



Judicial Council of California

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www.courts.ca.gov/policyadmin-invitationstocomment.htm

INVITATION TO COMMENT

SPR25-29

Title

Protective Orders: Civil Harassment Forms
to Implement Senate Bill 554

Action Requested

Review and submit comments by May 23,
2025

Proposed Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes

Revise forms CH-100 and CH-100-INFO

Proposed Effective Date

January 1, 2026

Proposed by

Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee
Hon. Donald J. Proietti, Chair

Contact

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Executive Summary and Origin

The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee proposes revisions to two civil harassment restraining order forms to implement Senate Bill 554 (Stats. 2024, ch. 652). The attached petition (form CH-100) also contains proposed revisions to implement Senate Bill 899 (Stats. 2024, ch. 544). A separate proposal entitled *Protective Orders: Civil Restraining Order Forms to Implement Senate Bill 899* explains that new law and includes additional forms that require changes based on that law.

Background

SB 554, which went into effect on January 1, 2025, amends Code of Civil Procedure section 527.6 by specifying the appropriate venue for civil harassment restraining orders. Previously, there was no language in Code of Civil Procedure section 527.6 regarding venue.

Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 527.6(a)(2), a petition for a civil harassment restraining order may be filed in any superior court in the state, which may include, but is not limited to, (1) the county in which the defendant resides,¹ (2) the county in which the offense

¹ The Legislature in SB 554 used “defendant” to describe these persons.

This proposal has not been approved by the Judicial Council and is not intended to represent the views of the council, its Rules Committee, or its Legislation Committee. It is circulated for comment purposes only.

occurred, (3) any other court that may have jurisdiction over the parties or the subject matter of the case, and (4) the county in which the petitioner resides or is temporarily located.

Moreover, SB 554 expressly states that an individual does not need to be a resident of California to file a petition for a civil harassment restraining order.

The Proposal

The proposal is needed to respond to recent changes to the law. SB 554 outlines four possible options for venue, only three of which are reflected on form CH-100.² Therefore, the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee proposes adding one additional venue option to item 5 of form CH-100 explaining that venue is also proper in the county in which the petitioner resides or is temporarily located. Additionally, the committee recommends revising form CH-100-INFO to reflect this additional venue option and the fact that a petitioner does not need to reside in California to file a request for a civil harassment restraining order. The committee also recommends various technical corrections and updating gendered language with gender-neutral language.³

A separate proposal which is concurrently circulating for comment, *Protective Orders: Civil Restraining Order Forms to Implement Senate Bill 899*, also affects the civil harassment form group.⁴ The proposed form revisions on form CH-100 that appear in yellow highlight relate to SB 554, while the form revisions implementing SB 899 that are the subject of the separate proposal appear in gray highlight. Comments involving the implementation of SB 899 should be directed to *Protective Orders: Civil Restraining Order Forms to Implement Senate Bill 899* rather than to this proposal.

Alternatives Considered

The committee did not consider taking no action because the council is required by statute to develop forms to the extent necessary to implement SB 554.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

The committee anticipates that this proposal would require courts to train court staff and judicial officers on the newly adopted and revised forms. Courts will also incur costs to incorporate the new and revised forms into their paper or electronic processes.

² The three options for venue on existing form CH-100 are: (1) the respondent lives in the county, (2) the petitioner was harassed by the respondent in the county, and (3) other (specify).

³ Among other proposed revisions, the committee proposes updating various URLs throughout the attached forms.

⁴ *Protective Orders: Civil Restraining Order Forms to Implement Senate Bill 899*, SPR25-27, available at <https://courts.ca.gov/policy-administration/invitations-comment>.

Request for Specific Comments

In addition to comments on the proposal as a whole, the advisory committee is interested in comments on the following:

- Does the proposal appropriately address the stated purpose?

The advisory committee also seeks comments from *courts* on the following cost and implementation matters:

- Would the proposal provide cost savings? If so, please quantify.
- What would the implementation requirements be for courts—for example, training staff (please identify position and expected hours of training), revising processes and procedures (please describe), changing docket codes in case management systems, or modifying case management systems?
- Would two months from Judicial Council approval of this proposal until its effective date provide sufficient time for implementation?
- How well would this proposal work in courts of different sizes?

Attachments and Links

1. Forms CH-100 and CH-100-INFO, at pages 4–13
2. Link A: Sen. Bill 554 (Stats. 2024, ch. 652),
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB554
3. Link B: Sen. Bill 899 (Stats. 2024, ch. 544),
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB899

Clerk stamps date here when form is filed.

Read *Can a Civil Harassment Restraining Order Help Me?* (form [CH-100-INFO](#)) before completing this form. Also fill out *Confidential CLETS Information* (form [CLETS-001](#)) with as much information as you know.

DRAFT
01/31/2025
Not approved by
the Judicial Council

1 Person Seeking Protection

a. Your Full Name: _____ Age: _____

Your Lawyer (if you have one for this case)
Name: _____ State Bar No.: _____
Firm Name: _____

b. Your Address (If you have a lawyer, give your lawyer's information. If you do not have a lawyer and want to keep your home address private, you may give a different mailing address instead. You do not have to give telephone, fax, or email.)

Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Email Address: _____

Fill in court name and street address:

Superior Court of California, County of

Court fills in case number when form is filed.

Case Number:

2 Person From Whom Protection Is Sought

Full Name: _____ Age: _____

Address (if known): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

3 Additional Protected Persons

a. Are you asking for protection for any other family or household members? Yes No *If yes, list them:*

Full Name	Gender	Age	Lives with you?	How are they related to you?
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____

Check here if there are more persons. Attach a sheet of paper and write "Attachment 3a—Additional Protected Persons" for a title. You may use form [MC-025](#), Attachment.

b. Why do these people need protection? (Explain below):

Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form [MC-025](#) and write "Attachment 3b—Why Others Need Protection" for a title.

This is not a Court Order.



4 Relationship of Parties

How do you know the person in (2)? (Explain below):

Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 4—Relationship of Parties" for a title.

5 Venue

Why are you filing in this county? (Check all that apply):

- a. The person in (2) resides in this county.
- b. I was harassed by the person in (2) in this county.
- c. I reside or am temporarily located in this county.
- d. Other (specify): _____

6 Other Court Cases

a. Have you or any of the persons named in (3) been involved in another court case with the person in (2)?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>(If yes, check each kind of case and indicate where and when each was filed)</i>		
		<u>Kind of Case</u>	<u>Filed in (County/State)</u>	<u>Year Filed</u> <u>Case Number (if known)</u>
(1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Civil Harassment	_____	_____
(2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Violence	_____	_____
(3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Divorce, Nullity, Legal Separation	_____	_____
(4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paternity, Parentage, Child Custody	_____	_____
(5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse	_____	_____
(6)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eviction	_____	_____
(7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guardianship	_____	_____
(8)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Workplace Violence	_____	_____
(9)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Claims	_____	_____
(10)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal	_____	_____
(11)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify):	_____	_____

b. Are there now any protective or restraining orders in effect relating to you or any of the persons in (3) and the person in (2)? No Yes (If yes, attach a copy if you have one.)

7 Description of Harassment

Harassment means violence or threats of violence against you, or a course of conduct that seriously alarmed, annoyed, or harassed you and caused you substantial emotional distress. A course of conduct is more than one act.

a. Tell the court about the last time the person in (2) harassed you.

(1) When did it happen? (provide date or estimated date): _____

(2) Who else was there? _____

This is not a Court Order.



7 a. (3) How did the person in (2) harass you? (Explain below):
 Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 7a(3)—Describe Harassment" for a title.

(4) Did the person in (2) use or threaten to use a gun or any other weapon?
 Yes No (If yes, explain below):
 Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 7a(4)—Use of Weapons" for a title.

(5) Were you harmed or injured because of the harassment?
 Yes No (If yes, explain below):
 Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 7a(5)—Harm or Injury" for a title.

(6) Did the police come? Yes No
If yes, did they give you or the person in (2) an Emergency Protective Order? Yes No
If yes, the order protects (check all that apply):
 Me The person in (2) The persons in (3).
(Attach a copy of the order if you have one)

b. Has the person in (2) harassed you at other times?
 Yes No (If yes, describe prior incidents and provide dates of harassment below):
 Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 7b—Previous Harassment" for a title.

This is not a Court Order.



Check the orders you want.

8 Personal Conduct Orders

I ask the court to order the person in (2) **not** to do any of the following things to me or to any person to be protected listed in (3):

- a. Harass, intimidate, molest, attack, strike, stalk, threaten, assault (sexually or otherwise), hit, abuse, destroy personal property of, or disturb the peace of the person.
- b. Contact the person, either directly or indirectly, in **any** way, including, but not limited to, in person, by telephone, in writing, by public or private mail, by interoffice mail, by email, by text message, by fax, or by other electronic means.
- c. Other (*specify*):
 Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 8c—Other Personal Conduct Orders" for a title.

The person in (2) will be ordered not to take any action to get the addresses or locations of any protected person unless the court finds good cause not to make the order.

9 Stay-Away Orders

a. I ask the court to order the person in (2) to stay at least _____ yards away from (*check all that apply*):

- (1) Me.
- (2) The other persons listed in (3).
- (3) My home.
- (4) My job or workplace.
- (5) My school.
- (6) My children’s school.
- (7) My children’s place of child care.
- (8) My vehicle.
- (9) Other (*specify*):

b. If the court orders the person in (2) to stay away from all the places listed above, will **they** still be able to get to **their** home, school, or job? Yes No (*If no, explain below*):

Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 9b—Stay-Away Orders" for a title.

10 Does the Person in (2) Have Firearms (Guns), Firearm Parts, or Ammunition?

Does the person in (2) own or possess any firearms (guns), firearm parts, or ammunition? This includes firearm receivers and frames, and any item that may be used as or easily turned into a receiver or frame (see Penal Code section 16531).

- a. I don’t know
- b. No
- c. Yes (*If you have information, complete the section below*)

This is not a Court Order.



10	Describe Firearms (Guns), Firearm Parts, or Ammunition	Number or Amount	Location, if known
(1)	_____	_____	_____
(2)	_____	_____	_____
(3)	_____	_____	_____
(4)	_____	_____	_____
(5)	_____	_____	_____
(6)	_____	_____	_____

If the judge grants a protective order, the person in (2) will be prohibited from owning, possessing, purchasing, receiving, or attempting to purchase or receive firearms (guns), firearm parts, and ammunition while the protective order is in effect. The person in (2) will also be ordered to turn in to law enforcement, or sell to or store with a licensed gun dealer, any firearms (guns), firearm parts, and ammunition within their immediate possession or control. If an order is granted, the person in (2) will also be prohibited from owning, possessing, or buying body armor and would have to relinquish any they have.

11 **Temporary Restraining Order**

I request that a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) be issued against the person in (2) to last until the hearing. I am presenting form CH-110, *Temporary Restraining Order*, for the court’s signature together with this *Request*.

Has the person in (2) been told that you were going to go to court to seek a TRO against them?

- Yes No *(If you answered no, explain why below):*
- Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write “Attachment 11—Temporary Restraining Order” for a title.*

12 **Request to Give Less Than Five Days' Notice of Hearing**

You must have your papers personally served on the person in (2) at least five days before the hearing, unless the court orders a shorter time for service. *(Form CH-200-INFO explains What Is “Proof of Personal Service”? Form CH-200, Proof of Personal Service, may be used to show the court that the papers have been served.)*

If you want there to be fewer than five days between service and the hearing, explain why below:

- Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write “Attachment 12—Request to Give Less Than Five Days’ Notice” for a title.*

This is not a Court Order.



13 **No Fee for Filing or Service**

- a. There should be no filing fee because the person in (2) has used or threatened to use violence against me, has stalked me, or has acted or spoken in some other way that makes me reasonably fear violence.
- b. The sheriff or marshal should serve (notify) the person in (2) about the orders for free because my request for orders is based on unlawful violence, a credible threat of violence, or stalking.
- c. There should be no filing fee and the sheriff or marshal should serve the person in (2) for free because I am entitled to a fee waiver. *(You must complete and file form FW-001, Application for Waiver of Court Fees and Costs.)*
- d. If the court issues an order, I ask that a peace officer serve it for free.

14 **Lawyer's Fees and Costs**

I ask the court to order payment of my lawyer's fees court costs.

The amounts requested are:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____

Check here if there are more items. Put the items and amounts on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 14—Lawyer's Fees and Costs" for a title.

15 **Possession and Protection of Animals**

I ask the court to order the following:

- a. That I be given the sole possession, care, and control of the animals listed below, which I own, possess, lease, keep, or hold, or which reside in my household.
(Identify animals by, e.g., type, breed, name, color, sex)

I request sole possession of the animals because *(specify good cause for granting order)*:

Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 15a—Possession of Animals" for a title.

- b. That the person in (2) must stay at least _____ yards away from, and not take, sell, transfer, encumber, conceal, molest, attack, strike, threaten, harm, or otherwise dispose of, the animals listed above.

This is not a Court Order.



16 **Additional Orders Requested**

I ask the court to make the following additional orders (*specify*):

Check here if there is not enough space for your answer. Put your complete answer on the attached sheet of paper or form MC-025 and write "Attachment 16—Additional Orders Requested," for a title.

17 Number of pages attached to this form, if any: _____

Date: _____

Lawyer's name (if any)

▶ _____
Lawyer's signature

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information above and on all attachments is true and correct.

Date: _____

Type or print your name

▶ _____
Sign your name

This is not a Court Order.

These instructions cannot cover all of the questions that may arise in a particular case. If you do not know what to do to protect your rights, you should see a lawyer.

What is a civil harassment restraining order?

It is a court order that helps protect people from harassment.

Can I get a civil harassment restraining order?

You can ask for one if you are worried about your safety because someone:

- Is harassing you
- Is stalking you
- Has committed acts of violence against you, or
- Has threatened you with violence

You do not need to reside in California to file your request for a civil harassment restraining order.

How will the order help me?

The court can order a person to:

- Not harass or threaten you
- Not contact or go near you, *and*
- Not have any firearms (guns), firearm parts, ammunition, or body armor. This includes firearm receivers and frames, and any item that may be used as or easily turned into a receiver or frame (see Penal Code section 16531).

For more information about the items a restrained person cannot have, please see selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/restraining-orders/prohibited-items.

You can also ask for protection for people who live with you and family members.

In a civil harassment case, the court cannot:

- Order a person to move out of your residence
- Order a person to pay child support to you
- Make orders for custody and visitation

If you need these orders, you should proceed under the Domestic Violence Protection Act. File form [DV-100](#).

The court also cannot:

- Order a person to pay money that **the person** owes you
- Order someone to move out of rental property that you own
- Order someone to stop creating a nuisance that doesn't involve harassment

If you need these remedies, you must file a civil action.

How much does it cost?

That depends on the type of harassment. If the restrained person has used or threatened to use violence against you or has stalked you, you do not have to pay a filing fee; otherwise, you must pay the fee.

If you cannot afford to pay the filing fee, ask the clerk how to apply for a fee waiver. Form [FW-001](#) is available for this purpose.

If the order is based on prior acts of violence, a credible threat of violence, or stalking, you are entitled to free service of the order by a sheriff or marshal. Also, if you are eligible for a fee waiver, you can ask the sheriff or marshal to serve the order for free. If you are not eligible for free service, you may pay the sheriff or marshal to serve the order.

What forms do I need to get the order?

You must fill out all of form [CH-100](#), *Request for Civil Harassment Restraining Orders*, and form [CLETS-001](#), *Confidential CLETS Information*. If you need attachments, you may use form [MC-025](#). You must also fill out items 1 and 2 on form [CH-109](#), *Notice of Court Hearing*, and items 1, 2, and 3 on form [CH-110](#), *Temporary Restraining Order (CLETS-TCH)*.

Where can I get these forms?

You can get the forms from legal publishers or from the California Courts website at courts.ca.gov/rules-forms/find-your-court-forms. You also may be able to find them at your local courthouse or county law library.

What do I need to do to get the order?

You must go to the superior court in the county where the harassment took place, the person to be restrained **resides, or you reside or are temporarily located**. At the court, ask where you should file your request for a civil harassment restraining order. (A self-help center or legal aid association may be able to assist you in filing your request.)

At the court, give your forms to the clerk of the court. The clerk will give you a hearing date on the *Notice of Court Hearing* form, and if your request for immediate orders is granted, a copy of the *Temporary Restraining Order* signed by a judicial officer.



How soon can I get the order?

If you ask for a temporary restraining order, the court will decide within 24 hours whether or not to make the order. Sometimes the court decides sooner. Ask whether you should wait or come back later to get the signed *Notice of Court Hearing* and *Temporary Restraining Order*.

How long does the order last?

If the court makes a temporary order, it will last until your hearing date. At that time, the court will decide to continue or cancel the order. The order could last for up to five years.

How will the person to be restrained know about the order?

Someone age 18 or older—**not you** or anyone else to be protected by the order—must “serve” (give) the person to be restrained a copy of the order. The server must then fill out form [CH-200](#), *Proof of Personal Service*, and give it to you to file with the court. For help with service, ask the court clerk for form [CH-200-INFO](#), *What Is “Proof of Personal Service”?*

What if the restrained person does not obey the order?

Call the police. The restrained person can be arrested and charged with a crime.

Do I have to go to court?

Yes. Go to court on the date the clerk gives you.

Do I need to bring a witness to the court hearing?

Witnesses are not required, but it helps to have more proof of the harassment than just your word. You can bring:

- Witnesses
- Written statements from witnesses made under oath
- Photos
- Medical or police reports
- Damaged property
- Threatening letters, emails, or telephone messages

The court may or may not let witnesses speak at the hearing. So, if possible, you should bring their written statements under oath to the hearing. (You can use form [MC-030](#), *Declaration*, for this.)

Do I need a lawyer?

Having a lawyer is always a good idea, but it is not required and you are not entitled to a free, court-appointed attorney. Ask the court clerk about free and low-cost legal services and self-help centers in your county.

Will I see the restrained person at the court hearing?

If the person comes to the hearing, yes. But that person does not have the right to speak to you. If you are afraid, tell the court officer.

Can I bring someone with me to court?

Yes. You can bring someone to sit with you during the hearing. But that person cannot speak for you in court. Only you or your lawyer (if you have one) can speak for you.

CH-109 Notice of Court Hearing Clerk stamps date here when form is filed.

1 Person Seeking Protection

a. Your Full Name: _____

Your Lawyer (if you have one for this case):
 Name: _____ State Bar No.: _____
 Firm Name: _____

b. Your Address (If you have a lawyer, give your lawyer's information. If you do not have a lawyer and want to keep your home address private, you may give a different mailing address instead. You do not have to give telephone, fax, or email.)
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
 Email Address: _____

Fill in court name and street address:
 Superior Court of California, County of _____

Court fills in case number when form is filed.
 Case Number: _____

2 Person From Whom Protection Is Sought
 Full Name: _____

The court will complete the rest of this form.

3 Notice of Hearing
 A court hearing is scheduled on the request for restraining orders against the person in **2**:
 Name and address of court if different from above: _____

Hearing Date Date: _____ Time: _____
 Dept.: _____ Room: _____

To the person in 2:

- If you attend the hearing (in person, by phone, or by videoconference) and the judge grants a restraining order against you, the order will be effective immediately, and you could be arrested if you violate the order.
- If you do not attend the hearing, the judge may still grant the restraining order that could last up to five years. After you receive a copy of the order, you could be arrested if you violate the order.

4 Temporary Restraining Orders (Any orders granted are on form CH-110, served with this notice.)
 a. Temporary Restraining Orders for personal conduct and stay-away orders as requested in form CH-100, *Request for Civil Harassment Restraining Orders*, are (check only one box below):

(1) All GRANTED until the court hearing.
 (2) All DENIED until the court hearing. (Specify reasons for denial in b, below.)
 (3) Partly GRANTED and partly DENIED until the court hearing. (Specify reasons for denial in b, below.)

Judicial Council of California, 00073, 01/02
 Rev. January 1, 2020; Mandatory Form
 Code of Civil Procedure, §§ 527.6 and 527.9
 Approved by DOJ

Notice of Court Hearing
(Civil Harassment Prevention)

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What if I have a disability?

If you have a disability and need an accommodation while you are at court, you can use form [MC-410, Disability Accommodation Request](#), to make your request. You can also ask the ADA Coordinator in your court for help. For more information, see form [MC-410-INFO, How to Request a Disability Accommodation for Court](#).

Information about the process is also available online.

See selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/CH-restraining-order.

For help in your area, contact:

[Local information may be inserted.]

What if I don't speak English?

When you file your papers, ask the clerk if a court interpreter is available. You can also use form [INT-300, Request for Interpreter \(Civil\)](#), or a local court form or website to request an interpreter. For more information about court interpreters, go to selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/request-interpreter.

Can I agree with the restrained person to cancel the order?

No. Once the order is issued, only the judge can change or cancel it. You or the restrained person would have to file a request with the court to cancel the order.