

NO-CONTACT ORDERS

The no-contact order is a condition of bond that the judge may place on the defendant in a criminal case. It means that the defendant is ordered not to contact the victim in any way while he or she is on bond. It is not a guarantee of safety, but does allow the police to arrest the defendant or the court to take action if it is violated. It is ordered for your protection and only the judge can change or remove it. Do not contact the defendant yourself. If you want to find out if the defendant in your case has a no-contact condition or you have questions about it, you may call:

59 th District Court (Grandville)	538-9660
(Walker)	453-5765
61 st District Court (Grand Rapids)	632-5643
62-A District Court (Wyoming)	530-7384
62-B District Court (Kentwood)	554-0711
63 rd District Court (East Grand Rapids/Cascade)	336-3570
Kent County Sheriffs Department-Detective	632-6100

NO-CONTACT VIOLATIONS

If the defendant tries to contact you in person CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY. Inform the police that you have a no-contact order from the court. If they are unable to arrest him/her, file a police report about the violation. You should also call the number listed above to report the violation. If the defendant contacts you by mail, the letter should be turned over to the detective in charge of your case, or in some cases, the court. If the defendant is making phone calls to you, you should document all calls by recording the message on your answering machine or caller I.D. You should also write down the times and any messages left.

REMOVAL OF THE NO-CONTACT

The no-contact provision of the bond order will remain in effect as long as the defendant is on bond (usually until sentence or dismissal of the case). The defendant is subject to arrest or court action unless the assigned judge has ordered the removal of the condition. No one else has the authority to make that decision. A no-contact condition may also be ordered as part of any probation sentence imposed. You should contact the numbers listed for specific assigned probation officer.

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

No person shall, on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, height, weight, marital status, physical or mental disability, or handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under, or denied employment in connection with the Domestic Assault Response Team.

**Any alleged violations should be reported to
(616) 632-5600**

RESOURCE NUMBERS

General Numbers:

Personal Protection Orders	632-5067
Victim-Witness Unit	632-5400
Domestic Crisis Center	451-2744
YWCA Counseling Center	459-4652
Safe Haven Ministries	452-6664

Grand Rapids:

Detective Unit	456-3380
Court Victim Services, 61 st District Court	632-5643
City Attorney	632-5720

East Grand Rapids:

Department of Public Safety	949-7010
City Attorney	459-1171
63 rd District Court	336-3570

Grandville:

Police Department	538-6110
City Attorney	336-6577
59 th District Court	538-9660

Kent County Sheriff's Department:

Family Services/Detective Unit	632-6125
Inmate Information	632-6300
63 rd District Court	632-7770

Kentwood Police Department:

Detective Unit	656-6600
Police Department	698-6580
Victim Assistant	554-0825
62-B District Court	554-0711

Lowell Police Department

897-7123

Cedar Springs Police Department

696-1311

Wyoming Police Department

530-7300

62-A District Court 530-7384

Walker Police Department

453-5441

59th District Court (Walker) 453-5765

Sparta Police Department

887-7331

Rockford Police Department

866-9557

Michigan State Police (Rockford Post)

866-4411

Jurisdiction: _____

DART Team: **632-5641**

DART Team members responding to the call:

_____ and _____

This program has been funded by the City of Grand Rapids and a grant from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Crime Victim Assistance, Award #: E20172241.

61ST DISTRICT COURT

D.A.R.T.

DOMESTIC ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM



**We have the power to
change our lives.**

61st District Court
180 Ottawa Ave., NW
Suite 5500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-632-5641

www.grcourt.org

The Domestic Assault Response Team (DART) is here to make sure that you understand your rights, to arrange for shelter or transport you to a safe place, and to give you more information about the police, the court system, and community resources. If you have questions at any time, please contact any of the agencies listed on the back of this brochure or the DART team. The DART team has written the name of your court/police agency on the back to assist you in finding the police agency that is handling your case. Information that you share can assist in determining the appropriate charge or in setting bond and may be relayed to the police, prosecutor, or judge so that your case can be handled in the safest and most effective way.

If the police have reason to believe a crime took place, they may make an arrest. Even if the police do not make an arrest, you may still be able to make a complaint against the suspect and you should contact the police department in your area for the proper procedure.

⇒ **YOU ARE NOT PRESSING CHARGES AGAINST YOUR ASSAILANT.** The city or state prosecuting agency will decide if charges will be filed. You cannot have the charges dismissed and must appear if subpoenaed.

⇒ **YOU HAVE RIGHTS WITHIN THE SYSTEM.** While you cannot decide what happens in the case, you do have rights under the Victim Rights Act and can have your opinion and information considered.

⇒ **PROSECUTION AND CONVICTION DO NOT ALWAYS MEAN FURTHER JAIL TIME FOR THE DEFENDANT.** Domestic assault is a crime and the assailant should be held responsible for his/her actions. Your protection and ending the violence are the goals of the prosecution. Depending on the circumstances of each case, the final decision or sentence will differ. Many offenders do not serve further jail time and are ordered into treatment. You will have a chance to let the judge know what you think should happen.

The assailant will be held until their charge is reviewed by a judge or magistrate and bond is set. If the defendant is released on bond, a no-contact condition may be imposed. This means that the defendant may not have any contact with you by phone, in person or by any other means. If the assailant is charged and remains in custody, he/she will be arraigned by video, usually by the afternoon of the next working day.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- ◆ Be reasonably protected from the defendant and receive an explanation of procedures if threatened or intimidated by the defendant.
 - ◆ Receive the phone number of the sheriff to determine whether the defendant is in custody.
 - ◆ Receive an explanation of procedures and terms used in the process.
 - ◆ Under some circumstances, to have your address and employment kept confidential.
 - ◆ Be provided a separate waiting area from the defendant and defense witnesses if practical.
 - ◆ Be free from employer threats of discharge if you are subpoenaed to court.
 - ◆ Restitution for certain expenses.
 - ◆ Be present during the trial unless sequestered by the court.
 - ◆ Receive information about Crime Victim Services Compensation.
 - ◆ If the defendant does not plead guilty or nolo contendere, to consult with the prosecutor prior to the trial and upon request, to receive notice of court proceedings, conviction, sentence date and sentence imposed, appeals filed and attempts to set aside conviction.
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- ◆ Make an oral or written impact statement prior to sentencing.
 - ◆ If you suffer personal injury as the direct result of a crime, you may be eligible for reimbursement under the Crime Victim Compensation Act. Some general requirements are:
 - ◆ Assistance may include compensation for medical expenses, lost wages, or counseling incurred as a direct result of the crime.
 - ◆ Losses cannot be covered by insurance or public assistance.
 - ◆ The crime must be reported within 48 hours and the victim must cooperate with law enforcement.
 - ◆ A claim must be filed within one year of the crime.
 - ◆ To recover out of pocket loss, a person must show a loss of at least \$200 in medical or expenses otherwise not reimbursable.
 - ◆ To recover loss of earning, a person must have lost at least two continuous weeks disability from criminal injury.
 - ◆ Claimant cannot be an accomplice or criminally charged from the same incident or have contributed to the infliction of the injury.

For more information regarding compensation contact:
Victim Witness Unit,
180 Ottawa NW, Suite 5400, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 632-5400 or
Crime Victim Services Commission,
P.O. Box 30026, Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-7373

The procedures to be followed in exercising your rights may be different, depending on the agency that is handling your case.

- ◆ If your case is charged as a felony or a state misdemeanor or the defendant is a juvenile, the Kent County Prosecutor's Office will handle your case. Information will be sent to you from the Victim Witness Unit about your rights and the person you should contact with questions.
- ◆ If your case is charged as a city misdemeanor, it will be handled by the city attorney in the community where the offense occurred.

Please make sure that you keep the agency informed of your current address and phone number.

A Personal Protection Order (PPO) can be issued for your protection if:

The plaintiff and defendant:

- ◆ Are husband and wife and an action for annulment, divorce, or support is/not pending.
- ◆ Were husband and wife.
- ◆ Reside or resided in the same household
- ◆ Have a child in common.
- ◆ Have or had an intimate dating relationship.
- ◆ Are involved in a gay or lesbian relationship.

A personal protection order includes protection against STALKING as defined under MCL 750.411h. PPO's are not used for civil matters such as custody and neighbor disputes. (For helping with a neighbor conflict, contact the Dispute Resolution Center, 774-0121)

To file for a protection order, you must be 18 years or older unless accompanied by legal guardian. You must have picture I.D. Fees for service of paperwork on the defendant are OPTIONAL and could be approximately \$25 or less.

Suite 3500, Kent County Courthouse
Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 4:45 PM
PPO Interviews: 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM