APPLYING FOR A PERSONAL SAFETY INTERVENTION ORDER



If you are in immediate danger, please call the police on triple zero (000)

The police have power to make an application for an intervention order for your protection. You can discuss how and whether they will do this at your local police station. You may also make an application for an intervention order on your own behalf (or on behalf of another adult with the leave of the court).

You can apply for a personal safety intervention order at the Magistrates' Court or Children's Court. An application is not an order. You can talk to a registrar about applying for an intervention order. If you fear for your children's safety, you can include them in your application. The court will not share information marked with an * with the respondent.

Here is some information that may help you fill-in the application form.

What is a Personal Safety Intervention Order?

A Personal Safety Intervention Order (PSIO) is a court order to protect a person, their children and their property from another person's behaviour.

Personal safety intervention orders may be known as restraining or apprehended violence orders in other states and territories.

If you need an intervention order, you are the **affected person**. If you are applying for an intervention order on behalf of an affected person, you are the **applicant**.

Applying for a Personal Safety Intervention Order

There are 2 ways you can make an application:

- By completing this form, signing a <u>Declaration of Truth</u> and coming to court to give evidence before a magistrate or judicial registrar about why you need an order; or
- By completing this form and swearing or affirming an <u>Affidavit</u> and having both documents witnessed by someone who is authorised to witness the document.

Once you have completed this form and either a Declaration of Truth or an Affidavit, you will need to give it to your local court. You can email the signed form to your local court or go there and give the form to a registrar.

Once you have submitted this form, you will need to meet with the registrar to talk about your application. You may then need to go before a magistrate or judicial registrar to proceed with your application.

If you swear or affirm an Affidavit, you must still come to court but you may not need to give evidence at the first hearing.

Party types

Affected person: The person(s) who is seeking protection for themselves or their property.

Applicant: The person who is seeking the intervention order. The applicant can be the affected person, a parent or guardian, a police officer, or other person with a legal authority, or written consent of the affected person.

Respondent: The person who has had an application for an intervention order made against them.

Children: By law, a child is aged 17 and under. Children can be named as an affected person when they have witnessed or have experienced violence against them.

Contacting the court

Contact your local court to make an appointment or speak to a court registrar about getting an intervention order.

www.mcv.vic.gov.au/going-court/find-court

www.childrenscourt.vic.gov.au/court-locations

EXAMPLES OF PROHIBITED BEHAVIOUR

Behaviour	Examples
Assault	 Hitting, punching, pushing, pulling, kicking, choking Sexual assault, including pressuring someone into sexual acts, rape
Property damage	 Breaking or damaging a person's property or belongings, including jointly owned property or belongings Threatening to damage, destroy or interfere with someone's property
Harassment	 Intimidating, bullying, frightening Making someone fear for their safety Taunting someone about their racial identity, sexuality or gender identity Sending abusive or insulting messages via phone, email or social media Sexual harassment – unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature
Threats	 To harm people (including themselves), property, or pets To disclose someone's sexuality or gender identity To post or send images held on a phone or device
Stalking	 A person may be stalking you if they intend to cause you physical or mental harm by: following or watching you going to your home, work or any other place you regularly visit contacting you in any way, including by post, telephone, text message or email putting information online about you or pretending to be you online tracing your use of the internet, email or other electronic communications

Hearing types

Application: An application is not an order. It describes what is alleged to have occurred and why the order is needed to protect the affected person/s. You can also ask the court to make an order for your protection straight away.

When you make an application, you will need to come to court and tell the court why you need an order for your protection. You will need to give this evidence in court unless the police are making the application.

Interim intervention order: An interim order is a temporary order made by a magistrate/judicial registrar until the court can hear more evidence about your application and decide about the need for a final order.

The order is only effective when it is served on the respondent.

Final order: A final order is a longer-term order made if a magistrate finds a person is in need of further protection. A final order can be made at any court hearing, as long as the application has been served on the respondent.

Mention hearing: A court hearing when the magistrate will ask you or your lawyer about your case. The magistrate will also speak with the respondent, the respondent's lawyer, or the police (if they are involved). If your case is not finished (eg if there is no agreement for an order, and you want to continue with your application for an order), the magistrate may set a date for another hearing.

Direction hearing: A hearing may be held to work out if there is any agreement to a final order being made and if not, who should give evidence before the court to assist the court to decide whether an order is necessary for future protection.

Contested hearing: Where magistrate hears all the evidence and will make a decision about the need for a final order for future protection from the respondent.

Please remove Pages 1 and 2, and keep for your own information

making you fear for the safety of another

person.

Section A - Applicant

If you are seeking protection for yourself and not for any other person you must complete Section A. You do not need to complete Section B or Section C.

If you are making an application for protection on behalf of your child/ren or another person/s, but not for protection of yourself, you must complete Section A **and** Section B.

If you are applying for protection for yourself **and** your child/ren you must complete Section A, Section B and Section C .

If you are a **child** between **14 and 18 years old**, you may need the court's permission to apply for an intervention order. A court registrar will contact you to discuss your application. Children under 14 years old cannot apply for an intervention order through the Magistrates' or Childrens Court.

intervention order through the magistrates of Childrens Court.			
Family name	Given name		
Date of Birth	Gender		
	☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Self-described:		
Address details			
	(Please specify)		
Do you want to keep your address p	rivate?		
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure	Your address does not have to appear on court documents. Tick 'Yes' to keep your address private or select 'Not sure' to talk to a registrar.		
Does the respondent know this addr	ress?		
Yes No Not sure			
What are the best and safest ways to	o contact you?		
Telephone: Email:			
How do you know the respondent?	How long have you known the respondent?		
Are you Aboriginal and/or Torres Str	rait Islander?		
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander			
☐ Prefer not to answer			
Do you have a disability or need add	litional support at court? If so, please tell us what support you need.		
Yes No Prefer not to an	swer		
Do you need an interpreter in court?	(Please specify)		

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(Please specify)

Language:

No Not sure

Section B – Affected person

You must complete this section if you are applying on behalf of your child or another person. If you are applying on your own behalf and not for any other person you do not need to complete this section – go to Section C.

ramily name			Given name	
Date of Birth	Gender			
	☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Self-described:			
Address details				
			(Please s _l	pecify)
Do you want to keep the affected person	n's address	private	e?	
Yes No Not sure	documents. will not appear	Tick 'Ye ar on c	n's address does not have to appear on court les' to keep the affected person's address private court documents. Select 'Not sure' to talk to a reg Affected person's address private.	
Does the respondent know this addres	s?			
Yes No Not sure				
What are the best and safest ways to c	ontact the aff	fected	person?	
Telephone:		En	mail:	
Your relationship with the affected personal	son is:			
☐ An adult (18 and over) with the writte	en consent of t	the affe	ected person	
A parent of a child who is applying for an order for that child				
A person with the written consent of a parent of the child				
A person who seeks to make an application for another person with permission of the court (leave of the court)				
☐ The guardian of an affected person				
Other – Describe how do you know the affected person.				
You may need the court's permission (le you are seeking to apply on behalf o you are between 14 and 18 years of	f a child and y	•	• • •	
Does the affected person consent to yo	ou seeking ar	n order	r on their behalf?	
Yes No Not applicable				
			(Please s _i	pecify)

If the affected person has a guardian, does the guardian consent to the making of the final order?			
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable			
	(Please specify)		
Please attach documentary evidence showing you are the guardian of the affected person (e.g. power of attofrom the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.	orney or an order		
How does the affected person know the respondent?			
How long has the affected person known the respondent			
Does the affected person identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?			
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Both Aboriginal and Torres Stra	it Islander		
Prefer not to answer			
Does the affected person have a disability or need additional support at court if attending? If so, please tell us what support is needed.			
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to answer			
	(Please specify)		
Does the affected person need an interpreter in court?			
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure Language:	(Please specify)		

Section C - Children's details Do you have any children in your care or any children living in the house with you? No − go to the next page Yes – I want to include them on the intervention order (complete child details below) Yes – I do not want to include them on the intervention order (go to next page) Address of child, Include on Child's name Date of birth Gender if different to applicant intervention order? ☐ Male Yes No ☐ Female ☐ Self-described: ☐ Male Yes No ☐ Female ☐ Self-described: ☐ Male ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Female ☐ Self-described: ☐ Male ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Female ☐ Self-described: ☐ Male ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Female ☐ Self-described: Are any of the children Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

Are any of the children Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

Yes No Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Prefer not to answer

(Please specify)

Section D - Respondent			
Name of person the affected person/s want protection from			
Date of birth (or approximate age)	Gender		
	☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Self-described:	(Please specify)	
Current home address This address will be used to serve the response	ondent with court documents. Please advise court staff of important de	etails for service.	
Work address			
What is the best way to contact the r	respondent?		
Telephone:	Email:		
Does the respondent need an interp	reter at court?		
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure	Language:		
Is the respondent Aboriginal and/or	Torres Strait Islander?		
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander			
☐ Not sure			
Do you know if the respondent has a gun, access to guns, a firearms licence, or any weapons?			
Yes No Not sure		(Please specify)	
If the respondent has a gun or access to a gun or weapon, where are they located?			
Do you know if the respondent has any disabilities or needs additional support at court?			
Yes – please specify No	Not sure		
		(Please specify)	

Section E - History of stalking, prohibited behaviour, physical or mental harm

To apply for an intervention order, you need to describe what has happened to you. We understand this may be difficult. Please answer the questions below as well as you can.

It is important you include approximate dates and times with the allegations if you can. Providing a near to, or "on or about" time or date is okay if you can't remember the exact day and times.

You can talk to a registrar before you make your application. They can help you with this part. It is important you try to explain the incidents as best you can. You can also bring to court any copies or screenshots of social media, text messages or emails that support your application.

Has the respondent behaved in a manner that:	
 ☐ Has made you or the affected person fear for their safety or the safety of others? This can include threatening harm to people, including themselves, pets or property. ☐ Is intimidating, threatening or bullying? This can include sending abusive or insulting messages by phone, email or social media. 	 ☐ Is physically or sexually abusive? This can include physical assault or sexual assault, rape or pressuring you to do sexual acts. ☐ Is emotionally or psychologically abusive? This can include repeated name calling or taunts about racial, sexual or gender identity, threats to disclose personal information or threatening to send images held on a phone or device.
Has the respondent:	
Assaulted or threatened to assault you or another person?	Damaged someone's property or threatened to do so?
 ☐ Caused someone physical or mental harm by following them in-person or online, watching them or going to their home, workplace or place they regularly visit? ☐ Put information online about someone or pretended to be someone? 	 Caused, or threatened to cause the death of, or injury to, an animal to control, dominate or coerce someone? Caused a child to be exposed to any of these behaviours?
Describe the incidents in detail. What happened? Whe affected person?	en did this happen? How did it affect you or the

You can add more details about what has happened on additional paper if you need to.

History of stalking, prohibited behaviour, physical or mental harm (cont.)

Have there been other incidents by the respondent in the past?			
☐ Yes ☐ No	You may want to keep a list of incidents to support your application for a final intervention order. You may also have copies of emails, text messages or other material you want to show to the court.		
What happened? When and where did	d it occur? (please start with the most recent incident)		
You can add more details about what has happened on additional paper if you need to and attach any copies of emails or text messages or other material you wish to show the court.			
Do you think the respondent will cont	tinue to behave this way?		
Yes No Not sure			
If Yes or Not sure, please explain why			
If you are including children on your	application, have they been subject to the same or similar behaviour?		
Yes, please provide further information	ation L. No		
	(Please specify)		
İ	(i lease specify)		

Section F - Mediation

Mediation can help you resolve non-violent personal disputes without coming to court.

The Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria (DSCV) provides a free mediation service. Unlike formal court, DSCV proceedings gives you more control of the outcome and allows you to develop practical and workable solutions. The court can direct you to attend mediation if it is appropriate in your circumstances.

For further information about mediation visit www.disputes.vic.gov.au

Would you be interested in speaking to someone about me	ediation?		
Yes No Unsure	(Please spe	cify)	
Have you attempted to resolve your dispute with the response	ondent through mediation?		
☐ Yes ☐ No			
If an intervention order is made, would you still like to be a	able to participate in mediation?		
Yes No Unsure	(Please sp	ecify)	
Section G - Police			
Did the police attend after any incidents or have they been	reported to the police?		
☐ Yes ☐ No – proceed to the next page			
If yes, give name of person who reported it to the police ar	nd the date it was reported		
Do you know the name of the police officer who attended the incident or who it was reported to, and which police station they work at?			
☐ Yes ☐ No			
Name/Rank of officer	Police Station		
Has the respondent been charged with a criminal offence i	in relation to this incident?		
Yes No Unsure			
If yes, what has the respondent been charged with?			
(Please specify or describe charges if you know them)			
Have police taken other action?			
(Please specify or describe action taken by police that you know about)			

Section H - Related Intervention Orders

You can ask the registrar to look up the details of previous applications/orders that have been made to protect you or have been made against you. If there is a Personal Safety or Family Violence Intervention Order protecting you or the Affected Person which is *relevant* to this proceeding, please tell the court about it and bring a copy of it to court.

Is this the first time the affected person has applied for an intervention order against the respondent in Victoria or any other state or territory?		
Yes No – provide details of previous application/order		
Court location	Date	
Court Reference Number	Was an intervention order made?	
	Yes No Not sure	
Has the respondent applied for an intervention order against the or territory?	e affected person in Victoria or any other state	
☐ No ☐ Yes – provide details ☐ Not sure		
Court location	Date	
Court Reference Number	Was an intervention order made?	
	Yes No Not sure	

Section I - Types of protection on a Personal Safety Intervention Order

The court can make an interim order to protect you or the affected person and your property until it makes a decision about your application for a final order.

You may choose as many conditions as necessary to protect the safety of you or the affected person. The magistrate or judicial registrar will then decide which of these conditions should be included on the intervention order.

If there is something you do not want the respondent to do which is not covered in the list below, you should discuss this with the court registrar, and note it in the box provided.

I want the respondent to be prevented from:			
	Stalking you or the affected person(s)		
	Committing prohibited behaviour toward you/ the affected person(s)		
	Attempting to locate, follow you / the affected person(s) or keep them under surveillance		
	Publishing on the internet, by email or other electronic communication any material about the you/ the affected person(s)		
	Contacting or communicating with the you/ the affected person(s) by any means		
	Approaching or remaining within metres of a you/ the affected person(s)		
	Going to or remaining within metres of or any place where you/ the affected person(s)lives, works or attends school or childcare		
	Getting another person to do anything the respondent must not do under this order		
Othe	r conditions on the order that you would like the court to make		
Section J - Weapons			
Does the respondent have any firearms or a firearms authority?			
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure			
Does the respondent have a weapons approval or exemption?			
	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure		

DECLARATION OF TRUTH

You may complete the declaration of truth for the court to process your application or you may make an application on oath or affirmation by affidavit. This is a requirement under s.13(1)(c) of the *Personal Safety Intervention Orders Act 2010*

Did anyone help you fill out this form?			
☐ Yes – please specify who helped you below ☐ No			
Name C	Organisation		
Declaration			
I			
Born on/make this declaration of truth and say that the contents of my application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.			
I understand that it is an offence to knowingly make a false statement in a declaration of truth punishable by 600			
penalty units or 5 years imprisonment or both under section 13(4)(c) of the <i>Personal Safety Intervention Order Act</i>			
2010.			
Signed			
Name	Date		

Further Information – please read.

If you sign the declaration of truth you must come to court after you have made your application to give evidence in support of your application. You can appear in person at court or online to give evidence.

or

If you swear or affirm an affidavit you must still come to court in person or appear online as the magistrate/judicial registrar conducting the hearing may ask you to give further evidence in support of your application.