How do Family Violence Restraining Orders get made?



www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au

Western Australia (WA)

If someone has used domestic and family violence against you a Family Violence Restraining Order (FVRO) may help keep you safe.

If you, or someone you are with is in immediate danger-call police on Triple Zero (000).



How are applications made?

In Western Australia, you or the police can apply for a FVRO to protect you and your children.

You or the police can apply for a FVRO if someone has used domestic and family violence against you, or if you're scared they will.

If you have experienced domestic and family violence, you should contact the police. In some cases, police can make a Police Order for your protection. A Police Order is an urgent order that can protect you for up to 72 hours. If police apply for a FVRO to protect you or your children, it may not be up to you if the FVRO goes ahead or not.

You can apply for a FVRO at your local <u>Magistrates Court</u>. It's important to get legal advice about this. If your application is urgent, sometimes an Interim (temporary) FVRO can be made.

The <u>Family Court of WA</u>, the <u>Children's Court of WA</u> and criminal courts can also make or change a FVRO in some in some family law, child protection and criminal cases.



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Who can orders be made against?

You or the police can apply for a FVRO to protect you from:

- your current partner or ex-partner
- someone you are or were in an intimate relationship with—for example, someone you dated
- relatives such as your child, mum, dad, grandparents, grandchildren, step-parents, step-children, step-siblings, half-siblings, in-laws, uncle, aunt, cousin, niece, nephew or someone you used to be related to
- people you treat like a family member—for example, a carer or dependent, a child who lives with you or a person who is related to you in the family structure of your culture
- relatives of your partner or ex-partner
- your ex-partner's new partner, or your partner's expartner
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander kinship relatives.

If the person you want protection from is not listed above, get legal advice.

You may be able to apply for a different type different type of Restraining Order.

For more information, visit www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au



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.

