



24 Hour Crisis Line

24 Hour Emergency Shelter

Domestic Violence Advocacy
Sexual Assault Advocacy

Children's Advocacy

Legal Advocacy

Support Groups

**Call Safe Haven at
715-526-3421 or
1-888-303-3421
for more
information.**

How do I get a Restraining Order dropped?

**-THE ORDER CAN ONLY BE
CHANGED OR DISMISSED BY THE
COURT-**

In order to have the restraining
order dropped you must:

1. Meet with an advocate at Safe Haven for an advocacy session. You will be given written verification of attendance.
2. Write a letter to the judge that granted the restraining order explaining why it should be lifted.
3. File the letter and verification letter from Safe Haven with the Clerk of Courts office. The judge will review the request.
4. You will be notified, in writing, by the Clerk of Courts office regarding the status of the restraining order.

Once the court has issued the restraining order, the respondent is required under the order to abide by the conditions set forth by the court.

It is your responsibility to report violations to the local law enforcement agency where the violation occurred.

Domestic Violence Restraining Orders

Safe Haven has
legal advocates who
can help you.

(This is a free service)

*Filing a restraining order
can be an alternative to help
stop the violence in your life.
Involving the court
systems is **serious**. It is
important that you follow
proper procedures and
take the matter seriously!*

The Domestic Abuse Restraining Order...

Who can get one?

You can obtain a domestic abuse restraining order if you are:

-an adult who is related to, lives with, married to, or has a child in common with someone who *physically* or *sexually abuses* you.

-an adult who is related to, lives or has lived with, married to, or has a child in common with someone who *threatens* you with physical harm.

What does a domestic abuse restraining order do?

A domestic abuse restraining order legally prohibits the abusive party from having any contact with you. That person cannot come to your home, your workplace, or any place that is temporarily occupied by you. The order can also prohibit any contact by phone, mail or third party.

How long is the order in effect?

A domestic abuse restraining order can be granted for up to four years.

What does the procedure cost?

There is no cost to you.

What is the procedure?

Obtaining a domestic abuse restraining order is a two-step process. A legal advocate from *Safe Haven* can assist you through the process free of charge.

Step One: Obtaining the temporary restraining order

You complete the forms describing the abuse or threats of abuse. These forms are available at *Safe Haven* or at the Clerk of Courts office at the Shawano County courthouse. Once completed, take the forms to the courthouse to be read and signed by a judge. The sheriff's department delivers a copy of the temporary restraining order (which includes your description of the abuse) and the notice of hearing to the person who is abusing you. You are also given a copy of the forms.

Step Two: The restraining order injunction hearing

You attend a hearing at the courthouse within fourteen days after filing the temporary restraining order (remember that a legal advocate from *Safe Haven* can assist you). You may be asked to describe the abuse or threats of abuse that you have experienced. The abuser may also be at the injunction hearing. The abuser will also get a chance to tell their side of the story. The judge will make a decision to grant or deny the restraining order based on what he believes to be true.

Is a *No Contact Provision* the same as a domestic abuse restraining order?

NO. A *No Contact Provision* is in effect until the final court hearing or until the victim goes to court and asks the judge to lift it.

The harassment restraining order

A harassment order legally prohibits someone from threatening to harm you or from repeatedly committing acts which harass or intimidate you and which serve no legitimate purpose. This could include persistent acts such as unwelcome phone calls, coming onto your property, following you, or appearing at your work site for no reason.

Is a previous or present partner behaving in this manner? If so, a legal advocate from *Safe Haven* can assist you in filing for a harassment restraining order.

The Shawano County Clerk of Courts office charges a fee to file this order. There is also a fee to deliver (serve) the papers to the person that is harassing you. Both fees may be waived if you have a low income.

After the hearing.....

You must report any violations to your local police department immediately. It is helpful to keep your own list of violations. A violation may result in prosecution by the District Attorney's office.

This order does not affect child visitation unless otherwise ordered by a judge.