

NEXT STEPS FOR CHANGING A RESTRAINING ORDER

UNDER THE FAMILY ABUSE PREVENTION ACT (FAPA)

IMPORTANT NOTE: PROCEDURES FOR MODIFYING RESTRAINING ORDERS VARY FROM COURT TO COURT. CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL COURT FOR MORE INFORMATION.

A judge will review your documents after you file your papers. This process is called a “show cause” process. Meaning that if your motion is granted, the other party will be ordered to come to court and “show cause” why your order should not be changed.

- If your motion is **denied**, the original (or last modified) *Order* remains in effect without change. There will not be a hearing and you do not need to go to court.
- If your motion is **granted**, the court will set a hearing for both parties to appear. Some courts set this hearing when you file your *Motion*, others won't set a hearing unless the other party responds. **NOTE:** if a hearing is scheduled and you don't show up, your *Motion* will most likely be denied and your requested changes will not be made.

SERVICE: If your motion is granted, court staff will send you the *Order to Show Cause* to serve on the other party. The *Order* will have more information about any scheduled hearings and deadlines. You cannot serve the papers yourself. Have a copy personally given (“served”) to the other person by a sheriff, a private process server, or any competent¹ person who is 18 or older, as long as the server lives in the state where the papers are served. The server is required to complete and file with the court a *Certificate of Service*. A form is in the packet, but some servers use their own forms.

If your local court sets a hearing, it is very important for you to attend, or the judge may dismiss your request. **Be sure the court always has your current contact address and contact phone number so you get notice of any hearing.** Use a safe contact address and phone number. If you cannot go to the hearing, call the court clerk as soon as possible.

If no hearing is set, ask the court clerk what the next steps will be

DO I NEED A LAWYER?

If you have questions about how the law works or what it means, you may need to talk to a lawyer. You are not required to have a lawyer to obtain the restraining order, but you can have a lawyer represent or help you if you wish. If you need help finding a lawyer, call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at 503.684.3763 or 800.452.7636. If you believe you cannot afford a lawyer, ask court staff if your area has a legal services (legal aid) program that might help you.

WHAT IF I NEED AN ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER?

If you have a disability and need an accommodation, or you need a foreign language interpreter, you must tell the court as soon as possible, but at least four days before your hearing. Tell the clerk that you have a disability and what type of assistance you need or prefer, or which language you speak.

¹ “Competent” means that a person who can understand, remember, and tell others about an event

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF _____

Case No: _____

Petitioner

v.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Respondent

(Family Abuse Prevention Act)

I, *(name)* _____, declare that I am a resident of the state of _____
_____. I am a competent person 18 years of age or older. I am not a party to or
lawyer in this case, and not the employee of a party.

I certify that on *(date)* _____ at *(time)* _____ (am/pm),
I served the Respondent named above by delivering the following documents in person to
(address or location of service) _____

I served true copies of the original *(check all that apply)*:

- Restraining Order to Prevent Abuse **and** Petition for Restraining Order to Prevent Abuse
- Order Renewing Restraining Order **and** Petition to Renew Restraining Order
- Order to Show Cause re: Modifying Restraining Order **and** Motion for Order to Show Cause & Declaration in Support

with the Notice to Respondent/Request for Hearing, Instructions for Contesting a Family Abuse Prevention Act Restraining Order, and Notice of Confidential Information Form (CIF) Filing

Other *(name all forms or documents served)* _____

I hereby declare that the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand they are made for use as evidence in court and I am subject to penalty for perjury.

Date

Signature of Server

Print Name

If person serving is NOT a sheriff or sheriff's deputy, address and phone number of server:

