

Interjurisdictional Service in Tennessee  
A Resource from the Pandemic Rapid Response Team

December 2022



	Ex Parte Protective Order (Temporary/Emergency)	Final Protective Order
Statute	Tennessee Code § <a href="#">36-3-6</a>	
Terminology	Ex Parte Protection Order	Order of Protection
Length of Order	Up to 15 days.	Up to 1 year.
Available Relief	<p>Order respondent to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refrain from committing or threatening to commit domestic abuse, stalking, sexual exploitation/assault, or human trafficking</li> <li>• Refrain from telephoning, contacting or otherwise communicating with the petitioner (directly or indirectly)</li> <li>• Stay away from the petitioner</li> <li>• Vacate the shared residence or provide suitable alternate housing</li> <li>• Attend available counseling programs</li> </ul> <p>Grant the petitioner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possession of the shared residence</li> <li>• Financial support (including for minor children)</li> <li>• Care, custody or control of any animal (could also place animal in a foster situation)</li> <li>• Billing responsibility for and rights to respective wireless telephone number(s)</li> </ul>	<p>In addition to relief provided by a Ex Parte Protection Order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Order respondent to surrender all firearms within 48 hours of order’s issuance to law enforcement or a third party</li> <li>• Complete and return to the court an affidavit of firearm dispossession form</li> <li>• Prohibit respondent from possessing firearms while order is in effect</li> </ul>

Protected Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current/former spouse</li> <li>• Currently live or have lived together</li> <li>• Currently date or have dated</li> <li>• Currently have or had a sexual relationship</li> <li>• Related by blood, adoption, marriage</li> <li>• Child of person in a relationship as described above.</li> </ul>
Requirements for Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The clerk will either give the party the order (if present when the order is issued) or mail it to the party's last known address.</li> <li>• If address is unknown, Clerk may send the order to the sheriff in the appropriate county by facsimile or other electronic transmission.</li> <li>• Local law enforcement will immediately enter information in the national crime information center.</li> <li>• Certificates of service will document efforts to make service.</li> </ul>
Registration Required for Enforcement	Not required.
<a href="#">Military Jurisdictions</a>	<p>Military Bases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 118th WG</li> <li>• 134ARW</li> <li>• 164 AW</li> <li>• Arnold AFB</li> <li>• Naval Support Activity Mid-South</li> <li>• USAREC, Nashville Battalion</li> </ul> <p>Processes on Military Jurisdictions: Contact the individual military jurisdiction for service process details.</p>
<a href="#">Tribal Jurisdictions</a>	<p>Federally Recognized Tribe: None</p> <p>State Recognized Tribes: None</p>

Other Information	Statutes allow for lifetime orders of protection for victims of felony offenses.  Tennessee also has Elderly and Vulnerable Adult Orders of Protection (see § <a href="#">71-6-124</a> ).
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### Out of State Service Fees<sup>1</sup>:

None

For more information, please contact State Point of Contact Michelle Consiglio-Young (michelle.consiglio-young@tncourts.gov).

If you would like to provide suggestions/feedback on this Profile, visit:  
[https://ncsc2.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eQzzYCcGK38Q64C](https://ncsc2.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eQzzYCcGK38Q64C)

<sup>1</sup> Courts should not charge a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault any costs associated with the filing, issuance, registration, or service of protection orders, whether issued by civil or criminal courts, including intra- and inter-jurisdictional orders. This no-cost provision also applies to any fees or costs associated with a criminal matter related to domestic violence, stalking, dating violence, and sexual assault (42 U.S.C. § 3796 hh(c)(4)). Charging any of these costs will render a jurisdiction ineligible for certain VAWA funds.