

First Printing October 2013

Native Counselling
Services of Alberta



Legal Education
& Resource Centre



www.bearpaweducation.ca

www.facebook.com/bearpaweducation



Protect Yourself From Family Violence!

PEACE BOND OR A RESTRAINING 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.

PEACE BOND OR A RESTRAINING ORDER

There are other types of protection orders that can be granted by a Court. Talk to a lawyer, the Police or Courthouse Staff to see if these may be a better way to protect you.

PEACE BONDS

Anyone can apply for this order. The person you fear (the Respondent) does not need to be a family member or intimate partner. It is similar to an EPO but you can obtain this type of order against neighbours, co-workers or former friends.

A peace bond is usually applied for when there is fear for personal safety, that of a child or family member, safety of pets, or fear of property damage. The person applying for a peace bond (the Applicant) can apply at a Provincial Court Office.

Court staff will prepare a summons for the person you fear (the Respondent) and set a court date for a first appearance in Provincial Court. At the first appearance in court the Respondent can agree to a peace bond and the order will be granted immediately.

If the Respondent challenges the Application, the judge will set a hearing date where the verbal evidence of both parties will be heard by the Court.

Once an order is granted, conditions in the order will restrict and modify the behavior and actions of the Respondent. An order normally prohibits contact or communication with the Applicant. It also prohibits the Respondent from being within a certain distance of a residence or place of work. The order can be granted for up to one year.

OTHER RESTRAINING ORDERS

Talk to a lawyer, the Police or Courthouse Staff to see if any of these may be a better way to protect you:

1. Queen's Bench Protection Order
2. Family Restraining Order
3. Civil Restraining Order