



VIDEO 7

Enforcing Your Protection Order



Get Protection From Abuse

While it's always best to consult a lawyer, this 7-part video series from Legal Aid of Western Ohio will help you navigate the legal system and take you step-by-step through the process of getting a civil protection order to protect yourself and those you care about.

Enforcing Your Civil Protection Order (CPO)

For your safety, it's important that your CPO be enforced at all times. If your abuser **violates** the CPO, call 911 as soon as it is safe to do so. Even if there is no arrest made at the time of the violation, there will be a police report filed. A violation could result in a criminal charge.

What if my Abuser Violates the CPO?

If your abuser violates the CPO, you may also qualify as "contempt of court" which means going against the rules of the case. Your abuser may have to pay attorney's fees, fines or may get sentenced to jail.



What happens when my CPO Expires?

As your CPO nears its expiration date (valid for up to 5 years) you may qualify for a **renewal** for an additional 5 years. You will need to explain to a judge why you want the renewal. It's best to begin the process with the **Domestic Relations Court** in your county weeks before the expiration date so you are not left unprotected.





What if I no longer live in OHIO?

If you move to a state outside of Ohio, the **Violence Against Women Act** orders that protection orders must be given full faith and credit across the United States. However, each state has its own laws, so it's best to contact the court system of the state and/or consult an attorney to register your protection order in the new state.



Everyone has the right to live free from domestic violence. For more information on protecting yourself and your family, contact:



Your local domestic violence agency.

To find your agency, contact Ohio Domestic Violence Network at

www.odvn.org/find-help



Your local Legal Aid.

To find the Legal Aid for your county, contact www.ohiolegalhelp.org/find-your-legal-aid



Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. is a non-profit law firm serving civil legal needs of northwest and west central Ohio's low income individuals, families and seniors. This information is not legal advice. It is general information. It is not a substitute for talking to a lawyer about your situation. You may still need help from a lawyer. This project was made possible in part by a grant from the Ohio State Bar Foundation. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Ohio State Bar Foundation.