

Mohave County Courts, State of Arizona

Case No. _____ Defendant: _____ Date: _____

Defendant's Guide Sheet for Protective Orders – Please Read Carefully

The following information is provided to further explain the protective order that has been served upon you and your responsibilities as the Defendant.

1. You have been served with one of the following protective orders:

ORDER OF PROTECTION: An Order of Protection is used for a "family" relationship between you and the Plaintiff. This can include one of the following: 1) married now or in the past, 2) live together now or lived together in the past, 3) parent of a child in common, 4) one of you is pregnant by the other, or 5) you are a relative (parent, in-law, brother, sister, or grandparent), or 6) current or previous romantic or sexual relationship. The Plaintiff has alleged that you have committed or may commit an act of domestic violence.

INJUNCTION AGAINST HARASSMENT: The Plaintiff has alleged that you have committed a series of acts (more than one) of harassment against the Plaintiff within the last year.

INJUNCTION AGAINST WORKPLACE HARASSMENT: This Injunction, alleging a single act or series of acts of harassment, has been filed against you by an employer or owner of a business or operation for the benefit of an employee or the business.

2. OTHER PROTECTED PERSONS: It is possible that you will be referred to Superior Court if your children are listed as protected persons in this order. Only a Superior Court Judge can decide child custody or parenting time in a separate action.

3. SERVICE AND EFFECT: This protective order is valid for one year from the date it was served on you and is enforceable by law enforcement in any state or tribal nation in the United States.

4. PROTECTIVE ORDER HEARING: If you disagree with this protective order, you have the right to request a hearing which will be held within 5 to 10 business days after your written request has been filed in the court that issued this order. If a hearing is held and the Order remains in effect or is modified, and you and the Plaintiff 1) are married now or in the past, 2) live together now or lived together in the past, or 3) are parents of a child in common, you may be prohibited from possessing a firearm. This firearms prohibition may apply even if you fail to appear for the hearing. If you have questions as to whether your request for a hearing can result in this firearms prohibition, you should contact an attorney. The Court cannot give you legal advice.

5. MODIFYING OR QUASHING (DISMISSING) THIS PROTECTIVE ORDER: Only a judge can modify or quash (dismiss) this protective order. If you file an action for maternity, paternity, annulment, legal separation, or dissolution against the Plaintiff, you need to advise this court at once. **Nothing the Plaintiff does can stop, change, or undo this protective order without the Court's written approval.**

6. PLAINTIFF CONTACT: Even if the Plaintiff initiates contact, you could be arrested for violating this protective order. You have the right to request a protective order against the Plaintiff if you do not want the Plaintiff to contact you. However, orders are not automatically granted upon request. Legal requirements must be met.

7. LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDBY: If standby has been ordered by the judge on this protective order, you may return to the residence once with a law enforcement officer to obtain necessary personal belongings. Neither law enforcement nor this protective order can resolve conflicts over property, title, furniture, finances, real estate, or other ownership issues.

8. FIREARMS: If the judge has ordered under state law that you shall not possess, receive, or purchase firearms or ammunition, you must surrender them within 24 hours after service to the law enforcement agency named on this protective order and should request them to issue proof of that surrendering. You may also be required to provide documentation to the court that firearms were transferred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.