

What is an Order for Protection?

An Order for Protection (OFP) is an order the court makes to protect you from domestic abuse. It may direct the person who has abused you to:

- ◆ stop threatening or abusing you
- ◆ leave your household
- ◆ stay away from where you live, go to school, or work

Who is eligible for an Order for Protection?

You may file an OFP if you have recently been a victim of an act of abuse. You are eligible for an OFP if you and the person who has abused you:

- ◆ are married, or used to be married
- ◆ live together, or used to live together
- ◆ date or used to date
- ◆ have a child in common
- ◆ are related by blood

Under certain conditions, you may also file an OFP on behalf of your child if she or he has been physically or sexually abused.

Domestic abuse is defined as any of the following conduct between family or household members, regardless of whether this conduct has ever been reported to the police.

- ◆ Actual physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault,
or
- ◆ Terroristic threats, or
- ◆ Criminal sexual conduct with an adult or any form of sexual contact with a child, or
- ◆ Interference with an emergency call

Where to go to get an Order for Protection?

For assistance in obtaining an OFP, or further information, call **Rivers of Hope—763.295.3433**