

About Protective Orders

If you are a victim of a crime, there are several types of protective orders that may help protect you. Emergency, Temporary Ex-Parte, Family Violence, Stalking, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking protective orders are all different. This chart helps explain the differences.

Types →	EPO Emergency Protective Orders	Temporary Ex-Parte Protective Orders	Family Violence Protective Orders	Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Human Trafficking Protective Orders
What is your situation?	You are the victim of family violence, sexual assault, or stalking	You are the victim of family violence sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking AND you have applied for a long-term protective order → with the County Attorney's office	You are the victim of family violence AND you fear the abuser will harm you again	You are the victim of sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
What is the purpose?	To provide emergency protection while a victim obtains a long-term order	To provide temporary protection while a victim obtains a long-term protective order →	To protect victims from certain acts by an abuser for specific periods of time	
What does it do?	Depending on your individual circumstances, it may prohibit the abuser from committing family violence or stalking; communicating with you in a threatening or harassing manner; threatening you or your family; doing something to harass or embarrass you or your family; going to or near your house, workplace, school, or child's daycare; harming a pet; or possessing a firearm. It may also order the abuser to vacate your home.			
What happens if a person violates it?	He or she could be arrested and charged with a Class A misdemeanor or a 3 rd degree Felony.			He or she could be arrested and charged with a Class A misdemeanor.
Who can help you get it?	A magistrate may issue the order at the request of a victim, guardian, peace officer, or state's attorney.	Hood County Attorney's Office ¹ at 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048 - (817) 579-3216 OR you can file it by yourself (pro-se)		
How much does it cost?	No charge to victims			
How long does it last?	31 days to 91 days	Up to 14 days (or may last until the judge issues the long-term order)	Up to 2 years	Up to the lifetime of the abuser or the victim.
Where can I find the law?²	Texas Code of Criminal Procedure art. 17.292	Texas Family Code Chapters 71-85 & Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 7A	Texas Family Code Chapters 71-85	Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 7A

¹ Hood County Attorney's website: <http://co.hood.tx.us/index.aspx?nid=241>

² You can access Texas Statutes and Rules at: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/>