
TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE ORDER (TPO)

A TPO is a legal document issued by the court to help victims obtain protection from people abusing or stalking them. This order will state that one person is prohibited from having contact with another person.

There are three types of TPO's

Family Violence

Stalking

Dating Violence

A TPO MUST BE FILED IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE OFFENDER LIVES

A TPO is not in effect until the offender has been served by law enforcement.

A TPO is a civil order that can have criminal consequences if violated.

Important Numbers:

Cobb County Juvenile Court: 770-528-2252

Cobb Magistrate Court: 770-528-8900

Cobb County Sheriff's Office: 770-499-4600

Dept. of Corrections and Parole Board Victim Services: 404-651-6668

Cobb County District Attorney- Victim Witness (for victim of felony crimes) 770-528-3047

Cobb County Solicitor General- Victim Witness (for victims of misdemeanor crimes): 770-528-8500

Legal Aid of Cobb County: 770-528-2565

Crime Victims' Compensation Fund: 404-657-2222

Domestic Violence Statewide Hotline: 1-800-33-HAVEN

SafePath Children's Advocacy Center: 770-801-3465

LiveSafe Resources 24-hour Crisis Line (Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault): 770-427-3390

Please contact the Acworth Police Department and ask to speak to the Crime Victim Advocate if you have any questions or concerns.



TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE ORDER

ACWORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT

MARK CHEATHAM
CHIEF OF POLICE

4440 ACWORTH INDUSTRIAL DR.
ACWORTH, GA 30101
TELEPHONE: (770) 974-1232
POLICE.ACWORTH-GA.GOV

FAMILY VIOLENCE TPO

O.C.G.A. 19-13-2

To qualify there must be an act of violence (any felony; or commission of the offenses of simple battery, battery, simple assault, or stalking) AND the victim/offender must meet one of the criteria of the relationship test:

Past or present spouses

Parents of the same children

Parent and child relationship (including step/foster relationships)

Currently or formerly live in the same household

DATING VIOLENCE TPO

O.C.G.A. 19-13A-1

To qualify there must be a dating relationship which is a committed romantic relationship characterized by a level of intimacy that is not associated with mere friendship or between people in an ordinary business, social, or educational context; provided, however, that such term shall not require sexual involvement.

‘Dating violence’ means the occurrence of an act of violence (any felony, or commission of the offenses of simple battery, battery, simple assault, or stalking) between people through whom a current pregnancy has developed OR people currently, or within the last 12 months were in a dating relationship.

STALKING TPO

O.C.G.A. 16-5-94

A Stalking TPO is for when an abuser (does not meet qualifications for a family violence or dating relationship) exhibits any of the following behaviors without permission and for the purpose of harassing and intimidating you: a pattern of behavior such as repeated unwanted contact; following another person; and placing another person under surveillance.

TYPES OF TPO HEARINGS

Ex Parte Hearing

This is the first hearing in the TPO process. It is an emergency hearing with the victim and the Judge. If there is a finding by the Judge that a qualifying act has occurred, a temporary order may be granted.

12 Month Hearing

This hearing occurs within 30 days of when the Ex Parte order was granted. Both parties will have the opportunity to be at the hearing where a Judge will determine based on evidence presented by the parties whether the protective order will continue for up to 12 months.

Before the protective order granted at the 12-month hearing is set to expire, the victim may request an extension. The victim must contact the TPO office to start the extension process at least one month before the protective order is set to expire.

TPO VIOLATIONS

Any contact violations (in person, telephone, pager, fax, email, or any other means of communication) must be reported to law enforcement. Law enforcement will investigate the violation and may take criminal charges.

All other violations can be addressed by filing a contempt motion. Victims can receive assistance with this process at the Cobb County TPO Office.

COBB COUNTY TPO OFFICE

770-528-8024

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30AM to 4:00PM

Cobb County Magistrate Court
32 Waddell St SE
Marietta, GA 30090
Building D, Room 4022

FIRST COME FIRST SERVE, NO APPOINTMENTS

A TPO MUST BE FILED IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE OFFENDER LIVES

There are two Ex Parte hearings each day, Monday to Friday. You must be in the TPO office no later than 9:30 AM to schedule the morning hearing and no later than 1:30 PM to schedule afternoon hearing (as availability lasts).

How to apply: A LiveSafe Resources advocate will assist in filing a TPO and accompany victims to TPO related court proceedings. The victim will complete a screening with an advocate once they have arrived at the TPO office.