

State Laws on Civil Protection Orders for Victims of Human Trafficking

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Introduction

This publication, and the related state-by-state table,¹ and state comparison chart² is designed to assist judges, court personnel, family lawyers, victim advocates, and other professionals who work with adult and child survivors of human trafficking (sex and/or labor) to better understand and assist human trafficking victims in accessing the full range of civil protection order options open to victims of human trafficking victims in each state.

Under the federal law human trafficking is a crime involving the exploitation of a person for labor, services, or commercial sex.³ States have passed laws making human trafficking of children and adults for sex or labor crimes under state law. Most state criminal laws are similar to the federal laws defining human trafficking. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act defines human trafficking as:

- Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age;⁴ and
- Forced labor is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.⁵

In addition to making human trafficking a crime, many state laws provide a range of criminal protections and civil remedies for victims of human trafficking. Criminal protections include immunity, diversion, vacation and expungement of criminal records, and affirmative defenses.⁶ State laws also provide avenues for financial recovery that help survivors recover financially from their traffickers. Financial remedies include: restitution, forfeiture, and standing to bring civil actions against perpetrators to recover actual damages, compensatory damages, punitive damages, injunctive relief, attorney costs and fees, treble damages from human traffickers.⁷

¹ Access to Civil Protection Orders for Victims of Human Trafficking: State-By-State CPO Tables (December 31, 2024)

<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-protection-orders-table/>

² Types of Civil Protection Orders Available By State Chart (December 31, 2024) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-cpo-state-chart/>

³ <https://www.justice.gov/humantrafficking>

⁴ 22 U.S.C. § 7102(11)(A)

⁵ 22 U.S.C. § 7102(11)(B)

⁶ National Conference of State Legislatures, Human Trafficking Laws, Judicial Protections, Criminal Protections <https://www.ncsl.org/civil-and-criminal-justice/human-trafficking-state-laws> (Last visited December 31, 2024)

⁷ National Conference of State Legislatures, Human Trafficking Laws, Judicial Protections, Financial Recovery <https://www.ncsl.org/civil-and-criminal-justice/human-trafficking-state-laws> (Last visited December 31, 2024)

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Expanding access to state civil protection orders will provide human trafficking victims access to other remedies against traffickers that can be quicker to access and more expansive and able to address human trafficking survivor's needs that the trafficking specific criminal, financial, and immigration remedies do not fully address. State civil protection (CPO) order statutes were designed to provide a victim-centered justice system remedy to domestic violence that was victim-initiated and victim-controlled that did not require criminal justice system involvement⁸ Since in the 1970's all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, all U.S. territories and many tribes have enacted civil protection order laws which have become the predominant legal remedy used by domestic violence victims seeking justice system protection for themselves and their children.⁹

Over the years states have enacted laws adding new types of civil protection orders that offer specialized civil court protection to victims of other types of abuse and crimes. These state CPO statutes offer protection for victims of sexual assault, stalking, harassment, human trafficking, dating violence, elder abuse, child abuse, workplace violence and extreme risk/gun violence.¹⁰ The goal of this article and the related tables and charts is to help judges, victim advocates, attorneys, and other professionals working with victims of human trafficking to better identify the full range of civil protection order options available in each state and under what circumstances survivors of human trafficking qualify for protections under state CPO law.

What has been learned from over 50 years of experience working with civil protection orders (CPOs) for victims of domestic and family violence, is that CPOs provide another important justice system option that is independent from and/or in addition to any criminal justice, immigration, or other civil court relief that may also be available. Civil protection orders have important characteristics that can enhance their effectiveness for victims. These include:

- The opportunity to obtain creative protection order remedies that curb the perpetrator's particular behaviors and address the victim's unique needs;
- The role that issuance of the CPO plays in helping shift the balance of power between the victim and the perpetrator;
 - Since violation of a protection order is a crime should the victim need to call the police for help in the future, responding officers are able to arrest the perpetrator for violation of the protection order in addition to the crime that led the victim to call for help; and
- Victims control how and when they enforce the CPO
 - They can choose civil contempt or criminal enforcement

⁸ Chapter 05.1: Battered Immigrants and Civil Protection Orders at <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/ch5-1-imm-civil-protection-orders/>

⁹ NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES, CIVIL PROTECTION ORDERS: A GUIDE FOR IMPROVING PRACTICE (2010) at <https://www.justice.gov/file/834291-0/dl?inline=>; Sally F. Goldfarb, RE-CONCEIVING CIVIL PROTECTION ORDERS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: CAN LAW HELP END THE ABUSE WITHOUT ENDING THE RELATIONSHIP, 29 CARDOZO L. REV. 1487, 1503-04 (2008).

¹⁰ See, WomensLaw.org, Know the Laws – By State <https://www.womenslaw.org/laws/general> (Provides access to information about many types of protection orders available in each state)

Civil protection order laws are most effective when they include creative remedies¹¹ in addition to statutorily listed relief.¹² Creative remedies are designed to interrupt that the perpetrator's ability to continue to abuse, threaten, intimidate, harass, and commit future crimes against the victim. CPOs at the same time offer the victim the particular help they need to prevent future harm, remedy past victimization, sever economic dependence the perpetrator, heal, and rebuild the lives of the victim and their children.¹³

Human trafficking victims will be better able to benefit from CPO protections when advocates, attorneys, and judges are better able to identify the full range of protection order remedies available in each state. Generally, victims of sex or labor trafficking are also experiencing co-occurring forms of crime and abuse that would make human trafficking victims eligible for under state CPO statutes. When traffickers are also perpetrators of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, child abuse, elder abuse, harassment, and/or workplace violence, victims can obtain CPOs against their human traffickers.

This document provides an overview of each of the types of state protection order statutes designed to curb future abuse and crime victimization. Generally, state civil protection orders are enforceable within the state they are issued. Additionally, under the Violence Against Women Act state protection orders are provided full faith and credit and enforced in all states and U.S. jurisdictions.¹⁴

Judges, attorneys, victim advocates and other professionals should use this list together with the other two documents that make up this set of tools to identify when adult and child victims of human trafficking in the states qualify for which types of available protection order remedies. It is important to note that labor and sex trafficking victims will likely have different state protection order options depending on whether a state has a trafficking specific protection order and what co-occurring crimes the trafficker perpetrated. We describe the other two tools in this set below:

- Types of Civil Protection Orders Available By State Chart (December 31, 2024)¹⁵
 - This chart provides a review and a quick comparison of which types of protection orders are available in each state that offer protection for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, labor trafficking, sex trafficking, dating violence, elder abuse, child abuse, harassment, workplace violence and also covers extreme risk/gun violence protection orders.
- Access to Civil Protection Orders for Victims of Human Trafficking: State-By-State Tables (December 31, 2024)¹⁶

¹¹ Immigrants and Protection Orders Bench Card (March 30, 2019) at 3-6 <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/protection-orders-bench-card/>; Chapter 05.1: Battered Immigrants and Civil Protection Orders at 16-24 <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/ch5-1-imm-civil-protection-orders/>.

¹² Chapter 05.1: Battered Immigrants and Civil Protection Orders at 2, 8-15 <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/ch5-1-imm-civil-protection-orders/>.

¹³ See, Civil Protection Order Webinars For Judges, Court Staff, Attorneys and Victim Advocates – National Judicial Network (December 3, 2024) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/cpo-webinars-and-materials/>

¹⁴ NCJFCJ, Full Faith and Credit: A Passport to Safety, A Judge's Guide (2013) <https://ncjfcj.org/bench-cards/full-faith-and-credit-a-passport-to-safety-a-judges-guide>

¹⁵ <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-cpo-state-chart/>

¹⁶ <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-protection-orders-table/>

- Provides a detailed chart that tracks every type of civil protection order available in each state including which forms of abuse or crime victimization are covered and who is eligible to apply for each form of civil protection order.

Civil Protection Orders

All states and US territories have laws for granting civil protection orders for victims of domestic violence. Many states also offer civil protection orders that help victims of a number of other forms of abuse or crime victimization. The various state statutes usually have two types of eligibility considerations in their civil protection order statutes. First is the type of crime and second is whether a particular relationship is required between the victim and the perpetrator of the crime.

- Relationship requirement:
 - Protection orders with a relationship requirements are most frequently Domestic Violence Protection Orders that are typically designed to offer a justice system remedy for victims of spouse abuse, child abuse, intimate partner violence, cohabitants, and other family members.
 - Other protection orders that commonly have a relationship requirement or option include extreme risk protection orders and child abuse protection orders.
- Particular Types of Abuse or Crime:
 - Civil Protection orders that do not have a relationship requirement and are based only on the type of abuse or crime committed are typically those for stalking, harassment, sexual violence, elder abuse, extreme risk protection, workplace violence restriction and human trafficking.

Protection Orders Based on Types Of Abuse or Crime

The following is a list of each type of civil protection order offered by each state. The types of CPOs are listed from the greatest to smallest number of states that offer CPOs for that specific type of victimization. For each type of CPO offered, a list of each of the following is provided:

- All states that provide CPOs for that specific type of victimization; and
- A bulleted list of states where that form of victimization is included in other state protection order statutes.

Domestic Violence

All states and U.S. jurisdiction (56) have domestic violence protection order laws that allow victims of domestic violence, family violence, and often child abuse to obtain a civil protection order against their abuser. Most states will require that in order to qualify for this civil protection order there be an established relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. An established relationship is generally defined to include:

- Current or former spouse;
- Current or former cohabitants;
- A sexual relationship;
- Familial ties (blood or marriage);

- A dating relationship; or
- Persons who share a child in common.

The definition of domestic violence or domestic abuse varies in each state but is mostly defined to include an attempt or threat of physical harm or placing a person in fear of physical harm or involuntary engagement of sexual activity.

- CPOs for Adult Domestic Violence Victims: All jurisdictions.
- CPOs for Child Victims: Most state domestic or family violence protection orders allow any person who has suffered domestic or family violence and has the requisite relationship to obtain a civil protection order without regard to the age of the victim.
 - However the following eight (8) states limit domestic violence protection order access for children. Some of these states allow children access to CPOs only when the perpetrator is the child's intimate partner (e.g. dating violence, spouse abuse). These states limit the ability of children who are victims of child abuse or other crimes to obtain CPOs against parent or other adult perpetrators. The states that completely deny children or limit children's access to domestic violence protection orders are:
 - Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah and Wyoming.

Sexual Assault

Thirty nine (39) states offer survivors of sexual assault access to specialized sexual assault protection orders and sixteen (16) states have protection orders for sexual assault as part of domestic violence, three (3) states have protection orders for sexual assault as part of harassment and one (1) state has protection order for sexual assault as part of human trafficking. Of these, forty two (42) states sexual assault protection orders do not require that there be a relationship between the victim and perpetrator and nineteen (19) states require some form of specific relationship.

Sexual offenses generally include, sexual assault, sexual violence, sexual abuse, and generally includes unlawful sexual contact without consent. However, some states require penetration to qualify. The definitions of the sexual offenses covered vary in each state and are listed in the accompanying Table.¹⁷

Sexual Assault Protection Orders Available: The following thirty-nine (39) states have laws that allow victims of sexual offenses to get a civil order of protection against the perpetrator without any relationship requirement:

- Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming

¹⁷ <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-protection-orders-table/>

Sexual Assault in Domestic Violence Protection Orders: States where sexual offenses are covered in the *domestic violence protection order* statute and for these protection orders state statutes impose a relationship requirement:

- Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Northern Mariana Islands, South Carolina, U.S. Virgin Islands and Wisconsin

Sexual Assault in Harassment Protection Orders: States where sexual offenses are covered in a *harassment protection order* are:

- California, Massachusetts and Wisconsin

Sexual Assault in Human Trafficking Protection Orders States where sexual offenses are covered in a *human trafficking protection order* are:

- Arizona

Are There Relationship Requirements in Sexual Assault Civil Protection Orders?

The following forty-two (42) states have no relationship requirement in the state statutes for civil protection orders for victims of sexual assault:

- Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Wyoming.
- The following nineteen (19) states have a relationship requirement to grant protection orders for sexual assault: Alabama, Arizona, Alaska, California, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Northern Mariana Islands, South Carolina, Virginia, Wisconsin.
- The following seven (7) states overlap in both requiring and not requiring a relationship to get a protection order: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Michigan, South Carolina and Wisconsin. These states have a relationship requirement only if the sexual assault civil protection order is part of domestic violence, in all other cases there is no relationship requirement.

Stalking

Stalking is a pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.¹⁸ The definition of stalking varies by state with details listed in the accompanying Table.¹⁹ Specialized stalking CPOs have been enacted in thirty-nine (39) states. An additional nine (9) states have protection

¹⁸ SPARC, What is Stalking? Definition and FAWs <https://www.stalkingawareness.org/definition-faqs/>

¹⁹ <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-protection-orders-table/>

orders for stalking as part of domestic violence, one (1) state has protection order for stalking as part of workplace violence, six (6) states have protection order for stalking as part of harassment and one (1) state has protection order for stalking as part of sexual assault. Further, forty-four (44) state stalking protection order statutes impose no relationship requirement. Only nine (9) states impose any relationship requirement in their stalking protection order statutes.

Stalking Protection Orders Available: The following thirty-nine (39) states that grant stand alone civil protection orders for victims of stalking, The statutes in the following states issue protection orders to stalking victims whether or not the victim has suffered another type of abuse or offense for which another state protection order is available. In addition each of these jurisdictions issues protection orders to stalking victims with no relationship requirement.

- Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Colombia, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, , Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, U.S Virgin Islands, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Stalking in Domestic Violence Protection Orders: States that make civil protection orders for victims of stalking only available within a *domestic violence* type protection order are:

- Alabama, Arizona, California, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Northern Mariana Islands, and Wisconsin.

Stalking in Workplace Violence Protection Orders: The state that makes civil protection orders for victims of stalking only available within a *workplace violence type protection order* is:

- Arkansas.

Stalking in Harassment Protection Orders: States that make civil protection orders for victims of stalking only available within a *harassment type protection order* are:

- California, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, and Wisconsin.

Stalking in Sexual Assault Orders: The state that makes civil protection orders for victims of stalking only available within a *sexual offenses type protection order* is:

- Pennsylvania.

Are There Relationship Requirements in Stalking Civil Protection Orders?

The following forty four (44) states have no relationship requirement to grant protection orders for stalking:

- Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Washington DC, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland (if part of peace order), Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, US Virgin Islands, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

The following nine (9) states have a relationship requirement to grant protection orders for stalking:

- Alabama, Arizona, California, Maryland (if part of domestic violence), Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, and Northern Mariana Islands.

Human Trafficking

A total of seven (7) states and U.S. jurisdictions have specialized civil protection orders available for victims of human trafficking. Two (2) states make these CPOs available to only to sex trafficking victims, other states provide CPOs for both labor and sex trafficking victims. There are a number of states who explicitly cover human trafficking victims in other CPO statutes that the states offer for victims.

Human Trafficking Protection Orders Available (Sex or Labor Trafficking): The following six (6) states have laws that allow for civil protection orders for victims of human trafficking.

District of Columbia, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, South Carolina (requires conviction of trafficker), Tennessee, Texas

Human Trafficking Protection Orders Available (Sex Trafficking Only): The following two (2) states have laws that allow for civil protection orders for victims of sex trafficking.

- Maine and Oklahoma

Human Trafficking (Sex/Labor) in Domestic Violence Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) victims can get protection orders against their human traffickers if the victim and the perpetrator have the relationship required under the *domestic violence protection order* statute (*Starred states also have specialized human trafficking (sex/labor) protection orders as an option):

- Labor or sex trafficking in domestic violence protection orders: Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, *District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, *Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, **Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, *Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, *North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, **Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, *Tennessee, *Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming
- Sex trafficking in domestic violence protection orders:

Human Trafficking (Sex) in Domestic Violence Protection Orders:

States where human trafficking (sex) victims can get protection orders against their human traffickers if the victim and the perpetrator have the relationship required under the *domestic violence protection order* statute:

- Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South

Carolina, South Dakota, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming

Human Trafficking in Stalking Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *stalking protection order* are:

Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Human Trafficking in Sexual Assault Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *sexual assault protection order* are:

- Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, , Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming.
 - States with Sex Trafficking Protection Orders: Two (2) states create specific sex trafficking protection orders within the states *sexual assault protection order* statute:
 - Oklahoma, Utah

Human Trafficking in Harassment Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *harassment protection order* are:

- Arizona, California, Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, South Carolina, South Carolina, Washington, Wisconsin,

Human Trafficking in Workplace Violence Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *workplace violence protection order* are:

- Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Nevada, Rhode Island, Utah,

Human Trafficking in Elder Abuse Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *elder abuse protection order* are:

- California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Human Trafficking in Extreme Risk Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *extreme risk protection order* are:

- California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington,

Human Trafficking in Child Abuse Protection Orders: States where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *child abuse protection order* are:

- Alabama, Nevada, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Utah and Wisconsin

Human Trafficking in Dating Violence Protection Orders: State where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *dating violence protection order* is:

- Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Utah,

Human Trafficking in Disorderly Conduct Protection Orders: State where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *disorderly conduct protection order* is:

- North Dakota

Human Trafficking in Bodily Injury Protection Orders: State where human trafficking (sex/labor) is covered in *bodily injury protection order* is:

- Virginia, and West Virginia

Harassment

Nineteen (19) states have specialized CPOs to deter harassment. Most states define harassment to include a pattern of conduct that annoys or causes distress. Typically, the harassment protection orders do not have a relationship requirement.²⁰ In addition, fifteen (15) states cover harassment under the state's domestic violence protection order statutes, eight (8) states cover harassment in stalking statutes, five (5) states cover harassment in the sexual assault statute, and two (2) states cover harassment in their workplace violence protection order statute. Further, twenty-seven (27) states do not impose a relationship requirement and fifteen (15) states have a relationship requirement.

Harassment Protection Orders Available: The following nineteen (19) states have laws that allow victims of harassment to get a civil order of protection against the perpetrator:

- Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin

Harassment in Domestic Violence Protection Orders: States where harassment is covered in a *domestic violence protection order* are:

- Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, U.S Virgin Islands, Utah, and West Virginia

Harassment in Stalking Protection Orders: States with harassment covered in a *stalking protection order* is:

- Colorado, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, and Wyoming

Harassment in Sexual Assault Protection Orders: States with harassment covered in *sexual assault protection order* are:

- Colorado, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico and Wyoming

Harassment in Workplace Violence Protection Orders: States with harassment covered in *workplace violence protection order* are:

- Arkansas, Utah

²⁰ See the accompanying table <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-protection-orders-table/>

Are There Relationship Requirements in Harassment Civil Protection Orders?

- The following twenty-seven (27) states have no relationship requirement to grant protection orders for harassment: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Hawaii, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.
- The following fifteen (15) states have a relationship requirement to grant protection orders for harassment: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, U.S Virgin Islands, Utah, and West Virginia

Extreme Risk/Gun Violence

Extreme Risk Protection Orders available in eighteen (18) states and U.S. jurisdictions are usually filed against those at risk of causing bodily injury to self or to others by a firearm. In most states these protection orders can only be filed by a family or household member or by a law enforcement officer. In a few states a medical or mental health professional or a college or school official are statutorily authorized to request these protection orders.

Extreme Risk/Gun Violence Protection Orders Available: The following eighteen (18) states have laws that allow filing for a civil protection order to restrict a respondent's access to guns also commonly known as Extreme Risk Protection Orders:

- California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and District of Columbia.

Elder Abuse

Civil protection orders designed to provide protection against elder abuse are available in thirteen (13) states. Eligible victims in most states must be 60 or 65 year or older. The definition of elder abuse varies from state to state.²¹ Generally, elder abuse includes physical abuse, neglect or financial abuse of a person over the age set in the statute. In most states there is no relationship requirement, and the CPO can be filed against anyone who committed the abuse. When states do impose a relationship requirement the CPO must be sought against a caregiver or family member.

Elder Abuse Protection Orders Available: The following fourteen (14) states and U.S. jurisdictions have laws that allow elder or at-risk individuals to get a civil protection order against the perpetrator for abuse:

- Alabama, California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Puerto Rico.

Elder Abuse in Domestic Violence Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *domestic violence protection orders* are:

²¹ See the accompanying table <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-protection-orders-table/>

- Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia and Wyoming.

Elder Abuse in Stalking Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *stalking protection orders* are:

- Alaska, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia, Wyoming

Elder Abuse in Sexual Assault Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *sexual assault protection orders* are:

- Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming

Elder Abuse in Harassment Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *harassment protection orders* are:

- Arizona, Hawaii, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and South Carolina.

Elder Abuse in Workplace Violence Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *workplace violence protection orders* are:

- Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Nevada, Rhode Island, and Utah

Elder Abuse in Extreme Risk Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *extreme risk protection orders* are:

- Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Nevada, Rhode Island, and Vermont

Elder Abuse in Human Trafficking Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *human trafficking protection orders* are:

- District of Columbia, Kansas, North Dakota, and Texas

Elder Abuse in Child Abuse Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *child abuse protection orders* are:

- Nevada

Elder Abuse in Disorderly Conduct Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *disorderly conduct protection orders* are:

- North Dakota

Elder Abuse in Bodily Injury Protection Orders: States with elder abuse covered in *bodily injury protection orders* are:

- Virginia

Workplace Violence

Several states (10) offer workplace violence protection orders that must usually be sought by an employer. These protection order statutes usually have no relationship requirement. The workplace violence CPOs generally cover violence at the workplace or considerable threat of unlawful violence.

Workplace Violence Protection Orders Available: The following 10 states have laws that allow employers to file a civil protection order against the perpetrator for workplace violence:

- Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Nevada, Rhode Island, Tennessee and Utah.

Dating Violence

Four states (4) have dating violence, specific CPOs. In forty-eight (48) states dating violence is covered under the state domestic violence protection order statute and requires a dating relationship which is described in the state statute.²²

Dating Violence Protection Orders Available: The following four (4) states have laws that allow for filing a civil protection order for dating violence:

- Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, and Utah.

Dating Violence Included in Domestic Violence Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *domestic violence protection orders* are:

- Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming

Dating Violence in Harassment Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *harassment protection orders* are:

- California, Idaho, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nevada,

Dating Violence in Sexual Assault Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *sexual assault protection orders* are:

- Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey,

²² See the accompanying table <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ht-protection-orders-table/>

Dating Violence in Stalking Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *stalking protection orders* are:

- Colorado, District of Columbia, Michigan, Montana, Nevada

Dating Violence in Elder Abuse Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *elder abuse protection orders* are:

- Colorado

Dating Violence in Child Abuse Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *child abuse protection orders* are:

- Nevada

Dating Violence in Workplace Violence Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *workplace violence protection orders* are:

- Nevada

Dating Violence in Extreme Risk Protection Orders: States with dating violence covered in *extreme risk protection orders* are:

- Nevada

Child Abuse

A few states (3) have civil protection orders for child victims of different forms of abuse.

Child Abuse Protection Orders Available: The following states have laws that provide access to child abuse protection orders for children who suffered certain forms of crime or abuse:

- Alabama (sexually abused child), Utah (child trafficking for sexual exploitation and child labor trafficking due to physical abuse or immediate danger of experiencing abuse)

Child Abuse in Domestic Violence Protection Orders: States that include certain forms of child abuse in *domestic violence protection order statutes*:

- Maine (sexual exploitation, dissemination of sexually explicit material, or harassment by telephone or electronic device)