

First Printing October 2013

Native Counselling
Services of Alberta



Legal Education
& Resource Centre



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Protect Yourself From Family Violence!

NO CONTACT ORDER

QUICK HELP

is available locally if you fear for your personal safety due to violence or threats by your intimate partner or other family member.

IMMEDIATELY CALL OR VISIT YOUR LOCAL POLICE OR COURTHOUSE FOR ACTION! They can arrange for an EMERGENCY PROTECTION ORDER!

1. RCMP (or other police)

If you have a local RCMP station this is the best place to go. They have resources to do an emergency intervention, arrest on charges, or investigate. Even if those resources are not needed at present, the Police can also arrange for an Emergency Protection Order (EPO) to be put in place.

2. COURTHOUSE

Your local or regional Courthouse can also arrange for an Emergency Protection Order (EPO) to be put in place. If the police are not immediately available when you call them, go to the Courthouse and they will help you. They are well trained and if you require Police assistance, they will give you instructions.

GETTING A NO CONTACT ORDER

A No Contact Order can also prohibit the accused from returning to a shared home. Instead, **they can return with a police escort** to retrieve some necessary personal belongings

All types of communication are covered under a No Contact Order including physical contact, internet (social media, email, Twitter, etc.) and phone or text message.

Prohibition of “indirect contact” means the accused cannot ask someone else to contact the victim on their behalf.

A No Contact Order can also be requested after filing a criminal complaint against another person.

The police can order that the person who has a criminal complaint filed against them not be physically near, communicate with or contact the person they may have harmed or threatened.

If bail is granted to the accused, a No Contact Order can also be made. It can also be made if they are denied release on bail.

It is the responsibility of the Prosecutor in the case against the accused to request that a No Contact Order be made by the Court at a bail Hearing.

It is vital that the victim tell the Prosecutor how important it is that a No Contact Order be requested as a bail condition.

Again, in this case the order will only be enforced following bail until the accused has a trial or pleads guilty. At this time a further order can be made.

It is a criminal offence to breach a No Contact Order. If the order is breached, the accused may be arrested and held in custody.

The No Contact Order can also be included as a portion of an offender’s sentence.

Again, if the offender breaches the order, they could return to court for a further sentence or an entirely new sentence for breach of the order.

A No Contact Order can be changed on application by the accused or by the Crown. It takes approximately 2-3 weeks. If the victim has concerns, they should speak to the police or Victim Services.