

# **Boozhoo, What is an Order for Protection and How Do I Get One?**

An Order for Protection (OFP) is an order that a Judicial Officer (a judge or referee) issues to protect you by ordering another person to stop hurting you. In the OFP a Judicial Officer can order the person who is hurting you to immediately stop the domestic abuse (violence) and make no contact with you in person, by phone, electronic messages, or through other people. A Judicial Officer can also order the abuser to stay away from your children, your home or workplace, and provide other types of relief that will help protect you from domestic abuse.

An OFP may be granted to an individual who has been hurt and shares a domestic relationship with another person, such as having a romantic or familial relationship with the person. You may want an OFP if you feel like you are in danger and you believe the person who has been hurting you will continue to do so. You can request an OFP on behalf of (OBO) your minor child(ren) if they are in danger too. Typically, an OFP lasts for two years.

Domestic abuse or violence can include: physical harm, bodily injury, assault, sexual assault, coercion, threats of immediate physical harm or bodily injury, stalking or interfering with an emergency call. Domestic abuse or violence does not only occur inside the home, it can occur anywhere. There is **NO** cost to file an OFP with the Court.

## **To Get an OFP:**

Call and schedule an appointment at the:  
***Domestic Abuse Service Center (DASC)***  
***(612) 348-5073***

or

**DASC Walk-in service - Room A0650**  
**Hennepin County Government Center**  
**300 South Sixth Street**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55487**

**Open M-F, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm**  
**(Take the Blue or Green Light Rail line to**  
**Downtown Government Plaza Stop)**

\* At DASC you can ask questions regarding your situation and they will help you with the OFP process. Walk-in assistance is available on a limited basis.

**IMPORTANT:** There are a few different ways a case may be handled, depending on what kind of abuse or violence has occurred. In some cases, a hearing is required, in some cases it is not.

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