

Beaver County – Protection From Abuse Petition / Intake Procedure

1) Who can I file against?

Pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. §6102, the plaintiff (or protected person, if filing on behalf of another) must have one of the following relationships with the defendant:¹

- A family member or household member
- A sexual or intimate partner
- A person with whom you share biological parenthood (i.e., you share a child)

2) What type of conduct constitutes “abuse” under the Protection from Abuse Act?

Pursuant to 23 PA.C.S. §6102, the following conduct is “abuse”:

- Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault or incest with or without a deadly weapon.
- Placing another in reasonable fear of imminent serious bodily injury.
- The infliction of false imprisonment pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment).
- Physically or sexually abusing minor children, including such terms as defined in Chapter 63 (relating to child protective services).
- Knowingly engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person, without proper authority, under circumstances which place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury. The definition of this paragraph applies only to proceedings commenced under this title and is inapplicable to any criminal prosecutions commenced under Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses).
- To be eligible for a temporary order, there must be an immediate and present danger of “abuse” as defined. 23 Pa.C.S. §6107(b).

3) Filing a Petition

The Beaver County Court of Common Pleas will accept Petitions for Temporary PFAs between 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. At other times you can file for an Emergency PFA from your local MDJ or the MDJ on-duty if after-hours.

- Be prepared to spend the entire morning at the Courthouse. You will be required to appear in front of a Judge and testify. **To expedite the process for yourself and other petitioners that day, please consider completing the Petition prior to arriving at the Courthouse. The Petition is available at all MDJ offices and on the Court’s website at <https://www.beavercountypa.gov/Depts/Courts>.** If you do not own a printer, you can still complete the Petition on the website and email to pfa@beavercountypa.gov.
- When answering the questions regarding incidents of abuse, please focus on the actual conduct that constitutes “abuse” as defined above; extensive background information is often unnecessary.

¹ Other relationships may qualify under a Sexual Violence Protection Order or a Protection from Sexual Violence & Intimidation Order.

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF BEAVER COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA - CIVIL DIVISION**

Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
Vs.	:	No. _____
	:	
Defendant.	:	

**INTAKE INFORMATION FOR PROTECTION FROM ABUSE
PETITION / TEMPORARY ORDER**

1. Plaintiff's Name (person filing petition)

2. Plaintiffs Date of Birth: _____

3. Plaintiff's Street address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Is Address Confidential yes _____ No _____

4. The request for protection is being filed on behalf of: (check all that apply)
_____ myself _____ and as parent of minor child(ren)

5. Defendant's Name: _____

6. Defendant's Street address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

7. Defendant's Social Security Number: (if known) _____

8. Defendant's Date of Birth: _____

9. Defendant's Place of Employment:

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

10. The relationship between the Plaintiff and Defendant is:
(Example: husband / wife; boyfriend / girlfriend; ex-wife / ex-husband)

11. The Plaintiff and Defendant have been involved in the following other court actions: (Example: divorce, custody, support)

12. The result of the other court action(s) is / are as follows:

13. Has Defendant been involved in any criminal court action?

_____ yes _____ no _____ Don't Know

14. Is the Defendant currently on probation or parole?

_____ yes _____ no _____ Don't Know

15. Plaintiff and Defendant are the parents of the following children (if any):

Name (First and Last)	Date of Birth	Sex	Race
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1. _____	_____	_____	_____
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2. _____	_____	_____	_____
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3. _____	_____	_____	_____
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4. _____	_____	_____	_____
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16. Describe the most recent incident of abuse. **Use only the space provided.**

Date: _____

Time _____

17. Describe any prior incidents of abuse that the Defendant has committed against the Plaintiff and / or minor children. **Use only the space provided.**

18. Has the Defendant used, or threatened to use a **weapon** against the Plaintiff and / or minor children? If so, please describe and be specific.

To the best of your knowledge or belief does defendant own or possess any firearm, other weapon, ammunition or any firearm license?

Yes_____ No_____

If Yes Please list: 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

If Yes would you like the Court to Order the Relinquish of the Firearms.

Yes_____ No_____

19. Please provide the name(s) of the local police departments where you live and work.

20. Please read and check the following forms of relief that you are asking the Court to provide you in the Temporary Order, and after a hearing, a Final Order: (Check each form of relief requested.)

[] A. Restrain Defendant from abusing, threatening, harassing, or stalking Plaintiff and/or minor child/ren in any place where Plaintiff may be found.

B. Evict / exclude Defendant from Plaintiff's residence and prohibit Defendant from attempting to enter any temporary or permanent residence of the Plaintiff.

C. Require Defendant to provide Plaintiff and/or minor child/ren with other suitable housing.

D. Award Plaintiff temporary custody of the minor child/ren and place the following restrictions on contact between Defendant and child/ren.

E. Prohibit Defendant from having any contact with Plaintiff and / or minor child/ren, either in person, by telephone, or in writing, personally or through third persons, including but not limited to any contact at Plaintiff's school, business, or place of employment, except as the court may find necessary with respect to partial custody and/or visitation with the minor children.

F. Prohibit Defendant from having contact with Plaintiff's relatives and Plaintiff's children listed in this petition, except as the court may find necessary with respect to partial custody and/or visitation with the minor children.

G. Order Defendant to temporarily turn over weapons to the Sheriff of Beaver County and prohibit Defendant from transferring, acquiring, or possessing any such weapons for the duration of this Order.

H. Order Defendant to pay temporary support to Plaintiff and / or minor children, including medical support and payment of the rent or mortgage on residence.

I. Direct Defendant to pay Plaintiff for the reasonable financial losses suffered as a result of the abuse, to be determined at the hearing.

J. Order Defendant to pay the costs of this action, including filing and service fees.

K. Order Defendant to pay Plaintiff's reasonable attorney's fees.

VERIFICATION

I verify that the information contained within this petition is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. 4904.

Signature

Date

** Please Save and Attach the document to this address: pfa@beavercountypa.gov
or Print it out and bring it with you.