An **Order for Protection**ometime64.4(Q03C005200580003>7700470052005100B600570003>780047>90048\(\pmax\)00560048\(\pmax\)00560048\(\pmax\)0057005200520052005200520068\(\pmax\)0045\(\pmax\)90048\(\pmax\)0046400444004F004F\(\pmax\)0048\(\pmax\)00560048\(\pmax\)00570052000520052005200580003\(\pmax\)700470052005100B600570003\(\pmax\)70047\(\pmax\)0048\(\pmax\)00560048\(\pmax\)00560048\(\pmax\)00560048\(\pmax\)0057005200052005200520005\(\pmax\)0048\(\pmax\)0046\(\pmax\)0057\

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requested to appear in court.

- O Submit a victim impact statement to the court and to request restitution for out-of-pocket expenses because of the assault.
- O State your opinion, orally or in writing, about plea bargain agreements and sentencing
- O Be notified of the release of the abuser

In addition to protecting yourself through criminal court, you can also seek protection through family court, which issues Orders for Protection (see separate panel). to protect you from domestic violence. It may direct the person who has abused you to:

- o Stop threatening or abusing you.
- O Leave your household.
- O Stay away from where you live, go to school, work.
- O Pay support to you and your children if legally required.
- o Enter a counseling program.

An OFP may also award you temporary custody of your children and set up conditions for visitations.

Who is eligible?

You may file for an OFP if you were recently a victim of domestic abuse. Domestic abuse includes physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault. You are eligible for an OFP if you and the person who has abused you:

- o Are married or used to be married
- o Lived or used to live together
- o Have a child/pregnancy in common
- o Are related by blood

No one should have to face it alone

Domestic violence is a problem that you do not have to face alone. No matter how hard you try, you cannot change your partner's behavior. Only your partner can decide to change.

If your partner was arrested, it is not your fault. Your partner's actions caused the arrest. Furthermore, once the assault is charged, the decision to prosecute the abuser is up to the state of Minnesota.

Throughout this process, advocates from the Intervention Project can help you understand how the criminal justice system can or cannot work for you. The system may not always respond the way

PHONE NUMBERS