attorney, the attorney will ask the petitioner questions that are called “direct examination.”

If the petitioner says things in court that you find very upsetting, lies, or exaggerations, you can respond when it is your turn to present testimony. If you would like to explain something to the judge, or clear up something that the petitioner stated, you must wait until the petitioner is done speaking entirely and then respectfully ask the judge if you may respond. Remember to be respectful and don’t interrupt when someone else is speaking. You may find it helpful to take notes about what is said during the testimony from the petitioner and any witnesses so you can remember how to address when you testify.

How should I behave in court?

Always remember the importance of being respectful in court, even if the petitioner states something that is upsetting or false. Always speak to the judge and never respond directly to the petitioner. The judge will let you know when it is your time to speak. Do not speak when it is not your turn. Look at the judge and not the petitioner throughout the hearing.

Do not yell out, throw your hands up in the air, roll your eyes, or interrupt anyone speaking. Never argue with the petitioner, attorney, judge, or witness. If the judge sees that you are calm, he or she may find you more believable.

What happens after both parties present their sides?

After both parties present their information, the judge will determine whether a “preponderance of the evidence” shows that the respondent committed a crime of domestic violence against the petitioner and there is a household relationship between the parties. The judge will weigh both parties’ evidence and determine which side weighs heavier. If the judge finds that a crime of domestic violence occurred, he or she will enter the long-term protective order for one year and address additional relevant issues such as child custody and visitation, spousal and child support, possession of the home and vehicle and the other provisions of the order. If the judge does not find that domestic violence occurred, the case ends. Sometimes the judge may keep the ex parte order in effect until it expires which is usually in a few days. Sometimes the ex parte order is expired and there will be no order in effect.

What happens if the parties have a divorce or custody case going on at the same time as a domestic violence protective order case?

If you also have a divorce or custody case with the other side, the domestic violence case file may be reassigned to the judge in your other case. This avoids having two different judges dealing with issues that are related or having to present evidence more than once. You will need to alert the judge in the domestic violence case hearing that the other divorce or custody case exists and provide the case number. Also, give the judge in the divorce or custody case a copy of the order you receive in the domestic violence case.

Children In The Protective Order Process

Will the judge determine temporary custody of our children?

The judge may determine temporary custody of the children. It is very important to alert the judge about a previous custody order. The judge can decide a custody and visitation arrangement. The custody provision in the long term protective order will be in effect for one year.

Will the court allow the respondent visitation with the children?

Generally, the judge will allow the respondent visitation with the children if both the petitioner's safety and the children's safety can be protected. The judge may allow visitation with appropriate safeguards in place. Depending on the situation, the judge may require that the respondent's time with the children be supervised.

How can the visitation be structured to avoid problems between the petitioner and respondent?

To limit safety concerns for the petitioner and to avoid the respondent violating the order and being subject to arrest, it is a good idea that all visitation transfers should occur away from the petitioner's residence or the place where the petitioner will be present. Before going to the hearing, be prepared with a suggested place for the transfer of the children so that the judge will write it into the protective order. You can suggest what will work best for the petitioner, the respondent and the children for the one year duration of the order. Visitation transfers commonly occur at the residence of willing family members or friends, supermarkets, fast food restaurants, day care facilities, schools, and at the most extreme, police stations.

How can the visitation be structured to keep the children safe?

Understand that the petitioner may have safety concerns about the children being with you. The petitioner may request that the visitation be structured to minimize the risks to the children.

For example, if the respondent has a drug or alcohol problem, the petitioner may request that the respondent be prohibited from consuming any alcohol or drugs prior to or during the visits. If the petitioner is concerned about drug and alcohol use at night or inappropriate exposure of the children to adult activities, the petitioner may also ask that there be no overnight visitation.

If the respondent has physically, emotionally or sexually abused the children, the petitioner may describe the incidents to the judge. The petitioner may ask the judge to prohibit the respondent from inappropriately disciplining the children or saying anything bad about the petitioner to them. The petitioner may request that the visitation only occur in a public or specified place if he/she is concerned about abuse to the children occurring in private.

Sometimes supervised visitation is ordered so come prepared with the names of people willing to supervise the visitation.

May the petitioner request that the respondent have only supervised visitation?

Yes. If the petitioner believes that the respondent is a danger to the children and cannot be trusted to follow the order's provisions during visitation, the petitioner may request that the court order the respondent to have only supervised visitation. This means that the respondent can only visit with the children with a third party present during the entire visit. Supervised visitation may be appropriate when the respondent has a history of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse of the children. If there will be supervised visitation, it is helpful if you come to court prepared with the name of a willing family member or friend whom can be trusted to be the supervisor. If there is nobody to supervise the visitation, the petitioner can ask the judge to allow visitation with a professional supervisor at the respondent's expense. Professional supervisors can be quite expensive and difficult to find. Some courts offer supervised visitation programs at reduced rates so check with your local court to see if this is an option.

Should I come to court with a specific visitation schedule?

Yes. If the court issues the protective order, it is a good idea to come to court with a specific visitation schedule that will work for you and the children for the one year duration of the order and which will allow you reasonable visitation. Offer specific days and times for the visitation. Anticipate any holidays or special occasions which will arise during the order and you can specifically request that you have the children on some of those days in the event that they do not fall on your regularly scheduled visitation days. If you plan to file for divorce or custody, the judge may look to the visitation arrangement in the protective order as guidance in deciding what is reasonable visitation in the more permanent divorce or custody case.

How can we communicate about the children while there is a no contact order?

It may be helpful to ask the judge to list the name of a relative or friend through whom you and the petitioner can communicate regarding the children. Make sure before the hearing that the individual is willing to assume this role before you suggest this to the judge. This third party is useful if visitation must be cancelled or rescheduled because of unforeseen situations. Sometimes a petitioner may be comfortable talking with the respondent about the children, and may request that the order limit communication to discussing only the children and even specify which issues are appropriate to discuss like just schooling or illness. If any communication with the petitioner is permitted, the order may specify how you are allowed to communicate: by telephone, text or e-mail. If this is the situation, the respondent must follow the order and communicate only with the petitioner about children. Otherwise, the respondent may be violating the protective order and subject to further restrictions.

If the respondent is not supposed to contact the petitioner, how can the respondent communicate with the children while they are in the petitioner's care?

Most protective orders contain provisions that prohibit the respondent from contacting the petitioner. However, the petitioner may tell the judge that the respondent can contact the children by phone, text, email, Skype, Facetime or letters if the petitioner is comfortable with that. The petitioner can request that this contact be limited though. For example, the petitioner can ask that the order state that the respondent can call the children on specified days of the week at specified times and speak for a specified amount of time. If this is the situation, the respondent must follow the order and communicate only with the children. Otherwise, the respondent may be violating the protective order and subject to arrest or further restrictions.

Who has custody after the protective order expires?

After the protective order expires, there will be no custody order in effect unless there is a custody order from a divorce, dissolution or custody case. Without a custody order, both parents have legal rights to the children. Without a custody order, one parent can refuse to return a child and the police may not assist the other parent in having the child returned. To avoid a time period when there is no order in effect that deals with issues about the children, consider filing a separate custody case that would deal with the parenting issues longer term. If you plan to file a divorce, dissolution or custody case, consider filing it a couple of months before the protective order will expire. If you are not married, you would file a custody case; if you are married, you would file a divorce or dissolution case.

How does domestic violence impact the custody decision in divorce or custody cases?

Under the law, a parent with a history of domestic violence may not get custody or visitation unless the visitation is supervised. However, this parent may get some custody or visitation if he or she meets specific legal requirements. In some relationships, both parents have domestic violence histories.

If there is any history of domestic violence in your relationship, talk with a lawyer about how this law will impact your custody or divorce case.

Financial Issues

Will the respondent have to pay child support?

Yes. If the judge gives the petitioner temporary custody of the children, the petitioner is entitled to child support from the respondent. Some judges award child support in the *ex parte* order, although some prefer to wait until the respondent has the opportunity to be heard at the long term protective order hearing.

The judge may require you to fill out the [DR-305](http://www.courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#support) form, for temporary child support. It is available from the court or on the internet at <http://www.courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#support>.

After receiving both parties' income information, the judge should enter a child support amount that the respondent must pay.

Either parent can request that the Child Support Services Division (CSSD) process the child support payments by filling out a [DR-315](#) form. . This form is available at the court or on the Internet at <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>. CSSD is a free accounting agency which keeps track of payments made and can deduct the payments directly from the respondent's wages and Permanent Fund Dividend checks.

May the petitioner request spousal support from the respondent?

Yes. The judge may grant the petitioner spousal support if he/she is married to the respondent or in a marriage-type relationship and the respondent has been financially supporting the petitioner. If a divorce case has been filed or will be filed shortly, the judge may not want to rule on spousal support issues in the domestic violence case, preferring that they be dealt with in the divorce case.

May the petitioner request that the respondent pay medical bills and for items damaged during the domestic violence?

Yes. The petitioner can request that the judge order the respondent to reimburse for medical expenses or damaged items associated with the domestic violence. If the respondent does not pay as ordered, the petitioner can ask the court to reduce the debt amount plus interest to a judgment. This will allow the petitioner to try and collect the money by executing on the respondent's PFD, sweeping his or her bank account or garnishing wages. Learn more if you owe a debt and there is a judgment against you from the Judgment Debtor Booklet, [CIV-511](#).

Contact/Communication Restrictions

Will the respondent be allowed to contact the petitioner?

Generally, the judge will prohibit the respondent from contacting the petitioner, but may allow some contact if the petitioner states it is acceptable. Often, a petitioner wants no communication with the respondent. Some petitioners agree to limited communication if they feel it is necessary to deal with specific issues such as a divorce or custody case. If this is the situation, the respondent must follow the order and communicate with the petitioner according to any restrictions specified in the order such as during specified dates, times, methods and subject matter. Otherwise, the respondent may be violating the protective order and subject to arrest or further restrictions.

May the petitioner get possession of the residence?

The law provides that the petitioner may get possession of a joint residence and that the respondent be excluded from the residence, regardless of which party owns or rents it. If the order grants the petitioner the residence shared with the respondent, the respondent must move out of the home. If that is the situation, make arrangements during the hearing to get your personal property or have access to the home at a time that the petitioner will not be there to avoid having any prohibited contact. Either you or the petitioner can ask for a police escort to retrieve your uncontested personal items. Be aware that the police usually will be there for a short time so you may not be able to get all of your property. If that will be a problem, ask the judge for arrangements in the order that will allow you to get your personal property.

The petitioner may also request that the respondent continue to pay all or some part of the house mortgage or rent and utilities if the respondent has provided the financial support for the residence prior to the protective order. If this is ordered, you can ask the court to address how the payments are to be made to avoid violating the no contact provisions of the order.

May the petitioner get possession of a vehicle?

The court may grant the petitioner get possession of a vehicle, regardless of who owns it. The court will usually give the petitioner only one vehicle if there are two vehicles. If the respondent has been responsible for the insurance and payments prior to the protective order, the judge may order the respondent to continue making all or part of these payments.

Counseling And Treatment

Will the court order the respondent to go to counseling?

The judge may order the respondent go to a batterer's intervention program if a program is available. These are programs where the respondent learns about the dynamics of domestic violence, accepts responsibility for his or her actions, and learns how to change his or her behavior. The program will disclose the status of the respondent's compliance only to the petitioner. If the respondent has not checked in by the time stated in the protective order, the petitioner can ask the program to alert the judge of the respondent's noncompliance. You can learn about the Department of Corrections approved programs: <https://dps.alaska.gov/cdvsa/services/formenwhocommitdv>.

Will the court order the respondent to go to alcohol or drug treatment?

The petitioner can request alcohol or drug treatment for the respondent, and the judge may order the respondent to be assessed for alcohol or drug problem and go to treatment if necessary.

What To Expect After Receiving A Long Term Protective Order

Read through the order so you know what actions are prohibited. There may be serious consequences to the respondent if he or she does not follow the order's provision.

If you have been ordered to stay away from the petitioner's home, job, school or other location, make sure to avoid these places. If you were living together and the judge awarded the petitioner possession of the shared home, you will have to move out. You can ask for a police escort to retrieve limited uncontested personal items.

If no contact is allowed, make sure to avoid contacting the petitioner directly or indirectly by any methods, including in-person, phone, text, Facebook or other social media, email, letters, etc. This means you cannot have friends or relatives contact the petitioner for you by any method.

If you have been ordered to do a Batterer's Intervention Class, treatment or counseling, it is important to participate and complete the full program.

Remember, the Long Term Order lasts for one year unless the court dissolves it earlier. This means you must follow the Order for the entire time. Also, be aware that the prohibition against committing domestic violence remains in effect even after the order expires, unless the judge specifically removes that provision.

If there is a no contact order and you are married and want to divorce or are not married but have a child together and want to file a custody case against the petitioner, you cannot send a copy of the complaint and other required documents to the petitioner. Instead, you need to hire a process server who will give the petitioner the copies of the documents. If you cannot afford a process server or there are no process servers in the area, you may ask the court to modify the Domestic Violence Protective Order to permit service of legal papers using a different method by filing:

- DV-135, Request to Modify or Dissolve Protective Order [One Petitioner](#) | [Multiple Petitioners](#)

Wait until you get an order from the court stating how you may serve the opposing party before you serve the papers. Otherwise, you may be arrested for violating the Protective Order.

Special Issues For Immigrants Involved in Domestic Violence Protective Order Cases

Will the respondent be deported if someone gets a protective order against him or her?

No. Having a protective order against you is not a ground for deportation. However, a non-citizen must be sure to strictly follow all requirements and limitations contained in the protective order. A non-citizen respondent is subject to deportation if a court determines, in either civil or criminal proceedings, that he or she has violated a protective order. In addition, certain immigration applications may be affected negatively if there is a protective order against you.

Will a petitioner be deported if he or she gets a protective order?

No. A petitioner will not be deported if he/she contacts the police or goes to the hospital to seek medical care for injuries. The petitioner will also not be deported for going to the courthouse to seek a protective order. Someone can ask for a protective order or help from the police no matter what their immigration status is.

Can a married victim of domestic violence get a green card if their spouse has not filed the immigration paperwork for her or him?

Yes. If a domestic violence victim is married to a person who has a green card or is a US citizen, the victim non-citizen spouse can apply for a green card without the other spouse's assistance. It is very important that you get legal advice from an immigration attorney as soon as possible. Talk to an immigration attorney or call the Alaska Immigration Justice Project at (907) 279-2457.

Will the court system provide an interpreter if I need one?

Yes. The court system will provide you with an interpreter in court if you have difficulty speaking and understanding English. If you ask for an interpreter, and the judge finds that you need an interpreter, the court will place a phone call to an interpreter who will interpret over the phone for you.

The court system will also provide an interpreter if you have a disability and need an interpreter to communicate. For example, the court system will provide you with an American Sign Language interpreter if you are deaf or hard of hearing and know sign language.

Tell the clerk at the court when you are notified about the protective order hearing that you need an interpreter. It is helpful to arrange for the interpreter in advance to be sure you get one and the hearing occurs as scheduled.

Modifications – Asking to change the protective order

What is a modification?

After the court has granted either the *ex parte* protective order or long-term protective order, either the petitioner or the respondent may request that the order be changed by filing a Request to Modify a Protective Order, DV-131 [One Petitioner](#) | [Multiple Petitioners](#). This form is available at the court and at <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>. Only the judge can modify the order. The parties cannot change the order simply by agreeing outside of the legal process. Even if both parties agree to change part of the order, they must still go through the court and file a document stating they agree to the change.

How can a respondent modify a protective order?

To modify a protective order, file a Request to Modify a Protective Order, DV-131 [One Petitioner](#) | [Multiple Petitioners](#). This form is available at the court and at <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>. Fill in the caption with the names of the parties and case number exactly as they are written on the original order. Explain how you want the order changed.

For example, you could write that you want to change the current order that allows “reasonable visitation” with the children to “visitation with specified hours from Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.” You will also need to state why you want the order changed. For example, in a request to have specific visitation times, the reason might be that “without a specific time schedule, it hasn’t been working to regularly see my children. Specified times will allow me to see my children on a regular basis.” You must sign and date the request, and give the court a current mailing address and phone number.

How do I respond to the other side’s request to modify a protective order?

You can file a Response to Request to Modify or Dissolve Protective Order, DV-140 (one petitioner) or [DV-140-M \(multiple petitioners\)](#). Fill in the caption with the names of the parties and

case number exactly as they are written on the original order and state whether you agree or disagree with the request and explain why.

Will there be a hearing on a request to modify?

If the request is made to modify an *ex parte* protective order, the court may schedule a hearing on 3 days' notice. If the request is made to modify a long term protective order, the judge may schedule a hearing within 20 days of the request. The judge may allow the respondent the chance to respond to the request in writing by filling out: Response to Request to Modify or Dissolve Protective Order, [DV-140 \(one petitioner\)](#) or [DV-140-M \(multiple petitioners\)](#).

The judge may deny the request without a hearing by finding it has no merit. If the judge does not hold a hearing, you will receive an order in the mail telling you the judge's decision. If the judge holds a hearing, he or she may decide the request in court and give you a written order granting or denying your request. Sometimes the judge issues a decision after the hearing, notifying the parties by mail. If there is a hearing and you live far from the courthouse, you can ask the court to participate by phone. To request to appear by phone, fill out: Request to Appear by Telephone, [TF-710](#).

In order to be notified of all hearings scheduled in the case, it is very important to inform the clerk at the court if you change your address.

Violations And Enforcement

What is a violation?

The respondent violates the protective order if the respondent has been served with it (or has knowledge of it) and purposefully violates the order's provisions. For example, if the order prohibits the respondent from contacting the petitioner and the respondent comes to the petitioner's home or work place, that is a violation.

What happens if the respondent violates a protective order?

If the respondent violates the provisions of a protective order, the petitioner can report the violations to the appropriate authority. The petitioner alerts the **police** if criminal parts of the order are violated and alerts the **judge** if civil parts of the order are violated. The different violations are discussed below.

Which parts of the order are criminal violations?

It is a misdemeanor crime to violate certain parts of the protective order. Since each order is different, here are some examples of criminal violations:

- committing or threatening to commit domestic violence;
- violating provisions that prohibit contact;
- refusing to leave the home;
- entering or following the victim's vehicle.

If the respondent is arrested for violating an order, the State District Attorney’s Office may prosecute the respondent if there is enough evidence. The respondent may be sent to jail.

Which parts of the order are civil violations?

If the respondent does not follow certain provisions of the order, the respondent may be committing civil violations. This means that the judge may hold the respondent in “contempt of court” for such violations. Examples of civil violations are the respondent:

- refuses to attend counseling,
- refuses to pay child support,
- refuses to reimburse medical bills, or
- refuses to deliver certain personal property to you.

The petitioner must report such violations to the judge to get further help from the court in a Motion to Modify. Modifications are discussed in the previous section.

Contempt Of Court

What is “contempt of court”?

If the judge finds the respondent willfully disobeyed the civil parts of the protective order, the respondent may be found “in contempt of court” and ordered to pay a fine or to go to jail. This may happen if the respondent has not paid medical bills, spousal support, child support, complied with drug and/or alcohol treatment, or attended an anger management program.

To alert the judge of the civil violations, the petitioner needs to file a “Motion for Order to Show Cause.”

If the judge finds that the petitioner’s motion has merit, he or she will send the respondent an “Order to Show Cause,” ordering the respondent to appear at a hearing to explain any violations of the protective order. The petitioner will also need to appear to tell the judge what provision of the order the respondent violated and what remedy the petitioner wants from the judge. As a remedy, the judge may order the respondent to do what he or she was originally ordered or may restrict the respondent more than in the original order. If the respondent fails to show up, the judge may issue a bench warrant for the respondent’s arrest.

Extensions And Denials

If the petitioner gets a protective order, can the petitioner extend it after one year?

Most provisions in long term protective orders expire after one year. The provision that prohibits the respondent from threatening to commit or committing domestic violence is in effect indefinitely, until a judge rules otherwise.

The petitioner can ask the court to extend a long term protective order for one year if it is necessary for his or her protection. The petitioner can make the request within 30 days of when the order will expire or within 60 days after it expires by filing a Request to Extend Protective Order, [DV-132 \(one](#)

[petitioner](#)) or [DV-132-M \(multiple petitioners\)](#). This form is available at the court and at <http://www.courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>. Fill in the caption with the names of the parties and case number exactly as they are written on the original order. Explain in writing why you want the order extended.

The court will schedule a hearing in at least 10 days from when you file the request to extend and notify both the petitioner and the respondent of when the hearing will be held. At the hearing, the petitioner will provide information about why an extension is necessary for his or her protection and the judge will also hear from the respondent. If the judge grants the extension, it will be for one year and include either the same provisions as the previous long term protective order, or changes based on the petitioner's request. You can request another extension if you feel you still need protection after the new order expires.

If the initial long term protective order expires before the judge grants an extension, there will be no protective order in effect during that time in between. The petitioner should plan how to keep safe. Contact an advocate to help with safety planning. Find information on safety plans at <http://www.andvsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Personalized-Safety-Plan.pdf>. Please see the list of shelters, victims' services and resource programs at the end of this booklet.

What happens if the judge denies the protective order?

If the judge does not find enough evidence to grant a long-term protective order, the case will be dismissed and there will be no order in place. For example, if the respondent has been excluded from the family residence during the *ex parte* order and the petitioner's requests for a long term protective order was denied, the respondent will not be excluded from the residence any more.

Protective Orders Issued In Another State

Will the police and court in Alaska enforce a protective order if the order is from another state?

Law enforcement and the court system in Alaska will enforce an unexpired protective order that was issued by a tribal court or another state court if you file it with the Alaska court. Either the petitioner or respondent needs to provide a certified copy of your unexpired protective order.

You can also contact the Family Law Self-Help Center help line to understand how to register your tribal or out-of-state order in Alaska. Call (907) 264-0851 or toll free in Alaska but outside Anchorage at (866) 279-0851.

Dissolving A Protective Order

How do I dissolve a protective order?

If the petitioner wants to end a protective order, file a Request Dissolve a Protective Order, [DV-133 \(one petitioner\)](#) or [DV-133-M \(multiple petitioners\)](#). This form is available at the court and at <http://www.courts.alaska.gov/forms/index.htm#dv>. Fill in the caption with the names of the parties and case number exactly as they are written on the original order. Explain why you want to end the order.

If the petitioner asks the court to dissolve the order, the court will dissolve the order and its provisions will no longer be in effect. Sometimes courts have a hearing to determine whether the petitioner really filed the request, or the court wants to determine if there is any undue influence, coercion etc.

If the respondent wants to dissolve a protective order and files a Request to Dissolve a Protective Order before the long term hearing has been held, the court will usually deny the request and tell the respondent to wait until the hearing to present the respondent's side of the story. If the Request to Dissolve is filed after the long term hearing, the judge will decide whether a hearing is necessary to hear from both parties regarding the issues raised by the respondent. The judge may decide the Request to Dissolve has no merit and the order will remain in effect.

How do I respond to the other side's request to dissolve my protective order?

You can file a Response to Request to Modify or Dissolve Protective Order, [DV-140 \(one petitioner\)](#) or [DV-140-M \(multiple petitioners\)](#). Fill in the caption with the names of the parties and case number exactly as they are written on the original order and state whether you agree or disagree with the request and explain why.

Where To Go For Help – Statewide

In addition to the numbers provided here, you may also contact the nearest courthouse or your local law enforcement office (local police, Alaska State Trooper, or Village Public Safety Officer) for other information and assistance.

Every effort was made to include accurate information on these pages. Please send phone number additions or corrections to: Family Law Self-Help Center, Alaska Court System, 820 West 4th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501 or call (907) 264-0877.

Batterer's Intervention Programs

Batterer Intervention Programs (BIPs) deliver education intended to promote behavioral changes in people who commit domestic violence to increase victim safety and offender well-being. The programs provide opportunities to understand the abusive nature of their behavior and the effects of their violence on their families. For those who choose to be accountable for their actions and want to change, this education helps them make progress in every aspect of their lives. BIPs increase opportunities for victims and their children to access services and support and to plan for their safety. BIPs engage system partners and local community members to establish coordinated community responses to this violence in order to decrease tolerance for domestic violence.

ANCHORAGE

The Recovery Connection (LLC)

500 Muldoon Road, Ste 9
Anchorage, AK 99504
Phone: (907)332-7660
Fax: (907)332-7661

Men and Women Center

600 Cordova St, Ste 3
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: (907)272-4822
Fax: (907)272-6395

FAIRBANKS

Life Education Action Program

P.O. Box 82842
Fairbanks, AK 99708
Phone: (907)452-2473
Fax: (907)452-6903

Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC)

726 26th Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: (907)452-2293
Toll Free: (800)478-7273
Fax: (907)452-2613 & (907) 746-1177

HOMER

Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Haven House

3776 Lake St., Ste 100
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: (907)235-7712
Fax: (907)235-2733

KENAI

The LeeShore Center (LSC)

325 Spruce Street
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: (907)283-9479
Fax: (907)283-5844

JUNEAU

Juneau Batterers Accountability Program, Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies

P.O. Box 20809
Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: (907)586-6623
Fax: (907)586-2479

KETCHIKAN

Men ENDing Violence, Ketchikan Indian Community

2690 Tongass Ave., Fifth Floor
Ketchikan, AK 99901
Phone: (907)228-4921
Fax: (907)247-4061

KODIAK

Violence Intervention Program, Behavioral Resource Consultants

320 Corner Street
Kodiak, AK 99615
Phone: (907)486-2632
Fax: (907)486-2732

PALMER

Family Violence Intervention Program, Alaska Family Services

1825 S. Chugach Street
Palmer, AK 99645-6339
Phone: (907)746-1177
Fax: (907)373-0640

UTQIAGVIK (FORMERLY BARROW)

North Slope Borough Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Arctic Women in Crisis

P.O. Box 69
Utqiagvik, AK 99723
Phone: (907)852-0261
Fax: (907)852-2474

VALDEZ

Providence Valdez Counseling Center, DV Intervention Program

911 Meals Ave.

P.O. Box 1050

Valdez, AK 99686

Phone: (907)835-2838

Fax: (907)835-5927

Prison Batterer's Intervention Programs

FAIRBANKS

Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC)

726 26th Avenue

Fairbanks, AK 99701

Phone: (907)452-2293

Toll Free: (800)478-7273

Fax: (907)452-2613 & (907) 746-1177

JUNEAU

Juneau Batterers Accountability Program, Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies

P.O. Box 20809

Juneau, AK 99802

Phone: (907)586-6623

Fax: (907)586-2479

PALMER

Family Violence Intervention Program, Alaska Family Services

1825 S. Chugach Street

Palmer, AK 99645-6339

Phone: (907)746-1177

Fax: (907)373-0640

Domestic Violence Shelters and Programs

If you are a victim of domestic violence, there are shelters and programs in many communities in Alaska as listed below.

In an emergency, call 911.

Anchorage

Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC)	
24-hour crisis line	272-0100
Business line	279-9581
Covenant House (shelter and programs for homeless youth)	272-1255
Standing Together Against Rape (STAR)	
Toll-free number	1-800-478-8999
Crisis line	276-7273
Business line	276-7279

Bethel

Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC)	
Toll-free number	1-800-478-7799
Crisis Line	543-3456
Local number	543-3444

Cordova

Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC)	
Crisis line	424-4357
Business line	424-5674
Sound Alternatives	
Local number	424-8300

Dillingham

Safe and Fear-Free Environment (SAFE)	
Toll-free number	1-800-478-2316
Business line	842-2320

Emmonak

Emmonak Women's Shelter (EWS)	
Local number	949-1434

Fairbanks

Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living	
Toll-free number	1-800-478-7273
Business line	452-2293

Homer

South Peninsula Haven House	
Toll-free	1-800-478-7712

Juneau

Aiding Women From Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE)
Toll-free number 1-800-478-1090
Crisis line 586-1090
Business line 586-6623

Juneau

Petersburg working against violence for everyone (WAVE)
Crisis Line 518-0555
Office number 650-7123

Kenai

Lee Shore Center
Crisis line 283-7257
Business line 283-9479

Ketchikan

Women in Safe Homes (WISH)
Business line 225-9474

Kodiak

Kodiak Women's Resource and Crisis Center (KWRCC)
Crisis line 1-888-486-3625
Business line 486-3625
486-6171

Kotzebue

Manilaq Family Crisis Center
Toll-free number 1-888-478-3969
Crisis line 442-3969

Nome

Bering Sea Women's Group (BSWG)
Toll-free number 1-800-570-5444
Crisis line 443-5444
Business line 443-5491

Palmer

Alaska Family Resource Center (AFRC)
Local number 746-8206

Petersburg

Petersburg working against violence for everyone (WAVE)
Crisis Line 518-0555
Office number 650-7123

Seward

SeaView Community Services

Local number	224-5257
Toll-free number	1-888-224-5257

Sitka

Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV)

Toll-free number	1-800-478-6511
Crisis line	747-6511
Business line	747-3370

Unalaska

Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (USAFV)

Toll-free number	1-800-478-7238
Crisis line	581-1500

Utqiagvik (Formerly Barrow)

Arctic Women in Crisis (AWIC)

Toll-free number	1-800-478-0267
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Valdez

Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV)

Toll-free number	1-800-835-4044
Business line	835-2980
Crisis line	835-2999

Wasilla

MyHouse Mat-Su – safe shelter for homeless youth

373-4357

Alaska Legal Services Corporation Offices**Anchorage**

1016 West 6th Avenue, Suite 200

Anchorage, AK 99501-1963

Toll-free number	1-888-478-2572
Business line	272-9431

Bethel

P.O. Box 248

Bethel, AK 99559-0248

Toll-free number	1-800-478-2230
Business line	543-2237

Dillingham

P.O. Box 176

Dillingham, AK 99576-0176

Toll-free number	1-888-391-1475
Business line	842-1452

Fairbanks

1648 Cushman Street, Suite 300
Fairbanks, AK 99701-6202

Toll-free number 1-800-478-5401
Business line 452-5181

Juneau

419 Sixth Street, Suite 322
Juneau, AK 99801-1096

Toll-free number 1-800-789-6426
Business line 586-6425

Ketchikan

306 Main Street
NBA Building #218
Ketchikan, AK 99901-6483

Business line 225-6420

Kotzebue

P.O. Box 526
733 2nd Avenue, Ferguson Building, Rm 202
Kotzebue, AK 99752-0526

Toll-free number 1-877-622-9797
Business line 442-3500

Nome

P.O. Box 1429
110 Front Street, Suite 204A
Nome, AK 99762-1429

Toll-free number 1-888-495-6663
Business line 443-2230

Utqiagvik (Formerly Barrow)

P.O. Box 1651
1264 Agvik Street #7
Utqiagvik, AK 99723

Toll-free number 1-855-755-8998
Business line 855-8998

Other Contact Information

Alaska Court System

(www.courts.alaska.gov/index.htm)
Anchorage Domestic Violence Office
Fairbanks Domestic Violence Office

264-0616
452-9254

Alaska Immigration Justice Project

(www.akijp.org) (Anchorage)

279-2457

AlaskaLawHelp	
(www.alaskalawhelp.org)	
Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	
(www.andvsa.org/)	
Business number (Juneau)	586-3650
Alaska Native Justice Center	
(www.anjc.org/)	
Business number (Anchorage)	793-3550
Alaska State Troopers	
(www.dps.state.ak.us/ast/)	
Batterers' Intervention programs	
(http://www.andvsa.org/shelters-and-services/batterers-intervention-programs/)	
Catholic Social Services – Immigration and Refugee Assistance	
(https://www.cssalaska.org/our-programs/refugee-assistance-immigration-services/)	
Main number (Anchorage)	222-7300
Child Support Services Division	
(www.csed.state.ak.us/)	
Toll-free “Kids’ Line” outside Anchorage	1-800-478-3300
“Kids’ Line” (Anchorage)	269-6900
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	
(www.dps.state.ak.us/cdvsa/)	
Business number (Juneau)	465-4356
Denali Kid Care (health insurance)	
(hss.state.ak.us/dhcs/DenaliKidCare/default.htm)	
Toll-free (outside Anchorage)	1-888-318-8890
Business number (Anchorage)	269-6529
Family Law Self-Help Center	
(www.courts.alaska.gov/shc/family/selfhelp.htm)	
Toll-free outside Anchorage	1-866-279-0851
In Anchorage	264-0851
Office of Children’s Services	
(www.hss.state.ak.us/ocs/)	
Child abuse and neglect hot line	
Toll-free number	1-800-478-4444
Office of Victims’ Rights	
(https://ovr.akleg.gov/)	
Toll-free outside Anchorage	1-866-274-2620
Business number	272-2620
Public Assistance	
(dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx)	
Toll-free outside Anchorage	1-888-804-6330
Business line (Anchorage)	269-5777

U.S. Department of State's Office of Children's Issues

(international parental child abduction and international adoption)

(<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/International-Parental-Child-Abduction.html>)

Victims for Justice

(<http://www.victimsforjustice.org/>)

Toll free number

1-888-835-1213

Business number (Anchorage)

278-0977

Violent Crimes Compensation Board

(doa.alaska.gov/vccb/home.html)

Toll-free number

1-800-465-3040

Business number (Juneau)

465-3040

For more information about this publication, please call the
Alaska Court System Family Law Self-Help Center at
(907) 264-0877
820 West Fourth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
