

Filing a Protection Order

1



Is a Protection Order right for me?



Works best with a **Safety Plan**
[Click here to learn more about Safety planning.](#)



Consult with an advocate. Making the decision to file a protection order can be difficult - working with an advocate may help you understand your options. [Click here to learn more.](#)



Need help understanding which of the **6 protection orders** may best meet your needs? [Click here to learn more.](#)

3



File completed Forms with Court Clerk

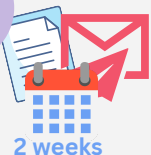


File in person at any [King County Superior Court](#) or [King County District Court Clerks](#) office.



File online through [King County Superior Court](#) submission process. If you choose to not file in Superior Court, follow that court's instructions.

5



Paperwork is Processed

2 weeks

If your order is granted your order will be filed with the clerks office, and then sent to Law Enforcement for **service and entry** in the WACIC database system

2



Complete Protection Order Forms



Begin your protection order forms online through [Protection Order Portal](#), or



Pick up the forms in-person at [King County Clerks](#) office locations, or print them through [WA Courts website](#).



Consult with a [Protection Order Advocate](#), Community Advocate, or Attorney should you need assistance.



Collect and attach any **supporting evidence** if available. i.e., police reports, text messages, photos, medical records, etc.

4



Go to "Ex Parte" Hearing for Temporary Orders



Once you have filed your forms with the Clerks office you will go to **ex-parte court** either virtually or in-person to have a judge review your petition and **approve or deny your order.**



Temporary Order is either **granted or denied**, 2 week return hearing scheduled.



Attend Return Hearing



Join the virtual **Return hearing** by finding your case on the 8:30 am virtual calendar online at [King County Superior Court](#)



In order to obtain your full protection order, the **respondent must be served 5 court days in advance of your hearing**. Law Enforcement or other third party may administer **service**. To learn more click [here](#).

Contested Hearing

occurs when the opposing party (restrained person) has been:

- ✓ Served on time with proof of service on file
- ✓ Opposing party is present and is arguing against entry of the order, and
- ✓ All parties are ready

The Judge will swear both parties in the record, both parties will have an opportunity to give testimony, and the judge will then make their finding and either **grant or deny the full protection order**. Click [here](#) to learn more about preparing for the contested hearing.



Uncontested Hearing

occurs when the opposing party (restrained person)

- ✓ has been served on time, is not present, or agrees.

If the court finds that harm occurred based on the statement from the petitioner the judge will **grant the protection order**.



Hearing Continued and Reissuance of Temporary Order

occurs when the Protection Order was not served, or if parties are not ready to begin or had time to respond to the petition. The law encourages the protection order process to be streamlined. Please talk with an advocate if you are experiencing delays.



Modify, Terminate, or Renew Protection Order

Modify or Terminate a Protection Order

Any existing protection order can be modified (by both parties) or terminated (moving party/petitioner). Respondents may only motion to modify 1 time per 12 month period.

Renew a Protection Order

Any active protection order can be extended before it ends by filing a **Motion to Renew**. It is advised to begin the process at least one month before the order ends.

Reconsideration/ Revision of Protection Order

Any party can file for a motion of reconsideration or a motion of revision if filed within 10 court days of a decision.