

### Need more information?

- Go to: [www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)
- Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline (24 hours):

**1-800-799-7233**

**TDD: 1-800-787-3224**

It's free and private.

They can help you in more than 100 languages.

### For help in your area, contact:

#### Produced by:

Judicial Council of California  
 Administrative Office of the Courts  
 Center for Families, Children & the Courts  
 455 Golden Gate Avenue  
 San Francisco, CA 94102-3660

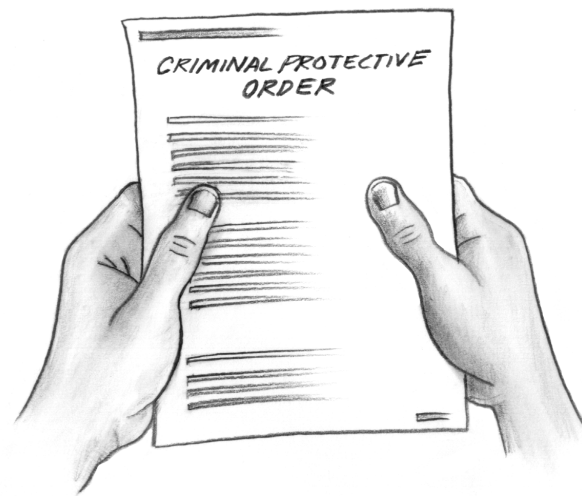
[www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc)

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Criminal-Defendant  
 English  
 Use with CR-160. 01-04 Rev. 01/01/03

## Criminal Protective Order

# A Criminal Protective Order was issued against me.



### What is a "Criminal Protective Order"?

It is a court order issued in a criminal case.

### What does the order do?

It orders you to:

- not contact or go near the protected person *and*
- not have a gun

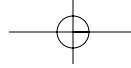
### What if I violate the order?

The police can arrest you. You can go to jail.

### How long does it last?

Look at the bottom of form CR-160, #7. This is the date the order ends.

 This is a detailed legal form titled "PROTECTIVE ORDER IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDING (CLETS)". It includes fields for court information, defendant details, and specific conditions of the order. A prominent heading states "THIS ORDER TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER ANY CONFLICTING COURT ORDER". The form contains numbered sections (1-7) detailing the hearing process, restrictions on the defendant, and the protected person's obligations. An arrow from the text "Look at the bottom of form CR-160, #7. This is the date the order ends." points to section 7, "This order expires on (specify date):".



**Can the protected person and I agree to cancel the order?**

No. Only the judge can change or cancel the order.

**What if the protected person contacts me?**

No matter what, you have to follow the court order. The order does not affect what the protected person can do. It only affects what you can do.

**Is the order valid outside of California?**

Yes. The order is valid all over the United States, including U.S. territories and Indian lands.

**Warning:**  
**If you also have a family law case, see a lawyer. Anything you say in that case can be used against you in the criminal case. Tell the family law judge that you also have a criminal case.**

**What about my children?**

The Criminal Protective Order is not for custody, visitation, or child support. You can ask for these things in family court.

**Will the police arrest me?**

If the police think you have committed a crime, they can arrest you. If they think you have violated a protective order, they must arrest you.

**What happens if I am arrested?**

You will be “arraigned.” You will stand in front of a judge. The judge will tell you what the charges are. If you are in jail, this happens within 48–72 hours. If you are not in jail, it can take several weeks.

**Do I need a lawyer?**

Yes. If you do not have enough money to hire a lawyer, the court will give you one at the arraignment.

**What if I don't have a green card?**

The order is valid whether you have a green card or not. If you are worried about being deported, talk to an immigration lawyer.

**What if the protected person wants to drop the charges?**

The City Attorney or District Attorney (D.A.)—not the protected person—decides if criminal charges will be filed against you. They will decide based on the facts in the police report.

