

**JUDGE ERIC C. ROBERSON**  
Division DV-A Procedures

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WHAT IS AN INJUNCTION?

You have the right to file a petition to ask the court to issue an injunction to protect you against violence. The injunction process is a civil court process and is not a part of a criminal court proceeding. An injunction is different than a criminal “no-contact” order. An injunction is a court order against another person who has been physically violent with you and/or has placed you in fear of physical violence. The purpose is to require him or her to stay away from your home, your car, your place of employment, and other places the court finds necessary. Also, injunctions can order the other person not to contact you by phone, in writing, by email, or in person. Injunctions can include other relief that the court feels is appropriate.

Three things can happen after you file the petition:

1. The judge can enter a Temporary Injunction for Protection. This order will only be in effect until the hearing, which cannot be more than 15 days away. Read it carefully. The other person will be served with a copy. If the other person contacts you before the hearing, report it to law enforcement.
2. The judge can enter an Order Setting Hearing Only. This means that there is no injunction in effect until the hearing. The other person will be served with a copy.
3. The judge can deny the petition and should give reasons in writing why the petition was denied. The other person will not be served with a copy. You can file a supplemental petition and add any other information that you think may have been left out the first time or that may make a difference in the decision.

## WHAT ABOUT THE HEARING?

The purpose of the hearing is for the judge to decide whether or not to issue a final injunction. The judge decides the time period for the injunctions. If both parties appear and want to proceed, the judge can listen to both parties, witnesses, and review the evidence.

If a final injunction is entered, read it carefully. Ask the judge or court staff if you have any questions or concerns. If the other person violates the order, report it immediately. Only the court can change the injunction or court order. If a change is needed or you want a dismissal, contact the court. You cannot give the other party permission to violate the order.

Additional forms can be found at [4th Judicial Circuit Court - DV Forms \(jud4.org\)](http://jud4.org)