

## Forms needed to file the electronic petition:

- [CC-DC-DV-001](#) – Petition for Protection from Domestic Violence / Child Abuse / Vulnerable Adult Abuse
- [CC-DC-DV-001A](#) – Addendum to Petition for Protective Order

## Where & How to File:

- If there is a current custody or divorce case involving the parties, consider filing in the circuit court where the case is being heard. Otherwise, petitions may be filed in either the district or circuit court.
- Email the completed petition to the provided email address for the jurisdiction where the hearing is to be held. Because some information is password protected, if you do not have the password, call the Clerk's office for more information or go here: [https://www.mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/import/district/pdfs/HB0296\\_RemoteDV.pdf](https://www.mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/import/district/pdfs/HB0296_RemoteDV.pdf)
- Include the healthcare provider's email address & phone number so the court can reach them with information about the hearing.
- Review the document prior to submission.
  - Ensure the petitioner has signed the document ([CC-DC-DV-001](#)).
  - Include the DV supplement form ([CC-DC-DV-001A](#)).
- NOTE: Courts are normally open from 8:30am-4:30pm, but this can vary by jurisdiction, and some courts close for lunch. If it is later in the day (i.e., after 2pm), please call the Court to ensure that they can get the hearing scheduled before the end of the day.

## Participating in the Hearing:

- Make sure you have a working microphone and a camera.
- Once the remote hearing is complete, copies of the outcome of the case will be emailed to the address used to submit the original petition.

### Further information may be found at:

- District Court: <https://www.courts.state.md.us/district/remotehearings>
- All Courts: <https://mdcourts.gov/remotehearings>

Once a survivor has received a TPO, it is important that they follow-up for the Final Protective Order (FPO). Let them know that the victim service provider with whom you are connecting them can help. For additional information, go to <https://www.courts.state.md.us/legalhelp/domesticviolence>

## Temporary Protective Orders (TPOs):

## Electronic Filing and Video Conferencing Hearings



Find Your Maryland Domestic Violence Service Provider in Your Area



Website: [www.mnadv.org](http://www.mnadv.org)  
MNADV Office: 301-429-3601  
Email: [info@mnadv.org](mailto:info@mnadv.org)



Website: <https://healthanddv.org/>  
Office: 410-539-0872  
Email: [dvcoalition@medchi.org](mailto:dvcoalition@medchi.org)



MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COALITION Against Domestic Violence

# Survivor Rights

Maryland law allows survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault to request a temporary protective order (TPO) through filing an electronic petition and holding a hearing via video conference. The TPO is the first step in the protective order process. While survivors still have the right to go to a court to file a petition, this law (found in the Family Law section of the Maryland Code at § 4-505.1.) allows anyone eligible for a protective order to file electronically for a temporary order of protection from any of the following locations:

- A domestic violence prevention or assistance program
- A sexual assault prevention or assistance program
- A human trafficking prevention or assistance program
- A child advocacy center
- A vulnerable adult program
- A hospital where the petitioner is receiving medical treatment, while the petitioner is at the hospital
- Another location approved by the court

# Court Standards

The law requires the courts to adhere to the following standards:

- If a temporary protective order is filed electronically, the court shall hold a hearing on the petition using video conferencing.
- The hearing shall be held on the same day the petition is filed if it is filed during regular court hours, and the court is open. Information on court hours can be found here:  
<https://www.courts.state.md.us/district/directories/courtmap>
- If the petition is filed electronically outside of court hours, then the hearing will be held the next business day. If the survivor is no longer going to be in your care the following day, do NOT file the petition.
- If discharging the survivor from the hospital, refer them to a victim service provider, where they can also file for a protective order. List of providers:  
<https://www.mnadv.org/get-help/find-your-local-domestic-violence-program>



If moving the survivor to in-patient status or switching units in the hospital, inform the new care provider of the patient's protective order filing status and provide all necessary information. The law requires that hospitals provide the following referrals:

- If filing a protective order petition on the grounds of domestic violence:
  - If the hospital has a program, staff shall refer to that domestic violence prevention or assistance program.
  - If there is no hospital-based program, then staff shall refer to a community-based domestic violence prevention or assistance program.
- If filing a protective order on the grounds of sexual assault, the hospital shall refer to a community-based sexual assault prevention or assistance program.