

Asking for a Domestic Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault Protective Order – Statewide except Anchorage

The Alaska Court System has made some temporary changes that affect filing a petition for a protective order during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can read more about these changes on the Alaska Court System [COVID-19 Response Page](#).

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What forms do I use to petition for a protective order?

See the options to [request a protective order](#).

How do I file the petition?

To reduce the number of people in courthouses, file the following documents by email or fax if possible:

- the document to start your case, called a Petition;
- a Motion or Request to ask the court to order something in an open protective order case; or
- all other documents in open cases

You can read how to file by email or fax at [Email and Fax Filing Instructions](#).

Is there a fee to file the petition or any document in a protective order case?

There is no filing fee for petitions to start a domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault protective order case. There is also no fee for any filing in a protective order case.

You can read how to file by email or fax at [Email and Fax Filing Instructions](#).

How do I sign if I don't have a printer and am filing by email?

If you are unable to print and sign the petition, and are filing by email, you may e-sign by typing “s/ [insert your name]”. This will look like:

I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that all the information I provided in this petition is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.	
<u>04/17/2020</u> Date	<u>/s/ Suzy Q Petitioner</u> Petitioner's Signature
	<u>Suzy Q. Petitioner</u> Print Name

What if I can't get my signature notarized?

If you do not have access to a notary, fill out [Self-Certification \(No Notary Available\)](#), TF-835 and include the completed form with your petition.

Can I fill out the petition at the courthouse?

The courts are operating but the processes have been changed so you can take care of your court business by phone or email if possible.

If you CANNOT safely file by email, fax, or by mail, check with your local court about their hours and procedures to go to the courthouse in person at [Trial Court Locations & Hours](#).

Even if your court is open (or you are going to a court that requires appointments and you have an appointment), you may not enter a court building if you:

- Have flu-like symptoms, or
- Have traveled outside Alaska in last 14 days, or
- Live with or have had close contact with anyone who has been outside Alaska in the last 14 days, or
- Have been directed to quarantine, isolate or self-monitor at home for the coronavirus by a medical provider, or
- Have been diagnosed with or have had close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19.

Can I participate in the hearing by phone?

You may participate by phone until at least May 31, 2020. Make sure to include your phone number and email address if it is safe for the court to contact you by those methods. If you are not called at the time of your hearing, you can call into your hearing. You can find your local courthouse number in the [Court Directory](#).

Some courts are ONLY allowing people to attend hearings by phone, so check with your local court before attending in person: [Court Directory](#).

How to I provide evidence if I am on the phone?

Before your hearing, file all exhibits like photos or copies of text messages with the Notice of Filing, SHC-1605 [Word](#) | [PDF](#) that includes the case name and case number. You can file by email, U.S. mail, or in-person. Read [Email and Fax Filing Instructions](#).

If you realize during the hearing that there is important evidence to provide, ask the judge if you can send it by email or text at that time. If the judge agrees, he or she will give you an email address to send the evidence in during the hearing for consideration. [Your judge may not allow this, so it is best to try to submit all evidence before court.](#)