



COUNTY of GALVESTON

Criminal District Attorney

JACK ROADY

Kevin Petroff
First Assistant

Johnny J. Freeze
Chief Investigator

Zonia Wilturner-Smith
Chief Executive Officer

You may qualify for a Family Violence Protective Order if you:

1. have a dating relationship, family relationship or have been members of the same household.
2. were the victim of an act committed by one of the above that was intended to result in harm/bodily injury, assault, sexual assault or a threat intended to place the individual in fear of imminent harm/bodily injury, assault, sexual assault.

These are the MINIMUM requirements to qualify. In order for this office to determine whether or not you meet the criteria the following procedure will be used:

1. You will be scheduled to meet with a crime victim coordinator who will conduct a screening with you to determine whether you meet the above minimum criteria.
-If YOU have a pending criminal case with this office we will NOT proceed with your application.
-If you have a pending CPS custody case we will NOT proceed with your application.
2. You will be asked to complete a Protective Order Application Information Packet. A crime victim assistance coordinator is available to assist you if needed.
3. If you do meet the minimum criteria you will be scheduled to meet with a prosecutor for further evaluation. The prosecutor will then determine whether or not the Galveston County Criminal District Attorney's Office (GCCDAO) will file an application for a protective order for you.
-Even if you are advised that this office is declining to file an application for protective order for you, you still have the right to consult with a private attorney to file an application for protective order for you.
4. If it is determined the GCCDAO will file an application for protective order on your behalf you will then be scheduled to complete an affidavit detailing the incidents for the Court.
5. Before the Court can have a hearing on the application the respondent **MUST** be served. It is very important that you are able to provide an address for the respondent to be served, whether it be home and/or work.
6. Upon filing the Court may issue a temporary ex parte protective order. This can only remain in place for 20 days. That is why it is important that you are able to provide a current address for the respondent.
7. A hearing on the application for protective order will take place and the Court will determine whether or not it will grant the protective order.

In order to grant a Family Violence Protective Order the Court must be able to find that:

1. family violence has occurred; and
2. family violence is likely to occur in the future.

If you have questions regarding this process, or would like to schedule an appointment please call 409/766-2355 and ask to speak with a crime victim assistance coordinator.

Felony Section
Off: 409-766-2355

Family Law Section
409-766-2364

Grand Jury Section
409-766-2379

Worthless Check Section
409-766-2429

Felony Victim's Asst.
409-770-5124

Houston Line
281-316-8300

Fax: 409-766-2290

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