

If you or someone you know is experiencing physical or sexual abuse, or stalking/harassment, a civil protection order may prove crucial in keeping you and your family safe.

Civil protection orders can be filed without prior incidents being reported to the police. There are three distinct types of orders in Pennsylvania: Protection From Abuse Orders, Sexual Violence Protection Orders, and Protection From Intimidation Orders.

CAPSEA works with those petitioners seeking civil protection orders, at every stage of the process. Enclosed, you will find more information about each kind of civil protection order, as well as CAPSEA's contact information should you need help in obtaining a protection order.

## CAPSEA, INC.

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### CAPSEA EMERGENCY HOTLINE

24/7 • Confidential

Elk County Hotline

814-772-1227

Cameron County Hotline

814-486-0952



# PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER INFORMATION

**PFA**

**SVPO**

**PFI**

Protection  
from  
Abuse  
Order

Sexual  
Violence  
Protection  
Order

Protection  
from  
Intimidation  
Order

# PFA

## Protection from Abuse Order

PFA's protect petitioners experiencing physical, sexual, or emotional abuse.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be 18+ years old OR
- Have a guardian to file on behalf of a minor (OBO)

### RELATIONSHIP CRITERIA:

- Related by blood
- Related by marriage
- Current or previous sexual partners

### EXAMPLES OF ABUSE:

- Causing the victim to live in fear of serious injury
- Stalking
- Sexual assault
- Threat of serious injury
- Hitting, kicking, punching

# SVPO

## Sexual Violence Protection Order

SVPOs protect petitioners affected by situations involving sexual violence.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be 18+ years old OR
- Have a guardian to file on behalf of a minor (OBO)

### RELATIONSHIP CRITERIA:

- No familial relationship
- The perpetrator could be an acquaintance, landlord, coworker, neighbor, stranger, friend, etc.

### SEXUAL VIOLENCE:

- The petitioner has been the victim of a completed or attempted sexual assault by the perpetrator

### ONGOING THREAT:

- The perpetrator has been released from jail, threatened to harm or harmed the petitioner
- The perpetrator has engaged in stalking or harassing behavior

# PFI

## Protection from Intimidation Order

PFI's protect minor petitioners from adult offenders.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Under 18 years old AND
- Have a guardian to file on behalf of a minor (OBO)
- The perpetrator must be 18 years old or older

### RELATIONSHIP CRITERIA:

- No familial relationship
- The perpetrator could be a coach, neighbor, teacher, etc.

### INTIMIDATION:

- This order does not require a sexual component
- The perpetrator has engaged in stalking or harassing behavior
- The perpetrator has intimidated the minor victim