

Safety Options

! WARNING !

**VIOLENCE OFTEN GETS WORSE
WHEN YOU TRY TO LEAVE OR
SHOW SIGNS OF INDEPENDENCE**

TAKE SPECIAL CARE

When you are in a violent relationship, here are some options to keep in mind.

- ⇒ *Try to figure out warning signs that come before an assault — (I.E. drinking, drugs, payday, a bad day at work, exam time, etc.)*
- ⇒ *Are there physical signs? Clenched fist, threats, a red face, throwing objects, etc.*
- ⇒ *Try to get out or get help before the violence begins.*
- ⇒ *Are there weapons in the house? Can you remove them or lock them away?*
- ⇒ *Can you signal the neighbors?*
- ⇒ *How will you get out of the house? Set a routine of leaving the residence for a short period of time for general errands — getting the mail, laundry, garbage.*
- ⇒ *Take ID and important documents.*

IN EMERGENCIES, CALL 911!

Local Resources

- ⇒ Meceola Central Dispatch (non-emergency)
231-796-4811
- ⇒ FSU Personal Counseling Center
231-591-5969
- ⇒ Women's Information Services (WISE) Domestic Violence Shelter
231-796-6600
- ⇒ WISE 24-Hour Hotline
800-374-9473
- ⇒ Our Brother's Keeper Shelter
231-629-8033
- ⇒ National Domestic Violence Hotline
800-99-NOABUSE
- ⇒ Big Rapids Area Legal Service
231-796-1630
- ⇒ Community Mental Health of Central MI
231-796-5825
- ⇒ Crisis Text Line
Text "HOME" to 741741
- ⇒ National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
800-273-8255
- ⇒ FSU Birkam Health Center
231-591-2614
- ⇒ 1016 Recovery Network (Substance Use)
231-527-2000
- ⇒ Planned Parenthood
231-796-8612

Personal Protection Orders

**For Survivors of Family
Violence, Dating
Violence, and/or Stalking**



**Ferris State University
Department of Public Safety**

Ferris State University
Department of Public Safety
1319 Cramer Circle
Big Rapids, MI, 49307

Phone: 231-591-5000
Fax: 231-796-0169
E-mail: dispatch@ferris.edu

Personal Protection Orders

Personal Protection Orders (PPOs) are orders of the Circuit Court that forbid or require a person to do something.

The person filing the PPO is the *petitioner*, and the person you file a PPO against is the *respondent*.

A PPO may *order* the respondent *not* to:

- Enter your property
- Assault, attack, beat, or wound you
- Threaten to kill or physically harm you
- Remove children from you if you have legal custody
- Interfere at your place of employment
- Interfere with your efforts to remove your children or personal property
- Contact you by telephone or mail
- Send you email or messages on the internet.
- Purchase or possess a firearm

Violating a PPO

If the respondent violates the PPO, immediately call the police or 911. When police arrive, they may arrest the respondent for violating the PPO. To request a violation hearing when no arrest is made, contact the legal advocate for the county of origin.

Penalties for Violating a PPO

⇒ Maximum 93 days in jail and/or

⇒ Maximum \$500 fine

Two types of PPOs Restraining and Stalking

Restraining PPO

(For survivors of dating or domestic violence)

To qualify for a Restraining PPO, you must establish one of the following *Relationships* with the respondent:

- A current or former spouse
- A current or former dating relationship
- Reside or resided in the same household
- A child in common

Stalking PPO

(For survivors of stalking)

To qualify for a Stalking PPO, you are not required to show a relationship if the respondent has shown:

- A pattern of behavior
- Including *two* separate stalking incidents
- Cause for a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested
- Action that actually causes that person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed or molested

For **EITHER** order you must also establish:

- *Reasonable cause to believe* the respondent may commit one or more of the behaviors listed

How to File a PPO

Contact the 49th Circuit Court

(231) 592-0783 400 Elm St, Big Rapids, MI

Complete the PPO forms

Provide a detailed statement including

- Date(s), time(s), and location(s) of incidents
- Injury details
- Witness names and information

File the order with the Circuit Court Clerk's Office. The Clerk's Office will then assign a judge to your case.

Return to the Circuit Court Clerk's Office to pick up order.

Arrange for prompt service of the order.

File the "Proof of Service" form with the Circuit Court Clerk's Office. Be sure to have "Proof of Service" notarized if needed.

Helpful Information to Include

- A police report
- A doctor's report
- Pictures of injuries or destruction of property
- Custody, support, or visitation orders
- Divorce decree
- Affidavits from witnesses