

Friendship Of Women, Inc.

A Center for the Prevention of Family Violence & Sexual Assault

*24 Hr. Hotline

*Crisis Intervention

*Counseling

*Legal Advocacy

*Medical accompaniment

*Court accompaniment

*Emergency Shelter

*Advocacy

*Peer Support

*Information and Referrals

Friendship Of Women, Inc.

A Center for the Prevention of
Family Violence & Sexual Assault



*Community Outreach
*Primary Prevention
*Education
*Battering Intervention & Prevention Program (BIPP)

A note about today's topic

Today's topic may be triggering for some attendees.

It can bring up emotions and memories.

We have an advocate that can speak to you in private if you wish, or if you wish to step out please do so.

Self-care is important

In the 1900s women began to see sexual assault as an issue and as a true form of crime. Suffragettes constructed rallies and protest to advocate their rights as a person.



www.endsexualassault.org



Sexual Assault is the engagement of unwanted sexual acts by force or threat and most importantly without consent.

Under the Texas Penal Code, sexual assault is defined as any non-consensual sexual act that violates a person's bodily autonomy. It is important to understand that physical injury is not required—sexual assault can occur even when there are little to no visible signs of harm.

Any Sexual Assault with a weapon, threats or causing bodily harm to the victim.

Sexual assault can vary in severity, and in some cases may include serious physical harm such as injuries, disfigurement, or life-threatening
actions.

http://www.texascriminaldefensegroup.com

Consent is a clear, voluntary, ongoing, and mutual agreement between participants to engage in a specific activity. It must be given before any sexual activity begins and must be communicated in a way that is understandable to all involved.

Consent can be expressed in different ways, but it must always be active, informed, and freely given.

Silence does not count as consent

Consent can also change
Throughout the activity.



If someone changes their mind before the act or even during the act that means that the consent has been withdrawn and the act should stop right then and there.





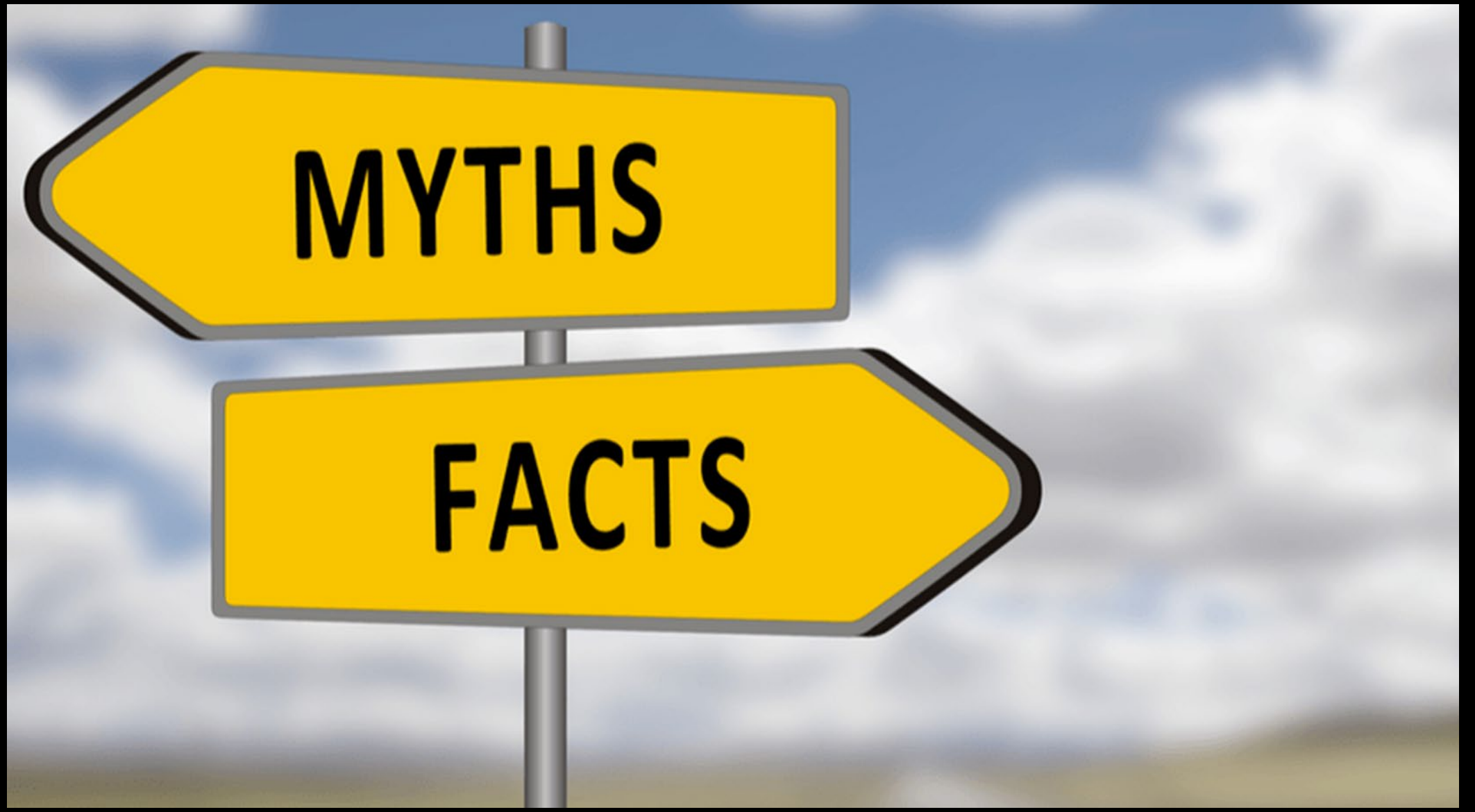
Legally, a person under the influence is incapable of giving proper consent because the presence of said substance can impact a person’s judgment regarding consent.



From the 1960s onward, U.S. rape laws began to evolve, recognizing rape not just as sexual violence but as a tool of power and control. It's important to clarify terminology: while some states, like Texas, may use *rape* and *sexual assault* interchangeably, federal definitions differ. *Rape* typically refers to non-consensual penetration, while *sexual assault* includes a broader range of unwanted sexual acts, helping us understand the full scope of sexual violence. Before the 1970s, *marital rape* was often not recognized as a crime, reflecting outdated beliefs about consent within marriage.

During the 70s the movement grew to include violence against men, finally uniting the world with the message that sexual assault and violence are wrong and must stop.




MYTHS
FACTS

MYTH: Victims provoke sexual assaults when they dress provocatively or act in a promiscuous manner.

FACT: Rape and sexual assault are crimes of violence and control that stem from a person's determination to exercise power over another. Forcing someone to engage in non-consensual sexual activity is sexual assault, regardless of the way that person dresses or acts.

www.clevelandrapecrisis.org

MYTH: Most sexual assaults occur between strangers.

FACT: Most sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows: a neighbor, friend, acquaintance, co-worker, classmate, spouse, partner or ex-partner. Studies show that approximately 80% of women reporting sexual assaults knew their assailant.

www.clevelandrapecrisis.org

MYTH: People who commit sexual assaults are mentally ill, abnormal perverts.

FACT: Sexual offenders come from all educational, occupational, racial and cultural backgrounds. They are “ordinary” and “normal” individuals who sexually assault victims to assert power and control over them and inflict violence, humiliation and degradation.

MYTH: Sexual assaults only occur in dark alleys and isolated areas.

FACT: A sexual assault can happen anywhere and at any time. The majority of assaults occur in places ordinarily thought to be safe, such as homes, cars and offices.

www.clevelandrapecrisis.org

MYTH: Sexual assault won't happen to me or to anyone I know.

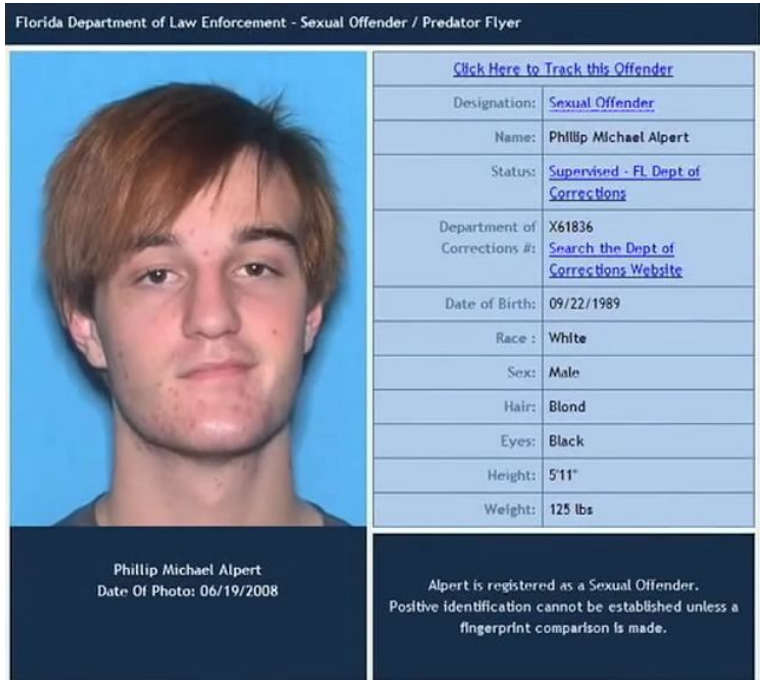
FACT: Men, women, and children of all ages, races, religions, and economic classes, and can be and have been, victims of sexual assault. Sexual assault occurs in rural areas, small towns, and larger cities. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, a rape or attempted rape occurs every 5 minutes in the United States.

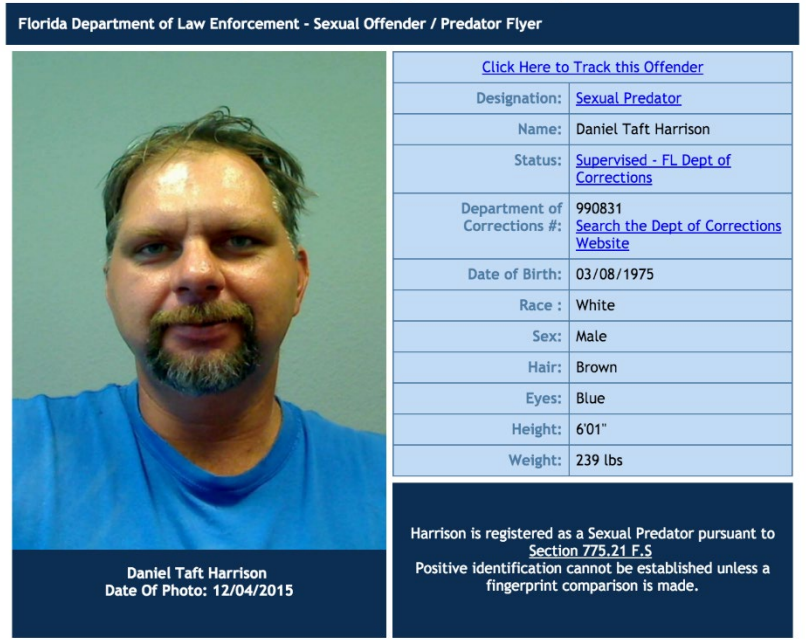
www.clevelandrapecrisis.org

There is no such thing as a "typical" sex offender, however, most tend to be **manipulative, deceptive, narcissistic, sexist, and secretive, with feelings of entitlement**.

Sex offenders come from all backgrounds, ages, socioeconomic and ethnic groups. The majority of offenses are committed by someone the victim knows.

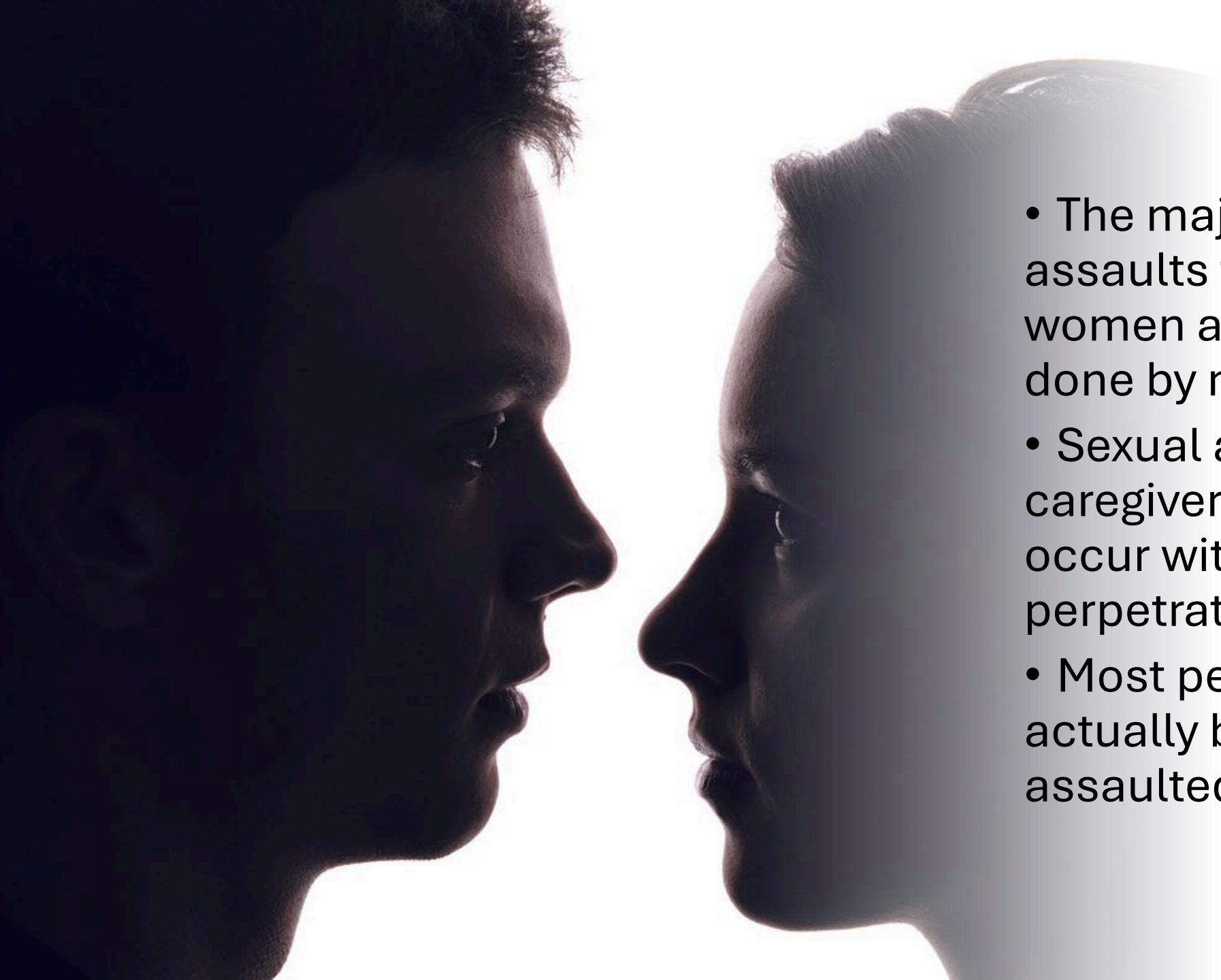
www.rainn.org





1 in 4 girls and 1 in 8 boys have been sexually abused by the time they are 18.
A large majority of sexual assaults also include alcohol.
It is reported that 70% of rapes committed are by a person whom the victim knows.
Less than 1 in 10 sexual assaults come to the attention of the police.

www.rainn.org



- The majority of sexual assaults that occur to women and a few men are done by male perpetrators.
- Sexual assault done by a caregiver is more likely to occur with a female perpetrator.
- Most perpetrators have actually been sexually assaulted themselves.


“Awareness begins when silence ends.
Every voice raised against sexual violence lights the path toward healing and change.”

Survivor Rights

- Survivors have the right to make their own decisions
- Adults have the right to file a police report
- The right to privacy: survivors are able to use a pseudonym
- Free collection of evident to support their case even if they choose not to file a police report
- Be provided with assistance with crime victims compensation application to assist with financial losses; Medical costs, moving, and loss of wages
- Be notified of all legal proceedings during the criminal trial
- Be provided with an advocate during the forensic exam, police reporting, court proceedings.
- Terminate your lease to relocate to a safer location

Be believed, feel safe, be heard, and have peace of mind



www.taasa.org

Protective Orders

An order can force the offender to stop threatening, harassing, or stalking the victim and stay away from specific locations. Even without a prior relationship with the offender or a police report. This also includes through a 3rd person contact.

Even without a prior relationship with the offender or a police report. These civil orders prohibit contact, stalking, or coming near a victim's home, work, or school.



Protective Orders

Types of orders:

Magistrate's Order of Emergency Protection (MOEP): is a temporary order issued after an arrest for family violence, sexual assault, stalking, or trafficking. Lasting from 31-90 day's. Prohibits offender from approaching or harassing the victim.

Temporary Ex Parte Order: Issued immediately by a judge without the offender present if there is "clear and present danger".

Final Protective Order: Issued after a court hearing (usually within 20 days), lasting up to the lifetime of the offender or a specified period (default is 2 years).

Thank you

Please Fill out Survey

