

What are Domestic Violence Orders?

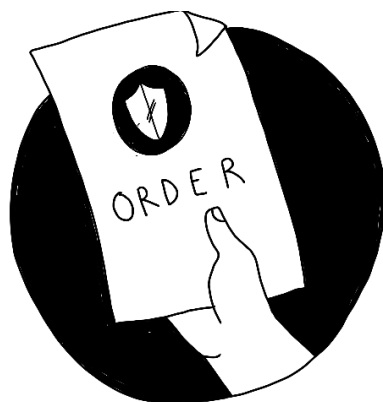


FAMILY VIOLENCE LAW HELP

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Domestic Violence Orders are also known as Intervention Orders, Family Violence Orders, Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders or Restraining Orders.

A Domestic Violence Order is an order that can protect a person from domestic and family violence by setting out rules that the other person must follow. It can help to keep you safe by making it illegal for that person to break those rules or to use or threaten to use domestic and family violence against you.



Each State and Territory has different names, procedures and laws about Domestic Violence Orders. Below is what they're called in each State and Territory.

- **Australian Capital Territory** - Family Violence Orders
- **New South Wales** - Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders
- **Northern Territory** - Domestic Violence Orders
- **Queensland** - Domestic Violence Orders
- **South Australia** - Intervention Orders
- **Tasmania** - Family Violence Orders or Restraint Orders
- **Victoria** - Family Violence Intervention Orders
- **Western Australia** - Family Violence Restraining Orders



Domestic Violence Orders are civil orders. This means the order is not a criminal charge against the other person. However, if the other person breaks the order, this is against the law and they can be charged with a criminal offence. If a person is charged with a criminal offence, like assault - they may get a Domestic Violence Order against them as well as the criminal charge.

Sometimes the police apply for a Domestic Violence Order to protect someone and their children. It may not be up to the protected person whether the Domestic Violence Order goes ahead or not.

While we have tried to make the information here as up-to-date and accurate as possible, the law is complex and always changing. All legal problems are different. You should see a lawyer to get advice about your problem. Legal Aid NSW, National Legal Aid and the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department are not liable for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage that arises from any person who relies on any information on this factsheet. This factsheet was developed in 2019.



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