

Getting a Protective Order in Arlington

When home isn't a safe place, a Protective Order can provide relief if an intimate partner is harming you.

You deserve to be safe.

Protective Orders can be applied for Mon-Fri between 9am-4:00pm at the Arlington County Courthouse JDR Court Intake Office:

703-228-4500

or 1425 N. Courthouse Rd. Suite #4300

For questions about your options or to speak to an advocate call 703-237-0881 (available 24/7)!

*For an **emergency outside of business hours**, where a Protective Order is needed immediately, the Magistrate's office and police can help with obtaining an Emergency Protective Order. Call Arlington County Police for assistance at 9-1-1 or 703-558-2222.*

DO I HAVE TO INVOLVE THE POLICE?

No. Protective Orders are civil matters and are obtained at the Arlington Courthouse (1425 N Courthouse Rd #4300, Arlington, VA 22201).

A Doorways' Court Advocate can walk you through the process and answer any questions you have.

HOW LONG DOES THE FILING PROCESS TAKE?

The filing process may take a few hours (you will fill out an affidavit, see a judge, etc). Please be prepared to spend three to four hours with an advocate and court staff. **During the COVID-19 crisis you can request to complete the filing and court process virtually.**

WHAT CAN A PROTECTIVE ORDER DO?

A Protective Order is a legal document signed by the courts and enforced by police to increase safety and add protections. A protective order can require the person harming you to do the following:

- to have no contact with you (and any children);
- to not return to a shared home;
- stay a specified distance away at all times; and
- any other relief needed for your safety and stability.

DO I NEED AN ATTORNEY?

No one should have to go through this process alone. Doorways offers free Court Advocacy support to help you through the intake process and to support you in court.

Call Doorways to learn more:

Mon-Fri (9a-4p): 703-228-3749

After Hours (24/7): 703-237-0881

or visit www.doorwaysva.org

Additional Resources

Legal Services of Northern Virginia (LSNV)

703-778-6800

www.lsnv.org

LSNV provides free legal services to eligible Arlington residents.

Arlington Victim/ Witness Program

703-228-4410

<https://courts.arlingtonva.us/commonwealth-attorney/victim-witness-program/>

For additional resources visit: <https://health.arlingtonva.us/view/get-help/>