

Keeping Safe

- Keep a copy of your protection order with you at all times.
- Call the police immediately if the person breaches the protection order.
- If your circumstances change and your protection order becomes less effective, you may return to the court and apply for a variation to the order.
- It can be helpful if you have some form of evidence to give the police or court; a statement from a witness, medical report or photograph etc.
- Give a copy of your protection order to your children's school/day-care and to your employer.
- Teach your children how to ring '000'
- Practise how to get out of your home safely, identify which doors, windows would be best.
- Identify a neighbour you can tell about the violence and ask them to call the police if they think you are in danger.
- Devise a safety plan for arriving and leaving work/home. Use a variety of routes or have someone escort you to a bus or train.
- Decide who you are going to tell about your current situation; workplace security, employer, neighbour, family member, friend.
- Review your safety plan with your children so they will know what to do in an emergency.

Telephone Numbers

Domestic Violence Resource Service (Mackay & Region) Inc. (DVRS)

.....(07) 4957 3888

Monday to Friday 8.30am- 4.30pm

We offer information, counselling, confidentiality, support including court support and referral to women and children experiencing domestic violence.

DV CONNECT1800 811 811

They offer 24 hour free, confidential, Queensland wide, crisis counselling, emergency referral and information.

Police000

Mackay Police Station(07) 4968 3444

CENTRELINK13 10 21

Department of Housing

Mackay(07) 4967 0888

A bond loan and rental assistance is available through application. Public rental is also available.

Legal Aid Queensland1300 651 188

For legal information and assistance

Women's Legal Service1800 677 278

or

North Queensland Women's

Legal Service1800 244 504

Provides legal information, advice, referral and support for women

Kids Helpline1800 55 1800

Support and information for children



Domestic Violence Protection Order

Now that you have a
Protection Order



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
RESOURCE SERVICE**

(MACKAY & REGION) INC.

Email: admin@domesticviolenceservice.com.au

Domestic Violence Protection Order

The **Aggrieved** is the person the protection order is made to protect.

The **Respondent** is the person to whom the order is made against.

Q. What does it mean to have a protection order?

A. The purpose of a protection order is to prevent the respondent from doing anything that is seen as domestic violence.

Q. What is domestic violence?

A. Domestic Violence is defined under Queensland Law as:

- Wilful injury
- Wilful damage to property
- Intimidation or harassment
- Indecent behaviour without consent
- A threat to commit any of the above

If you are still unsure of how you are protected, contact your nearest police station or the Domestic Violence Resource Service (Mackay & Region) Inc. (07) 4957 3888

Q. What should I do if the respondent breaks the protection order?

A. This is called a breach. If the respondent does anything he/ she is prohibited from doing as stated in the protection order, this is called a breach of the order and you should advise the police. The police will not know if there has been a breach unless someone advises them.

Q. Do I need evidence of abuse?

A. It can be helpful if you have some form of evidence if the respondent breaches the order. Evidence such as a statement from a neighbour, a medical certificate, a photograph etc. could help prove that the respondent did breach the order. Keeping notes or a record of anything relating to a breach will greatly assist the police, e.g. times, dates and conversations are especially important.

Q. How many times under this act will a perpetrator be allowed to break conditions before a penalty occurs?

A. There is no minimum or maximum number. ALL incidents and breaches **MUST** be investigated.

Q. What happens if I wish to withdraw the protection Order?

A. In some cases your circumstances may change and the protection order or some of the conditions become inappropriate. If this is the case it is possible to get a variation on the order. We recommend you do not drop the order altogether. Any extra conditions (other than the 2 mandatory conditions) can be altered to suit your circumstances. This would be applicable, for example, if there was a 'no contact' clause and you wished to have counselling with a view to reconcile.

If you have an order with mandatory conditions only and a breach occurs and police take action, they can seek additional conditions such as 'no contact'. Alternatively you can apply for extra conditions yourself by applying to the Magistrates Court.

If it is a police application, the police will have some input as to whether the order can be altered or revoked.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICE STATION
OR
THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCE SERVICE
(Mackay & Region) Inc.
(07) 4957 3888
OR
DV CONNECT - 1800 811 811**