

Protective Orders Research Guide

*****IMPORTANT*****

If you are seeking a Protective Order, the Protective Order Unit asks that we refer patrons to them first to see if you may use their services.

Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Protective Order Unit:

Family Law Center – 3rd Floor
817-884-1623
pounit@tarrantcountytx.gov

Online Questionnaire:

<https://protectiveorder.tarrantcounty.com/>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/FA/htm/FA.82.htm>

- Ch. 83 Temporary Ex Parte Orders
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/FA/htm/FA.83.htm>
- §85.025 Duration of Protective Order
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/FA/htm/FA.85.htm#85.025>

Texas Penal Code

- Ch. 25 Offenses Against the Family
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.25.htm>

Overview

This research guide offers information and resources on Protective Orders. A protective order, sometimes referred to as a “PO,” can help victims of violence, stalking, and sexual abuse request a court order to keep the abuser away from the victim. The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or act as the substitute for legal counsel.

Statutes & Codes

Texas Statutes Online www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov

Texas Code of Criminal Procedure

- Ch. 7B Protective Orders
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.7B.htm>

Texas Family Code

- Title 4, Subtitle B: Protective Orders – Chs. 81 to 88
 - Ch. 82 Applying for Protective Order

Secondary Resources in Print

Texas Family Law Practice Manual KFT 1294 T4S7

- Vol. 2, Ch. 17 Protective Orders

O'Connor's Texas Family Code Plus (2020-21) KFT 1294 .03B4

- Ch. 82 Applying for Protective Orders
- Ch. 83 Requirements for Temporary Ex Parte Order

Cyberbullying Law KF 2846 .J33

- Ch. 7 Family Court and Cyberbullying Issues, Subsection C: Orders of Protection

Texas Criminal Pattern Jury Charges REF KFT 1783 .A65 S7T4

- Ch. 64 Stalking

CLE Materials

Advanced Family Law Course KFT 1294 .S83

- 2021 Ch. 13 Protective Orders
- 2020 Ch. 14: Stalking Protective Orders
- 2017 Ch. 59: Presenting the Protective Order Case and Family Violence

- 2016 Ch. 37: Protective Orders & Understanding the Dynamics of Domestic Violence
- 2006 Ch. 11: All You Need to Know About Protective Orders
- 2003 Ch. 65: Prosecuting and Defending Protective Orders
- 2002 Ch. 5: Temporary & Protective Order Traps

Advanced Family Law Drafting KFT 1294 .A92

- 2021 Ch. 14 Ex Parte Drafting
- 2010 Ch. 19: Drafting Protective Orders by Hon. Judy L. Warne
- 2001 Ch. 10: Family Violence by A. Michelle May, Section III: Application for Protective Order, p. 2-4; Section V, Subsection C: Protective Order, p. 8-9 (appendix has sample forms p. 23-28)

Advanced Evidence and Discovery KFT 1740 .A75S7

- 2018 Ch. 8: Protective Orders by David Bright

“Nuts and Bolts” Protective Order & Family Law Trial Skills Seminar (1999) KFT 1300 .N8W4

Online Resources

Protective Order Forms (Texas Judicial Branch)
<https://www.txcourts.gov/forms/>

Pro Se Sexual Assault Protective Order Packet
<https://www.texasadvocacyproject.org/sites/default/files/2016%20SAPO%20-%20fillable.pdf>

Protective Order Fact Sheet (Texas Law Help)
<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/protective-order-fact-sheet>

Protective Order Forms (Texas Law Help)
<https://texaslawhelp.org/protection-from-violence-or-abuse/protective-orders>

Commonly Requested Forms - Protective Order (TSLI)
<https://guides.sll.texas.gov/legal-forms/protective-orders>

Magistrate’s Orders for Emergency Protection (TJCTC)

- Emergency Protective Order (EPO)
<https://docs.gato.txst.edu/226796/Order%20of%20Emergency%20Protecton%20EPO.docx>
- EPO Modification Hearing – Order
<https://docs.gato.txst.edu/226794/Order%20-%20EPO%20Modification%20Hearing.docx>

Texas Municipal Courts Education Center (TMCEC)

- Magistrate’s Duties: Domestic Violence
<https://www.tmcec.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/05-Magistrate-Duties.pdf>

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

<https://ncadv.org/>

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

<https://www.nrcdv.org/>

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence - VAWNet

<https://vawnet.org/>

Office on Women’s Health

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/relationships-and-safety/domestic-violence>

Protective Orders and Restraining Orders (Travis County Sheriff)

https://www.tcsheriff.org/images/victim-services/docs/po_ro_pb.pdf

Legal Assistance

Legal Lines – Ask Attorneys simple legal questions (free service)

- Tarrant County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.tarrantbar.org/>
- Dallas County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=legalline>

Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service: 817-336-4101 (\$20 for the first 30 minutes)