

Extending Project Passport

Project Goal and History

The goal of *Extending Project Passport* is to build upon the success of the original Project Passport. Project Passport was designed to improve recognition and enforcement of orders of protection across jurisdictions by encouraging states and tribes to adopt a recognizable first page for orders of protection (i.e., by including common elements and format). The model template for this first page was originally developed through a regional effort led by Kentucky with its seven surrounding states, beginning in 2000. The Southeast Expansion to Passport followed with a similar initiative, led by Alabama with seven of its neighboring states and tribes.

In 2004 and 2005, *Extending Project Passport* held two western regional meetings that introduced the model template to another 16 states, multiple tribes in the region, and three U.S. territories. A final regional initiative in 2007 introduced the recognizable first page to 17 states and numerous tribes in the Northeast and Great Lakes areas, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In 2010, the project also convened two regional meetings (Northeast and Southwest) specifically focused on state and tribal court collaboration on full faith and credit, protection order enforcement and related issues.

Promising Strategy in Tribal-State Court Relations

In 2012, as part of the Bureau of Justice Assistance-funded *Walking on Common Ground* initiative, *Extending Project Passport*, and its collaborative partnership between the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and the National American Indian Court Judges Association (NAICJA), was recognized as one of ten promising strategies for fostering Tribal-State Court Relations. The full Promising Strategies report is available at www.walkingoncommonground.org.

Implementation Status

Over two-thirds of the U.S. states (approximately 39 states, the District of Columbia and Guam) have adopted a version of the model template into their orders of protection to date; others continue to explore adoption or to expand the use of a Passport-modeled first page for other types of protection orders (sexual assault, harassment, etc.). Texas is the most recent state to adopt Passport (2012). A growing number of tribes have also adopted, or are considering adopting, the model template first page for their tribal protection orders. Tribes in Alabama, Arizona, California, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico (including the Navajo Nation), North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Washington have adopted a Passport-modeled first page for their protection orders. Others

Order of Protection		Case No.
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended Order		Court
		County
		State
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF		PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF IDENTIFIERS
First	Middle	Last
Date of Birth of Petitioner		
And/or on behalf of minor family member(s): (list name and DOB)		Other Protected Persons (DOB)
V.		
RESPONDENT		RESPONDENT IDENTIFIERS
First	Middle	Last
Relationship to Petitioner:		SEX
Respondent's Address:		RACE
		DOB
		HT
		WT
		EYES
		HAIR
		SOCIAL SECURITY #
		DRIVERS LICENSE #
		STATE
		EXP DATE
CAUTION:		Distinguishing Features
<input type="checkbox"/> Weapon Involved		
THE COURT HEREBY FINDS:		
That it has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter, and the Respondent has been provided with reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional findings of this order are as set forth below.		
THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS:		
<input type="checkbox"/> That the above named Respondent be restrained from committing further acts of abuse or threats of abuse.		
<input type="checkbox"/> That the above named Respondent be restrained from any contact with the Petitioner/Plaintiff.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional terms of this order are as set forth below.		
The terms of this order shall be effective until		
WARNINGS TO RESPONDENT:		
This order shall be enforced, even without registration, by the courts of any state, the District of Columbia, any U.S. Territory, and may be enforced by Tribal Lands (18 U.S.C. Section 2265). Crossing state, territorial, or tribal boundaries to violate this order may result in federal imprisonment (18 U.S.C. Section 2262).		
Federal law provides penalties for possessing, transporting, shipping, or receiving any firearm or ammunition (18 U.S.C. Section 922(g)(8)).		
Only the Court can change this order.		

considering adoption have included tribes in Alaska, Connecticut, Mississippi, North Carolina, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming and additional tribes in New Mexico.

The critical aspects of the model template for the first page are common data elements that have been identified as being essential for verifying a valid protection order and properly identifying the parties at the point of enforcement. The template is a practical tool for strengthening full faith and credit across jurisdictions and enlarging the safety net for domestic violence survivors - regardless of where they live or where the protection order was issued. *Extending Project Passport* also encourages electronic data and information sharing using established national data standards. Use of these national standards improves the exchange of and access to protection order data across jurisdictions and into the NCIC Protection Order File (POF). For those interested, a Passport-based electronic protection order data exchange model, an IEPD (Information Exchange Package Documentation), is available.

Technical Assistance

The NCSC and its partners provide technical assistance on issues related to full faith and credit and enforcement of protection orders to states and tribes to support Passport implementation and enforcement efforts. A Passport website will provide project-related resources and information on implementing Passport, as well as relevant information on related topics, such as federal firearms laws, full faith and credit, and tribal-state collaboration.

Extending Project Passport Team

The Passport team's collaborative effort built upon the Regional Meetings on Full Faith and Credit convened by the NCSC in partnership with the National Center on Protection Orders and Full Faith and Credit (NCPOFFC), the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA), the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA), and the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ). *Extending Project Passport* partners have included the NCPOFFC, NCJA, COSCA, CCJ, the National American Indian Court Judges Association (NAICJA), the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ACADV), the New Mexico Tribal-State Judicial Consortium and the Mashantucket-Pequot Tribal Nation and Tribal Court (regional tribal-state forum hosts).

For More Information

For more information about this project, please contact Denise O. Dancy, Passport Project Director at the National Center for State Courts: 757-259-1593 or ddancy@ncsc.org.

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