

## Who Qualifies for a Protective Order?

In order to qualify for a protective order you must be either:

A victim of domestic violence | relationships that apply include current or former spouse, dating or sexual partner, relation by blood, adoption or marriage or another established legal relationship.

A victim of stalking— as defined by Indiana law stalking is “A knowing or intentional course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment of another person that would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, or threatened...”

A victim of sexual assault or any other sex offense.

## How much does Protective Order Cost?

In 2002, the Indiana Legislature determined victims who are in need of protection shall be able to file a Protective Order FREE of charge.

## Who Qualifies for a Protective Order?

A Protective Order can include any family member, or individual that lives within the same household as the petitioner. Each person must be individually named on the petition for protection.

## What Information do I need to file?

In order to petition for a protective order you must have the respondents:

- Correct name
- Correct Date of Birth or Social Security number
- Correct and current address

Without this information, a protective order WILL NOT be able to be processed.

## What does the language mean?

Petitioner— the person applying for the protection is referred to as the petitioner.

Respondent— the person whom the petitioner is seeking protection from is referred to as the respondent.

## How does a Protective Order work?

Once filed at the clerk’ s office it generally takes 6-8 days until the Temporary Protective Order is issued. Once the Temporary Protective Order is issued, this is can prohibit the respondent from harassing, contacting, visiting place of residence or employment, committing or threatening to commit any acts of domestic violence and/or directly or indirectly communicating with the petitioner. This is only temporary and many cases will require a court hearing before the Final Protective Order is officially granted.

## What happens after I file?

Many cases require a court hearing. Court hearings will be set within 30 days of filing the petition for protection. It is necessary to be willing and prepared to testify under oath before the court. Once a hearing is held before the judge a final decision will be rendered regarding the Protective Order.

## Why do I have to go to court?

In some cases you may not have to appear in court to get your final order of protection. This is relatively rare, most likely you will have to go to court to explain why you need the protective order. Since this order is a legal, binding order, the Judge often needs to hear additional evidence regarding your case in addition to what is already been provided to the court in the petition. Contact your victim advocate to seek assistance in preparing for this hearing. A final Protective Order can last anywhere from 6 months up to two years, depending on what the Judge orders.

## Where can I go to get help?

The Office of Victim Services helps students, faculty or staff fill out petitions for Protective Orders. The services are free of charge. The office is located on the second floor of the Health Center. An APPOINTMENT is necessary to obtain a protective order.

## Directions from BSU Health Center to Delaware County Justice Building

Turn **LEFT** going East on **Neely Avenue**.  
Take this street to the first stop sign.

Turn **RIGHT** onto **New York Avenue**  
going South. Take this street to the first  
stop light

Turn **LEFT** going East on **Riverside**  
Avenue. Take this street to the first stop  
light.

Turn **RIGHT** onto **Wheeling Avenue**  
going East. Take this street all the way  
across the bridge to the next stop light.

Turn **LEFT** going East on **Wisor Street**.  
Take this street until the next stop light.

Turn **RIGHT** onto **Walnut Street**.  
Once you turn right you will see City  
Hall on the right hand side (the  
building with the blue roof). Once  
you are past this building the very  
next building is the Delaware County  
Justice Center. It is directly  
cattycorner from Subway restaurant.  
The Delaware County Clerk's office  
and the courts are inside this  
building. You will walk through a  
metal detector and see a large  
window opening, this is where you  
will file the protective order  
paperwork.



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**BALL STATE UNIVERSITY**

# Office of Victim Services

**SAVE**

**Safety and Advocacy**

# Protective Order Information

A Protective Order should not provide a false sense of security. The following information outlines the process and guidelines associated with obtaining a Protective Order. Please review the information to determine if a Protective Order is in your best interest.