

STEP 4: The full hearing is held 7-10 court days following the initial filing. You must be present and if you choose to bring legal representation, they will be required to be present as well. The respondent is not required to appear and the hearing may proceed without his or her presence. The hearing may be continued if he or she was not served with CPO paperwork.

STEP 5: The CPO may or may not be granted after the full hearing. If it is granted it will stay in effect until the listed date on the CPO paperwork.

PREPARING FOR COURT

- Arrive on time
- Dress appropriately. No tank tops, flip-flops, low-cut shirts, short skirts or shorts.
- Unless small children will be testifying at the hearing, do not bring them to court. If you have a child care issue, talk to your advocate for help.
- Turn off cell phones
- If you have any police reports, medical records, photos, or other evidence, it may be helpful to bring it with you.

DELAWARE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
VICTIM SERVICES UNIT
(740) 833-2710

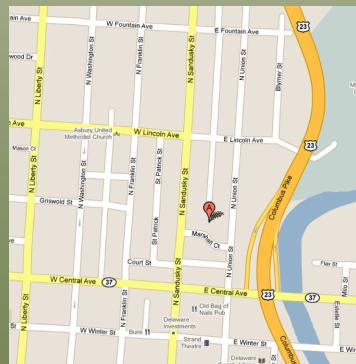
HELPLINE OF DELAWARE & MORROW
COUNTIES, INC.
2-1-1 OR (740) 369-3316

TURNING POINT
(740) 382-8988

NATIONAL CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME
1 (800) FYI – CALL
1 (800) 394-2255

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE
1 (800) 799-SAFE (7233)

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR
VICTIM ASSISTANCE
1 (800) TRY-NOVA
1 (800) 879-6682
WWW.TRYNOVA.ORG



Delaware County Victim Services Unit
140 N. Sandusky St., 3rd Fl.
Delaware, OH 43015
www.co.delaware.oh.us/prosecutor

UNDERSTANDING CIVIL PROTECTION ORDERS



V&J
VICTIM SERVICES UNIT

Trish Wright, Director L.S.W., R.A.
140 N. Sandusky St. 3rd Fl. Delaware, OH 43015
(740) 833-2710

Carol O'Brien
DELAWARE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

What is a Civil Protection Order?

A Civil Protection Order (CPO) is an order issued by Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, intended to protect victims of certain crimes committed by an adult. These crimes include:

- **Domestic Violence**
- **Stalking**
- **Sexually Oriented Offenses**

It can provide relief from a dangerous situation whether or not criminal charges are pursued.

YOU CAN APPLY FOR A **STALKING CPO** IF:

- The respondent is engaging in a pattern of conduct that makes you believe you are in imminent danger.

Making police reports on violations of your request to stay away or stop any further contact help build evidence in your case against the stalker.

YOU CAN APPLY FOR A **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CPO** IF:

- You are related to the abuser by blood or marriage and you are currently living and/or have lived with him or her.
- You have a child with the abuser whether or not you were ever married or lived together.

...And the abuser:

- Attempted to cause or recklessly caused you physical harm.
- Made you believe he/she was going to cause you physical harm.
- Committed child abuse.

YOU CAN APPLY FOR A **SEXUALLY ORIENTED OFFENSE CPO** IF:

- You have experienced any type of sexual offense including rape or gross sexual imposition.

A **CPO** CAN PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING RELIEF:

- Exclusive rights to reside in the home and the abuser ordered to vacate the home.
- Temporary custody of children or visitation arrangements. (This relief is only available if no other court made or is currently making a decision about parental rights and/or visitation.)
- Allows you to request the removal of abusers' weapons should he/she possess them.
- Establish an order to the respondent not to initiate or have any contact with you.
- Establish an order to keep the respondent a certain distance away from you at all times and restrict him/her from entering any place you may be at.

VIOLATION OF A **CPO** IS A CRIME:

If the respondent violates anything that is granted in the CPO order, call law enforcement immediately.

A CPO IS NOT FOR SITUATIONS THAT DO NOT PRESENT A DANGER TO YOU. A CPO IS A SERIOUS LEGAL ACTION THAT MAY HAVE CRIMINAL CONSEQUENCES IF VIOLATED. IT IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR A SITUATION THAT IS BETTER HANDLED BY OTHER INTERVENTION. IF THIS IS YOUR SITUATION, YOU ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT OUR **VICTIM SERVICES UNIT** FOR PROBLEM SOLVING, SAFETY PLANNING, AND ADVOCACY.

HOW TO GET AT **CPO**:

STEP 1: You can complete the petition on your own, with an attorney, or with the assistance of a victim advocate in the Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. To make an appointment or for attorney referrals, please call **VSU at (740) 833 -2710**.

STEP 2: The petition is filed in the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas. A hearing is held to determine whether an ex-parte (emergency) order should be issued. This hearing will be held prior to the end of the next court date following the filing.

STEP 3: After the ex-parte hearing, the person the petition was filed against (the respondent) will be served with the ex-parte order (as issued), a copy of the petition and paperwork filed, and notice of the full hearing date.