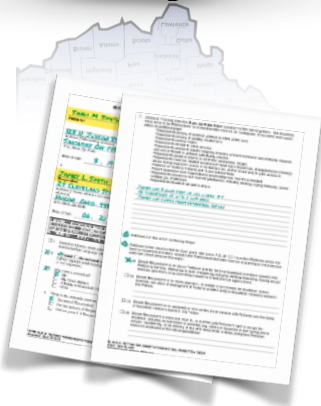




VIDEO 2

How to File for a Civil Protection Order (CPO)



Get Protection From Abuse

While it's always best to consult a lawyer, this 7-part video series from Legal Aid of Western Ohio will help you navigate the legal system and take you step-by-step through the process of getting a civil protection order to protect yourself and those you care about.

How to file for Civil Protection Order (CPO)?

You can file for a CPO with the Domestic Relations Court in the county where you live or have fled. Forms in multiple languages can be found at www.supremecourt.ohio.gov

What should be included in a CPO?

Describe in detail the acts of violence against you, starting with the most recent. **If you are in immediate danger, the court can issue an emergency CPO.** When you submit to the court, the court will hold an emergency hearing the same day to determine whether to give you immediate protection.

What are the next steps?

The court will review your **petition** and ask you questions about your abuse. Be sure to tell the court about firearms, possession of a vehicle, protecting shared children and any other special orders you are seeking. If issued an immediate protection order - called an **"Ex Parte Order"** be sure to carry it with you at all times.





What is important in filing a CPO?

When filling out the forms, be sure to ask the court for **exact orders**: financial support; temporary custody, etc. You will be issued another court date for a **full** hearing about a week later.



Everyone has the right to live free from domestic violence. For more information on protecting yourself and your family, contact:



Your local domestic violence agency.

To find your agency, contact
Ohio Domestic Violence Network at

www.odvn.org/find-help



Your local Legal Aid.

To find the Legal Aid for your county, contact
www.ohiolegalhelp.org/find-your-legal-aid



Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. is a non-profit law firm serving civil legal needs of northwest and west central Ohio's low income individuals, families and seniors. This information is not legal advice. It is general information. It is not a substitute for talking to a lawyer about your situation. You may still need help from a lawyer. This project was made possible in part by a grant from the Ohio State Bar Foundation. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Ohio State Bar Foundation.