

# Civil Protection Orders

Thank you for visiting Victim Assistance Program's office at the Summit County Domestic Relations Court. Unfortunately, we do not have an advocate available to assist you in person with the filing process at this time.

The information provided below is for general informational purposes only. If you have questions about this process, a victim advocate is available by calling our hotline. If you need legal advice, please contact an attorney.

**24-Hour Hotline | 330.376.0040**



## Step 1: Determine which protection order you need to file.

If you are seeking a protection order against an intimate partner, someone you have lived with, or share children with, use your phone's camera to scan the codes below. These two videos will explain the different types of protection orders so that you can determine which petition you will need to file.

Part 1: Filing a  
Civil Protection  
Order



Part 2: Notice of a  
Civil Protection  
Order



If you are seeking a protection order against someone who has stalked you or sexually assaulted you and who does not fit one of the relationship types listed above, you may consider filing for a Stalking or Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Order.

## Step 2: Obtain the correct petition.

Once you have determined which protection order you need to file, please visit the Summit County Clerk of Courts Domestic Relations window to obtain either a petition for a Dating Violence Civil Protection Order or a Domestic Violence Civil Protection Order.

Visit the Civil Division window to obtain a petition for a Stalking or Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Order.

### Step 3: Fill out and file your petition.

Fill out the petition entirely. If you have any questions about completing the petition, **call the Victim Assistance Program hotline at 330.376.0040**. An advocate will be available to assist you over the phone.

Once you have completed your petition, the Clerk of Courts will direct you to either the Domestic Relations Court - 3rd floor (Dating Violence Civil Protection Orders & Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders) or the Court of Common Pleas General Division - 2nd floor (Stalking or Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Order).

### Step 4: Attend your *ex-parte* civil protection order hearing.

When you arrive, you will wait to see a Magistrate for your *ex-parte* civil protection order hearing. The Magistrate will make a decision to grant or deny an *ex-parte* civil protection order.

### If you ARE granted an *ex-parte* civil protection order:

When an *ex-parte* civil protection order is granted, the Magistrate will tell you to obtain 3 copies of your petition at the Clerk of Courts window. The Clerk of Courts will send you to the Summit County Sheriff's Office (same building) where you will provide the Sheriff's deputies the appropriate paperwork so they can serve the respondent with the protection order. You will receive a copy of your order with a pink sheet on top. The last page will have the date for your next evidentiary hearing that you and the respondent are required to attend.

### If you ARE NOT granted an *ex-parte* civil protection order:

If you are not granted an *ex-parte* civil protection order, you have the right to ask the court for an evidentiary hearing. Please **call the Victim Assistance Program hotline at 330.376.0040** to discuss options for planning for your safety as the evidentiary hearing date will not occur right away.

### What comes next?

If you have any questions throughout this process, please **call the Victim Assistance Program hotline at 330.376.0040**. A Victim Assistance Advocate can assist you in preparing for your evidentiary hearing.

You can also prepare for your evidentiary hearing by scanning the code below. This video will provide you with information to prepare you.

Part 3: Civil Protection  
Order Full Hearings

