

**CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER FORM 3:
INFORMATION ABOUT FILING A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR
DATING VIOLENCE CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER PETITION**

- If you have any questions about completing the Petition for a Domestic Violence Civil Protection Order (Civil Protection Order Form 4) or the Petition for Dating Violence Civil Protection Order (Civil Protection Order Form 13), contact the local victim assistance program, domestic violence program, or Ohio Domestic Violence Network at 800-934-9840.
- Neither the Clerk of Court’s Office nor the local domestic violence program can give legal advice. If you need legal advice, talk to a lawyer. Only a lawyer can give you legal advice.
- There is NO FEE for filing the Petition.
- Once completed, take the Petition and other necessary documents to the Clerk of Court’s Office.
- If you want an emergency order, also known as an *Ex Parte* Protection Order, check “want” in paragraph 2 of the Petition.
- The Court will consider your request for an *Ex Parte* Protection Order and may ask you questions.
- Regardless if an *Ex Parte* Protection Order was requested, granted, or denied, a full hearing will be scheduled.
- You must attend the full hearing. Your victim advocate may also be present at the hearing.
- On the day of the full hearing, be prepared to (1) tell the Court what happened, (2) bring with you any witnesses, evidence, and documentation to prove your case, and (3) ask Respondent questions.
- Respondent may be represented by a lawyer. You may represent yourself or ask for a continuance to obtain a lawyer. [R.C. 3113.31(D)(2)(a)(iii)]
- Respondent or Respondent’s lawyer may present evidence and ask you questions.
- The Court cannot issue a protection order against you unless Respondent has filed a Petition.

DEFINITIONS	
Domestic Violence [R.C. 3113.31]	“Domestic violence” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts against a family or household member or a person with whom Petitioner has a dating relationship: attempting to cause or recklessly causing bodily injury; placing another person by the threat of force in fear of imminent serious physical harm or committing menacing by stalking or aggravated trespass; committing any act with respect to a child that would result in the child being an abused child, as defined [by law]; or committing a sexually oriented offense.
Person with Whom Respondent Is or Was in a Dating Relationship [R.C. 3113.31(A)(9)]	An adult who, at the time of the conduct in question, is in a dating relationship with Respondent who also is an adult or who, within the twelve months preceding the conduct in question, has had a dating relationship with Respondent who also is an adult.

<p>Dating Relationship [R.C. 3113.31(A)(8)]</p>	<p>A relationship between adults who have, or have had, a relationship of a romantic or intimate nature.</p> <p>"Dating relationship" does not include a casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context.</p>
<p>Family or Household Member [R.C. 3113.31(A)(3)-(4)]</p>	<p>"Family or household member" means either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Any of the following who is residing with or has resided with Respondent, such as a spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of Respondent; a parent, a foster parent, or a child of Respondent, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity (blood or marriage) to Respondent; a parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of Respondent, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity (blood or marriage) to a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of Respondent. (2) The natural parent of any child of whom Respondent is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent. <p>"Person living as a spouse" means a person who is living or has lived with Respondent in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with Respondent, or who otherwise has cohabited with Respondent within five years prior to the date of the alleged occurrence of the act in question.</p>