

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE

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King County

CLERK'S ALERT

Family Law Temporary Restraining Orders – Missing Expiration Dates

Many Family Law Temporary Restraining Orders are submitted to the Court and filed with the Clerk's Office on attorney developed forms which do not contain an expiration date of the order. The lack of an expiration date has significant impacts.

As a reminder, the use of state pattern forms in family law matters is required, and in fact, RCW 26.09.006 states that "a party shall not file any pleading with the clerk of the court in an action commenced under this chapter unless on forms approved by the administrator for the courts." The Mandatory Form FL All Family 150 – Restraining Order section 3 includes the following key language, "This Order starts immediately, and ends in 12 months or on (date): _____."

When a Family Law Temporary Restraining Order is filed, and the mandatory pattern form is not used, or there is no expiration date included, the Order is issued to law enforcement by the clerk, but law enforcement has confirmed they cannot enter a restraining order in WACIC without an expiration date.

To ensure your Family Law Temporary Restraining Order can be processed and enforced appropriately please use the AOC Mandatory Form FL All Family 150 [FL All Family 150 Restraining Order 2022_07.docx \(live.com\)](#) and include an expiration date.



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Department of Judicial Administration

www.kingcounty.gov/courts/clerk