

1 AN ACT relating to protective orders.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 403.740 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Following a hearing ordered under KRS 403.730, if a court finds by a  
5 preponderance of the evidence that domestic violence and abuse has occurred and  
6 may again occur, the court may issue a domestic violence order:

7 (a) Restraining the adverse party from:

- 8 1. Committing further acts of domestic violence and abuse;
- 9 2. Any unauthorized contact or communication with the petitioner or other  
10 person specified by the court;
- 11 3. Approaching the petitioner or other person specified by the court within  
12 a distance specified in the order, not to exceed five hundred (500) feet;
- 13 4. Going to or within a specified distance of a specifically described  
14 residence, school, or place of employment or area where such a place is  
15 located; and
- 16 5. Disposing of or damaging any of the property of the parties;

17 **(b) Authorizing, at the request of the petitioner:**

18 **1. Limited contact or communication between the parties that the court**  
19 **finds necessary; or**

20 **2. The parties to remain in a common area, which may necessitate them**  
21 **being closer than five hundred (500) feet under limited circumstances**  
22 **with specific parameters set forth by the court.**

23 **Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to place any restriction**  
24 **or restraint on the petitioner;**

25 **(c)**~~(b)~~ Directing or prohibiting any other actions that the court believes will be  
26 of assistance in eliminating future acts of domestic violence and abuse, except  
27 that the court shall not order the petitioner to take any affirmative action;

1       ~~(d)~~~~(e)~~ Directing that either or both of the parties receive counseling services  
2           available in the community in domestic violence and abuse cases; and

3       ~~(e)~~~~(d)~~ Additionally, if applicable:

- 4           1. Directing the adverse party to vacate a residence shared by the parties to  
5           the action;
- 6           2. Utilizing the criteria set forth in KRS 403.270, 403.320, and 403.822,  
7           grant temporary custody, subject to KRS 403.315; and
- 8           3. Utilizing the criteria set forth in KRS 403.211, 403.212, and 403.213,  
9           award temporary child support.

10   (2) In imposing a location restriction described in subsection (1)(a)4. of this section, the  
11   court shall:

- 12       (a) Afford the petitioner and respondent, if present, an opportunity to testify on  
13       the issue of the locations and areas from which the respondent should or  
14       should not be excluded;
- 15       (b) Only impose a location restriction where there is a specific, demonstrable  
16       danger to the petitioner or other person protected by the order;
- 17       (c) Specifically describe in the order the locations or areas prohibited to the  
18       respondent; and
- 19       (d) Consider structuring a restriction so as to allow the respondent transit through  
20       an area if the respondent does not interrupt his or her travel to harass, harm, or  
21       attempt to harass or harm the petitioner.

22   (3) When temporary child support is granted under this section, the court shall enter an  
23   order detailing how the child support is to be paid and collected. Child support  
24   ordered under this section may be enforced utilizing the same procedures as any  
25   other child support order.

26   (4) A domestic violence order shall be effective for a period of time fixed by the court,  
27   not to exceed three (3) years, and may be reissued upon expiration for subsequent

1 periods of up to three (3) years each. The fact that an order has not been violated  
 2 since its issuance may be considered by a court in hearing a request for a reissuance  
 3 of the order.

4 ➔Section 2. KRS 403.730 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) (a) The court shall review a petition for an order of protection immediately upon  
 6 its filing. If the review indicates that domestic violence and abuse exists, the  
 7 court shall summons the parties to an evidentiary hearing not more than  
 8 fourteen (14) days in the future. If the review indicates that such a basis does  
 9 not exist, the court may consider an amended petition or dismiss the petition  
 10 without prejudice.

11 (b) Service of the summons and hearing order under this subsection shall be made  
 12 upon the adverse party personally and may be made in the manner and by the  
 13 persons authorized to serve subpoenas under Rule 45.03 of the Rules of Civil  
 14 Procedure. A summons may be reissued if service has not been made on the  
 15 adverse party by the fixed court date and time.

16 (2) (a) If the review under this section also indicates the presence of an immediate  
 17 and present danger of domestic violence and abuse, the court shall, **upon the**  
 18 **filing of the petition**~~[upon proper motion]~~, issue ex parte an emergency  
 19 protective order that:

20 1. Authorizes relief appropriate to the situation utilizing the alternatives set  
 21 out in KRS 403.740, other than awarding temporary support or  
 22 counseling;

23 2. **Sets forth which communications, if any, as requested by the**  
 24 **petitioner, are authorized and which communications are**  
 25 **unauthorized;**

26 3. **Allows either party to retrieve his or her personal belongings from the**  
 27 **parties' shared residence and directs law enforcement to assist, if**

1                    requested;

2                    4. Expires upon the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing required by this  
3                    section unless extended or withdrawn by subsequent order of the court;  
4                    and

5                    ~~5.~~ Does not order or refer the parties to mediation unless requested by the  
6                    petitioner, and the court finds that:

7                    a. The petitioner's request is voluntary and not the result of coercion;  
8                    and

9                    b. Mediation is a realistic and viable alternative to or adjunct to the  
10                    issuance of an order sought by the petitioner.

11                    *Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to place any restriction or*  
12                    *restraint on the petitioner.*

13                    (b) If an order is not issued under this subsection, the court shall note on the  
14                    petition, for the record, any action taken or denied and the reason for it.

15                    ➔ Section 3. KRS 456.060 is amended to read as follows:

16                    (1) Following a hearing ordered under KRS 456.040, if a court finds by a  
17                    preponderance of the evidence that dating violence and abuse, sexual assault, or  
18                    stalking has occurred and may again occur, the court may issue an interpersonal  
19                    protective order:

20                    (a) Restraining the adverse party from:

21                    1. Committing further acts of dating violence and abuse, stalking, or sexual  
22                    assault;

23                    2. Any unauthorized contact or communication with the petitioner or other  
24                    person specified by the court;

25                    3. Approaching the petitioner or other person specified by the court within  
26                    a distance specified in the order, not to exceed five hundred (500) feet;

27                    4. Going to or within a specified distance of a specifically described

1 residence, school, or place of employment or area where such a place is  
2 located; and

3 5. Disposing of or damaging any of the property of the parties;

4 **(b) Authorizing, at the request of the petitioner:**

5 **1. Limited contact or communication between the parties that the court**  
6 **finds necessary; or**

7 **2. The parties to remain in a common area, which may necessitate them**  
8 **being closer than five hundred (500) feet under limited circumstances**  
9 **with specific parameters set forth by the court.**

10 **Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to place any restriction**  
11 **or restraint on the petitioner;**

12 ~~(c)~~~~(b)~~ Directing or prohibiting any other actions that the court believes will be  
13 of assistance in eliminating future acts of dating violence and abuse, stalking,  
14 or sexual assault, except that the court shall not order the petitioner to take any  
15 affirmative action; and

16 ~~(d)~~~~(e)~~ Directing that either or both of the parties receive counseling services  
17 available in the community in dating violence and abuse cases.

18 (2) In imposing a location restriction described in subsection (1)(a)4. of this section, the  
19 court shall:

20 (a) Afford the petitioner and respondent, if present, an opportunity to testify on  
21 the issue of the locations and areas from which the respondent should or  
22 should not be excluded;

23 (b) Only impose a location restriction where there is a specific, demonstrable  
24 danger to the petitioner or other person protected by the order;

25 (c) Specifically describe in the order the locations or areas prohibited to the  
26 respondent; and

27 (d) Consider structuring a restriction so as to allow the respondent transit through

1 an area if the respondent does not interrupt his or her travel to harass, harm, or  
2 attempt to harass or harm the petitioner.

3 (3) An interpersonal protective order shall be effective for a period of time fixed by the  
4 court, not to exceed three (3) years, and may be reissued upon expiration for  
5 subsequent periods of up to three (3) years each. The fact that an order has not been  
6 violated since its issuance may be considered by a court in hearing a request for a  
7 reissuance of the order.

8 ➔Section 4. KRS 456.040 is amended to read as follows:

9 (1) (a) The court shall review a petition for an interpersonal protective order  
10 immediately upon its filing. If the review indicates that dating violence and  
11 abuse, stalking, or sexual assault exists, the court shall summons the parties to  
12 an evidentiary hearing not more than fourteen (14) days in the future. If the  
13 review indicates that such a basis does not exist, the court may consider an  
14 amended petition or dismiss the petition without prejudice.

15 (b) Service of the summons and hearing order under this subsection shall be made  
16 upon the adverse party personally and may be made in the manner and by the  
17 persons authorized to serve subpoenas under Rule 45.03 of the Rules of Civil  
18 Procedure. A summons may be reissued if service has not been made on the  
19 adverse party by the fixed court date and time.

20 (2) (a) If the review under this section also indicates the presence of an immediate  
21 and present danger of dating violence and abuse, sexual assault, or stalking,  
22 the court shall, upon the filing of the petition~~[upon proper motion]~~, issue ex  
23 parte a temporary interpersonal protective order that:

24 1. Authorizes relief appropriate to the situation utilizing the alternatives set  
25 out in KRS 456.060;

26 2. Sets forth which communications, if any, as requested by the  
27 petitioner, are authorized and which communications are

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**unauthorized:**

**3.** Expires upon the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing required by this section unless extended or withdrawn by subsequent order of the court; and

**4.**~~[3.]~~ Does not order or refer the parties to mediation unless requested by the petitioner, and the court finds that:

- a. The petitioner's request is voluntary and not the result of coercion; and
- b. Mediation is a realistic and viable alternative to or adjunct to the issuance of an order sought by the petitioner.

**Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to place any restriction or restraint on the petitioner.**

(b) If an order is not issued under this subsection, the court shall note on the petition, for the record, any action taken or denied and the reason for it.