

Protection Orders - Frequently Asked Questions

***Do Not Contact the Protected Party in Any Way,
Even if that Person Contacts You First.***

- Q:** Does the "protection order" mean I have to move out of my house? Do I have to work somewhere else?
- A:** Maybe. Ask your lawyer.
- Q:** What do I do if the protected party (that is, the person who requested the 'no contact' or 'restraining order' against you) comes to my home?
- A:** Do NOT open the door. Do NOT speak through the door. Do NOT make eye contact. Do NOT make any gestures through the windows. Document all types of contact made by the protected party.
- Q:** What do I do if the protected party comes to my place of work?
- A:** Leave the area without speaking or making any other type of contact with the protected party. If possible, make someone at your work place aware of the situation.
- Q:** What do I do if I see the protected party in public and she/he talks to me?
- A:** Do NOT reply. Leave the area without speaking or making any other type of contact with the protected party. You may NOT say a friendly "Hello," you may NOT decide to have lunch together, etc.
- Q:** What do I do if the protected party calls me?
- A:** Do NOT answer the phone if you can tell it is the protected party (that is, if you can see his/her number on your phone's caller-identification), or hang up immediately. Document all types of contact made by the protected party.
- Q:** What do I do if the protected party sends me a text message, e-mail, regular mail, flowers, etc.?
- A:** Do NOT reply. Document all types of contact made by the protected party.
- Q:** What do I do if both the protected party and I agree that it is okay to talk to each other?
- A:** You may NOT have contact until the protection order is officially modified by the JUDGE to allow contact or officially vacated (canceled) by the JUDGE. Obtain a copy of the modified or canceled protection order from the court.
- Q:** What do I do if the protected party filed paperwork asking the court to cancel the protection order?
- A:** You may NOT have contact of any kind until the protection order is officially modified to allow contact or officially vacated (canceled) by the JUDGE. Obtain a copy of the modified or canceled protection order from the court.
- Q:** What do I do if there is more than one protection order issued from different courts?
- A:** You may NOT have contact until EACH protection order is officially modified by the JUDGE in EACH court to allow contact or officially vacated (canceled) by the JUDGE in EACH court. Obtain a copy of the modified or canceled protection order from EACH court.

*******Violation of a Protection Order is a CRIME!! *******

CALL YOUR LAWYER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.