

# Instructions for Petition for Protection Order (RCW 7.105)

This form can be used by:

A person, 15 years of age or older, who is seeking protection from an abusive situation or helping a minor, 14 years of age and under, seek protection. There are different protection orders based on the type of harm and how the parties know each other. Protection types include:

- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Stalking
- Vulnerable Adult
- Anti-Harassment (along with the following optional sub-anti-harassment types)
  - Stalking
  - Hate Crime
  - Single Act / Threat of Violence including malicious and intentional threat or presence of firearm/weapon causing substantial emotional distress
  - Family or household member engaged in domestic violence
  - Nonconsensual sexual conduct or penetration or a sex offense

This form will be filed as a public court record and will start a civil court case.

**Print Clearly! Use Black or Blue Ink only.** If you are reading these instructions in any language other than English, please understand that all court documents must be filled out in English.

# Top of the form (Page 1)

Fill in your name (first, middle initial, last) and date of birth as the "Petitioner." The "Respondent" is the person you are seeking to be restrained. Fill in that person's name (first, middle initial, last) and date of birth. If you are unsure of the person's date of birth, please list their age or approximate age.

# What kind of protection order to you want? (Question 1)

Check the box that describes the relief you are seeking from the court. If you are unsure, please see definitions located in Attachments A and B located at the end of the petition.

Choose only one box from the following options that best fits your situation: Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, Vulnerable Adult, or Anti-Harassment.

If Anti-Harassment best fits your situation, you may also choose one sub-box if any of those situations apply. NOTE: You do <u>not</u> have to choose a sub-box under Anti-Harassment if none of those options are applicable.

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# Identify if more than one of the protection order types listed above fits your situation. (Question 2)

If no other protection order types listed also fits your situation, you may leave this section blank.

#### Who should the order restrain? (Question 3)

List the name and check the appropriate age box for the person you would like to have restrained. NOTE: This will be the same person listed in the caption at the beginning of the petition.

#### Who should the order protect? (Question 4)

Check the first box and enter your name in the "Me" section. NOTE: You must be 15 years of age or older to file this petition.

If any children need to be protected, check the box for "Minor Children". Choose the appropriate relationship you have with the children who need to be protected from the next three options:

- You are the minor's parent, legal guardian, or custodian (choose the appropriate relationship)
- You are age 18 or older and the minor is a member of your family or household (you may only choose this option if you marked the "Domestic Violence" box in question 1.

**NOTE:** If you are <u>not</u> a parent to any of the children, Attachment D: Non-parents protecting children (ICWA) <u>must</u> be filled out and attached to your petition.

 You are age 15-17 and the minor is a member of your family or household. The minor must choose you to help them receive protection and you must be able to speak about their situation with the court.

If children need protection, fill out the table. List each child's name, age, sex (gender), who they live with, how they are related to you and how they are related to the restrained person.

**NOTE:** If the restrained person is a parent of any of the children, Attachment C: Child Custody <u>must</u> be filled out and attached to the petition.

If you are filling out this petition and you do not need protection yourself but are helping someone else receive protection from an individual check the "Someone Else" box and then choose the option that best fits who you are requesting to protect. Please read all options, definitions and fill in the appropriate sections.

#### Service Address (Question 5)

What mailing address would you like to use for receiving documents? You do not have to disclose your home mailing address if you would like to keep that information private. You may choose to send mail to someone else's address (be sure to list c/o and the person's name) or a post office box.

You may also add your email address if you agree to be served by email. NOTE: The Clerk's Office will be communicating with you via the email address listed on the Law Enforcement and Confidential Information Sheet (LECIF). Agreeing to be served by email is related to court orders.

#### **Interpreter** (Question 6)

Check "yes" if you need an interpreter and write-in your primary language so the correct interpreter can be notified.

# Check all the ways the protected person is connected or related to the restrained person (Question 7)

Check all options that apply. This is only the nature of the relationship between the two parties list on p. 1 of the petition; Petitioner (you) and Respondent (the person who is requesting to be restrained).

## Why are you filing in this county and state? (Questions 8 and 9)

Check all that apply. This will help the court determine if King County Superior Court is the proper jurisdiction for your situation.

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## Other court cases (Question 10)

Check "Yes" if any other court cases exist between the people involved in this case, including the children. This could be any court case that is currently ongoing, or a case that has occurred in the past.

If you did check "Yes", fill out as much information on the table as possible. NOTE: If you want the court to have any information about the other court cases when making a decision about this situation, you must file copies of documents from those cases into this new case.

# **Restraints** (Question 11)

**Subsections A through N:** In this section, look at options of types of restraints you can choose to have apply to the respondent. Check all that apply. Write-in any additional applicable information under each sub-section that would help the court in making a decision and law enforcement that will help protect you should these options be granted by the court.

**Subsection O (Firearms and Other Dangerous Weapons):** Does the respondent have access to weapons you would like law enforcement to take control over for your safety? If yes, fill out all applicable parts of this section

Even if you do not request the respondent to be restrained from access to weapons, the court has the authority to make this decision on its own based on the circumstances of your situation.

**NOTE:** If you fill out this section regarding firearms, you <u>must</u> also include a completed Temporary Order to Surrender Weapons with your petition. This additional document will be filed separately in your court case. Also make sure to check the appropriate box in question 15.

**Subsection P through S:** Fill out all applicable sections as they relate to the minors included in the petition for protection. Leave anything blank that does not apply to your situation.

**Subsection T through V:** Fill out all applicable sections as they related to pets you would like protected in the petition. Leave anything blank that does not apply to your situation.

**Subsection W through Y:** Check all appropriate boxes that related if filing a request for protection for a vulnerable adult. If you are not requesting protection for a vulnerable adult, leave this section blank.

**Subsection Z:** Is there anything else you need to court to know about your situation you have not mentioned? Write it in here.

# Law enforcement help (question 12)

Check all options that apply to your situation you would like to ask the court to have law enforcement help you with.

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# Length of the order (question 13)

Full protection orders are generally in effect for one year. If you would like the court to consider a longer or shorter duration of time, please check the appropriate box and explain the situation.

## **Immediate Protection** (question 14)

Check "Yes" or "No" if you need protection from the restrained person to start immediately.

# **Immediate Weapons to Surrender** (question 15)

Please check "Yes" or "No" if you are requesting the court to issue an immediate order for the respondent to surrender weapons.

**NOTE:** If you check "Yes", you <u>must</u> also include a completed Temporary Order to Surrender Weapons with your petition. This additional document will be filed separately in your court case. Also make sure to fill out question 11, section O.

If you marked "Yes" in either question 14 or 15, please explain why in the next section.

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#### **Most recent incident** (question 16)

Use this section to explain why you need a protection order and what happened. Be as descriptive as possible. Include details like who did what, when things happened, how statements were made, and how did it make people feel. Also be sure to include specific date(s) and details about the incident.

#### Past incidents (question 17)

Use this section to explain what has happened in the past that makes you seek a protection order. If this section is not applicable you may leave this section blank.

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#### **Medical treatment** (question 18)

Use this section to describe any medical treatment you may have received related to this request for protection. If you have not received any medical treatment you may leave this section blank.

## Suicidal behavior (question 19)

Use this section to describe any threats of suicide or self-harm by the restrained person. If there haven't been any threats of self-harm or suicide by the restrained person you may leave this section blank.

# Restrained person's substance abuse (question 20)

Check any boxes that describe if substance abuse is involved in this situation on behalf of the restrained person. If yes, what type of substance abuse? If substance abuse is not an issue in your situation, you may leave this section blank.

# Minors needing protection, if any (question 21)

Use this section to describe any violence or threats towards children if not already included in your response in question 16 or 17. You may leave this section blank if you have already provided this information or if this section does not apply.

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## **Supporting Evidence** (question 22)

Do you have any evidence you would like the court to consider when making a decision? If so, check the boxes of items you are attaching to the petition as evidence. NOTE: If any photos or messages are explicit or intimate in nature, these may be sealed. Please ask a court clerk for assistance regarding the use of a sealed cover sheet for this type of evidence.

**Don't forget!** Sign, date, and add the city and state to the bottom of your petition. If you are filling out this form electronically, you may digitally sign or use "S/ [name]" as your signature.

NOTE: Attachments are included at the end of every petition, you do not need to file Attachment A or any other attachment that you did not need to fill out.

#### Next Step:

#### Go to court

Bring your completed petition to the clerk's office of the local court. The Clerk's Office will provide further instructions.