

# Community Legal Aid

A non-profit law firm serving the legal needs of low-income individuals and families in central northeast Ohio



[www.communitylegalaid.org](http://www.communitylegalaid.org)

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## Now you have your CPO

CLAS agreed to represent you for your CPO only. You will need to reapply for additional services. You will not be guaranteed representation.

Now that you have your CPO you should:

- Review the order. Make sure names are spelled correctly
- Make several copies of the CPO
- Keep a copy with you at all times
- Leave copies of the order at your workplace, home, child's school or daycare, in your car, with a neighbor or relative
- Give a copy to anyone named in and protected by the order
- Give copies to your local police and sheriff's department

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**What do I do if my abuser violates the CPO?** Call the police to report the violation. Be sure to follow up with the police and make sure that a report was filed.

**How do I prove a violation?** Evidence: witnesses, medical reports, police reports, dated pictures.

**How do I renew the CPO?** Start the renewal process before your current CPO runs out. Avoid being unprotected or having to start the entire process over again. To renew or extend your CPO you will go to court for a short hearing. At the hearing you will need to explain why you are still in fear and need an extension of your CPO.

Courts can renew CPOs beyond their five year maximum. You must file a motion for renewal or extension of the CPO. You will also need to serve the abuser with a copy of the motion. Some courts require a new act or threat of violence before they will grant an extension or renewal. In other courts a continued fear of the abuser or a combination of past acts of violence and continued fear will be enough to extend or renew. It's best to start the renewal process before the current CPO expires.

**Do I need to give the schools a copy?** Yes. It is a good idea to give schools that you or your children attend a copy of your CPO.

**What happens if I move?** A CPO obtained in Ohio is effective throughout Ohio. If you move you should give a copy of your CPO to your new local police or sheriff's department. If you move outside of Ohio, you will need to check to see how your new state treats out of state orders. Federal Law allows for CPOs to follow you wherever you go through Full Faith and Credit, but different states have different laws. You can call the National Center on Full Faith and Credit to find out how your new state treats your CPO at 1-800-256-5883 ext. 2. Or call you local legal aid office.

**Can a CPO be changed or modified?** Yes. You can go back to court to have your CPO modified or revoked at any time. CLAS does not provide representation for revocation or modification services. Do not cause your abuser to violate your CPO. The only way to modify or terminate a CPO is in Court. You cannot "waive" a CPO by inviting the person into your home.

**Do the police have to enforce the CPO?** Yes. Violation of a CPO is a crime.

**How do I get a new Social Security number?** Contact the Social Security Administration.

### **Information on Battered Women's Shelter and other important resources**

<i>Columbiana County Christina's House 330-428-0036 Alliance Area DV Shelter 330-823-7223</i>	<i>Mahoning County Sojourner House 330-747-4040 Alliance Area DV Shelter 330-823-7223</i>	<i>Stark County Domestic Violence Project, In. Canton 330-453-7233 Massillon 330-393- 1565 Alliance Area DV Shelter 330-823-7223</i>	<i>Wayne County Every Woman's House 330-263-1020 (24hr crisis hotline) 1-800-686-1122 (toll free) 330-263-6021 Victim's Assistance 330-262-2070</i>
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*Medina County  
Battered Women's  
Shelter  
1-877-414-1344 (24hr  
crisis hotline)  
330-723-3900 (crisis)  
330-723-961*

*Summit County  
Battered Women's  
Shelter  
1-888-395-4357 (24hr  
crisis hotline)  
330-374-1111 (crisis)  
330-374-0740  
(business)*

*Trumbull County  
Someplace Safe  
330-393-1565 or 330-  
393-3003*

*Portage County  
Safer Futures  
330-673-2500*

*This article is meant to give you general information and not to give you specific legal advice.*

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