

Ensuring the Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia  
Community Assessment Tool

This is an assessment tool to evaluate the policy and practice for effective process and enforcement of protective orders in a particular jurisdiction. This tool is to be utilized by community coordinating response teams to assess the local community response.

Please review each statement and check the appropriate box as to whether team members believe it is a **Strength** (something that is in place and working well) or a **Challenge** (it may not be in place, it may exist or be in a place but people either aren't aware of it or there isn't strong consensus that it is a strength).

After identifying Strengths and Challenges- discuss which issues are priorities for enhancing Community Response to Effective Enforcement of Protective Orders. **Identify the top 5-10 priorities that the group believes are attainable within 3 years.** It is important to use a consensus process to choose your priorities.

The outcome of this assessment tool can be used to develop a strategic action plan for a coordinated community response to ensure the effectiveness of protective orders in your community. The action plan should include both short term (attainable within 1-3 years) and long term (attainable within 3-6 years) goals. Implementation of a strategic plan will also improve the communities' overall response to domestic violence.

*Originally Developed by:*

*The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance as part of the Grants to Encourage Arrest Statewide Partnership  
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Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

	Actions	Strength	Challenge	Priority	Don't Know	Notes
<b>Civil/Legal Services Attorneys</b>						
1	Victims have access to free and/or affordable civil legal representation in connection with protective order hearings.					
2	Legal services are available to all victims, including those with limited English proficiency, advanced age, cultural barriers, or disabilities.					
3	Civil/Legal Services attorneys receive training on the dynamics of domestic and sexual violence.					
4	Civil/Legal Services attorneys routinely provide general information regarding local protective order practices to self-represented litigants .					
5	Civil/Legal Services attorneys routinely ask the court to address custody, visitation, temporary child support, and temporary spousal support issues through the protective order process.					
6	Civil/Legal Services attorneys work closely with, or routinely refer victims to, domestic/sexual victim advocates to assist clients with safety planning.					
7	Civil/Legal Services attorneys routinely explain court procedures thoroughly to ensure clients understand the protective order process and what to expect in court.					
8	Civil/Legal Services attorneys routinely work with court security personnel to ensure client safety before, during, and after protective order hearings.					
9	Civil/Legal Services attorneys routinely inform the court of the respondent's access to or possession of firearms or concealed weapons permits.					
10	Civil/Legal Services attorneys routinely seek enforcement of civil (noncriminal) violations of protective orders through the civil contempt process (e.g., file show cause motions for contempt when temporary child/spousal support provisions of protective order have been violated).					
11	Civil/Legal Services attorneys participate in the local coordinated community response team (CCR).					
12	The Civil/Legal Services office routinely displays a courteous and respectful manner to victims and ensure that their offices provide a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
<b>Commonwealth's Attorney's Office</b>						
13	The Commonwealth Attorney's Office routinely prosecutes criminal violations of protective orders.					

**Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool**

14	The Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, utilizing its broad discretion, carefully evaluates each domestic/sexual violence case to ensure it's not prosecuting victims of domestic/sexual violence.				
15	The Commonwealth Attorney's Office makes information on protective orders readily available to victims who are pursuing criminal charges.				
16	The Commonwealth Attorney's Office prosecutes violations of protective orders that comply with federal full faith and credit requirements.				
17	The Commonwealth Attorney's Office utilizes evidence-based prosecution where appropriate.				
18	The Commonwealth Attorney's Office regularly provides training to law enforcement on issues relevant to effective evidence collection and documentation in domestic violence cases.				
19	All local prosecutors receive annual training on:				
	• Protective Orders/Criminal provisions				
	• Dynamics of domestic/sexual violence				
	• Federal and State Firearms provisions of protective orders				
	• Prosecution of violations of protective orders				
	• Stalking				
20	The Commonwealth Attorney's Office has and maintains a relationship with the corresponding federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms personnel and/or U.S. Attorney's Office in order to cooperate on prosecuting violations of federal firearms prohibitions.				
21	The Commonwealth Attorney's Office regularly prosecutes violations of state firearms laws and routinely pursues investigations of perpetrators' access to firearms.				
22	The Commonwealth's Attorney's Office convenes the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) meetings.				
23	The Commonwealth's Attorney's Office routinely displays a courteous and respectful manner to victims and ensure that their offices provide a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.				
	<b>Community Corrections and Batterer Intervention Programs</b>				
24	Local community-based probation services agencies routinely provide for evaluation and assessment services to determine a respondent's education, treatment, and/or counseling needs and to communicate those needs to the court.				
25	Local community-based probation services agencies track the respondent's participation in education, treatment, and/or counseling programs ordered by the court, including but not limited to, Batterer Intervention Programs, substance abuse, etc.				

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

26	Local community-based probation services agencies, or their contracted service providers, offer a sliding-scale fee structure or other mechanism to assist participants who are unable to pay the full costs of the required programs or services. See Va. Code § 18.2-57.3 (D).					
27	There are Certified Batterer Intervention Programs available in the community.					
28	Local education, treatment and/or counseling programs, including but not limited to, Batterer Intervention and substance abuse programs, routinely communicate with the court and local community-based probation services agencies regarding the respondents' participation, progress and completion of a court-ordered education, treatment and/or counseling program.					
29	Local Batterer Intervention Programs provide gender-specific services to adult respondents.					
30	Local Batterer Intervention Programs provide gender-specific services to adult respondents with limited English proficiency.					
31	Local Batterer Intervention Programs provide gender-specific services to youth respondents.					
32	Local Batterer Intervention Programs routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent.					
<b>Community Practice and Prevention</b>						
33	City and/or county government officials have committed resources to community efforts to address domestic violence in the community.					
34	City and/or county government officials have committed resources to community efforts to address sexual violence in the community.					
35	There is an established Fatality Review Team that regularly reviews domestic and family violence fatalities and makes prevention recommendations to the appropriate city or county leadership. (VA Code §32.1-283.3)					
36	There are representatives from City and/or County Government represented on the CCR Team.					
37	City and/or county government are regularly apprised of the local domestic/sexual violence statistics and see DV/SV as an issue that is relevant to their work.					
38	There is a Coordinated Community DV/SV Prevention Initiative in the community.					
39	Local Primary, Middle, and High Schools have education programs on Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention.					
<b>Coordinated Community Response (CCR) Teams</b>						
40	There is an active DV CCR Team that meets at least quarterly.					
41	There is an active SV CCR Team that meets at least quarterly.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

42	The Team has a defined purpose related to reviewing and enhancing local policy and procedure.				
43	Team participants know the purpose of the Team and have a shared vision.				
44	The Team has a structure that includes shared responsibility for convening meetings, agenda development, and meeting facilitation.				
45	The Team structure includes defining responsibility for recording group decisions, directions and recommendations for changes in local policy and procedure.				
46	The DV CCR Team annually reviews the overall system of DV response for capacity to work with unserved, underserved, or newly identified populations in need of services.				
47	The SV CCR Team annually reviews the overall system of SV response for capacity to work with unserved, underserved, or newly identified populations in need of services.				
48	Each DV and SV CCR Team is made up of the following agencies and/or representatives at a minimum (if applicable to your community):				
	• Commonwealth Attorney's Office				
	• Community Corrections				
	• Defense Bar				
	• Health Care Providers/Public Health				
	• Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Clerk				
	• Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Judge				
	• Juvenile & Domestic Relations Intake (Court Services Unit)				
	• General District Court Clerk				
	• <input type="checkbox"/> General District Court Judge				
	• Legal Services				
	• Local Batterers Intervention Program				
	• Local Community Services Board/ Mental Health				
	• Local Department of Social Services				
	• Local Domestic Violence/Sexual Violence Agency Advocates				
	• Local law enforcement				
	• Magistrate				
	• Military Representatives				
	• Representatives from local government				
	• Representatives of underserved populations				
	• Local Colleges/Universities				
	• State Police Representative				
	• Victim/Witness Assistance Program				
	• SV/DV Survivors				

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

49	Do all of the above agencies and/or representatives participate in both the DV and the SV CCR Teams on a regular basis as your community needs dictate?					
<b>Court Safety</b>						
50	Safe space is routinely provided for victims and their children who are appearing in court for protective orders. Whenever practicable, childcare is available.					
51	The courts routinely provide adequate security for court personnel and users of the courts from potential harm from abusers.					
52	The courts routinely provide access to both spoken and sign language interpreters. Courts provide access to CART (Communication Access Real-time Translation) or assistive listening devices for persons who request it, e.g. persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.					
53	Law enforcement, prosecution, court, or clerk's office personnel do not disclose, except among themselves, the residential address, telephone number, or place of employment of the person (or family/household member of the person) protected by the order unless required by law, necessary for law enforcement purposes, or permitted by the court for good cause.					
54	The Courts routinely provide respondents with oral and written information regarding their responsibility to ensure that they do not violate a protective order. It fully explains what the order means and the consequences for a violation.					
55	The Courts routinely offer petitioners of protective orders where domestic/sexual violence is alleged the opportunity to consult with a domestic/sexual violence advocate regarding safety issues and other alternatives prior to dismissing or modifying protective orders.					
56	The General District Court makes available tailored court procedures (i.e., docketing GDC PO matters at the end of the day so a victim alleging sexual violence, for instance, need not request a PPO in a courtroom filled with litigants of traffic and other matters that are unrelated to domestic/sexual violence) to petitioners of General District Court protective orders who would like privacy.					
<b>Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency</b>						
57	There is an Accredited Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency available to victims and their children within a reasonable distance to the center of the local jurisdiction. (To view Accreditation Criteria go to <a href="http://www.vsdvalliance.org">www.vsdvalliance.org</a> ).					
58	Members of the DV/SV CCR Teams are informed about the range of services offered by the local Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency.					
59	The contact information for the Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency is well publicized throughout the community.					

**Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool**

60	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency Advocates routinely provide court advocacy and court accompaniment services for victims both in the community and those who utilize and receive shelter services.					
61	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency Advocates routinely provide general information regarding local protective order practices to self-represented litigants .					
62	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency Advocates assist victims in obtaining and having their protection orders enforced in ways that prioritize victim safety, restoration, and autonomy.					
63	The DV CCR Team is made aware of the shelter turn-away rate for the Domestic Violence Agency annually.					
64	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency Confidentiality Policy complies with §63.2-104.1 (Confidentiality of records of persons receiving domestic and sexual violence services)					
65	Members of the DV/SV CCR Team are aware of the Sexual/Domestic Violence Agency Confidentiality Policy and respect the confidentiality of persons served by the agency.					
66	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency has received training on Virginia's <b>Address Confidentiality Program</b> (§2.2-515.2) and provides this information to persons receiving services.					
67	If they are separate programs, the Domestic Violence Agency and the Sexual Assault Crisis Center routinely provide cross-training for their staff on protective orders and have a strong collaborative relationship.					
68	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency provides ongoing community education programs about protective orders and widely distributes information about obtaining protective orders.					
69	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency regularly works with community systems (i.e. law-enforcement, courts, C.A.'s) to address victim safety issues and to promote victim safety when policies and procedures conflict with best practice.					
70	The Domestic/Sexual Violence Agency routinely displays a courteous and respectful manner to the victim and ensure that their offices provide a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
<b>Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court - Intake</b>						
71	The Juvenile and Domestic Relations District (J&DR) Court Services Unit has a process for petitioning for a protective order. There is also a clear process for petitioning when the courts are closed.					
72	There is no fee for filing a petition for a protective order.					
73	The J&DR Court Services Unit (CSU) Intake personnel are familiar with the I-CAN! Program, Virginia's online forms completion system, and utilize I-CAN! where appropriate.					
74	The J&DR CSU Intake personnel receive annual training that includes:					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

	• Dynamics of domestic/sexual violence					
	• Definition of family abuse. §16.1-228					
	• Danger assessment					
	• Stalking					
	• Overview of the Virginia statute that requires intake officers to provide a person seeking a protective order a written explanation of the conditions, procedures and time limits applicable to the issuance of protective orders. Va. Code §16.1-260.					
75	J&DR CSU Intake personnel routinely provide a person seeking a protective order with a written explanation of the conditions, procedures and time limits applicable to the issuance of protective orders. §16.1-260.					
76	J&DR CSU Intake personnel routinely provide general information regarding local protective order practices to self-represented litigants.					
77	J&DR CSU Intake personnel routinely provide a person seeking a protective order with information on how to contact the local domestic/sexual violence program.					
78	J&DR CSU Intake personnel routinely accept petitions for protective orders. These petitions contain as much of Respondent's identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, social security number, sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, driver's license number, driver's license state of issuance, driver's license expiration date, distinguishing features (i.e., scars, marks, tattoos, etc.), and if a weapon is involved. These petitions contain as much of Petitioner's and other protected parties' identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, sex, and race. No petitions are rejected for any party's incomplete identifying information.					
79	J&DR CSU Intake personnel accept protective order petitions where the petitioner and the respondent are intimate partners of the same sex and are cohabitating or have recently cohabited.					
80	J&DR CSU personnel have a current list of qualified spoken language and sign language interpreters and utilize translators and interpreters when appropriate or requested.					
81	J&DR CSU personnel routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent and ensure that their offices provide a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
<b>Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Clerk's Office</b>						
82	J&DR Clerks have a procedure on time sensitive entry of protective orders into the court interface with VCIN. This entry is completed forthwith (immediately) and in no case later than the close of business on the day of issuance of the protective order.					
83	J&DR Clerks have a procedure to ensure that all identifying information that is available from the petition for the protective order and/or the protective order is entered accurately into the court interface to be submitted to VCIN.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

84	J&DR Clerks remit copies of protective orders to the primary law enforcement agency responsible for entry into VCIN upon entry of protective orders into the court interface with VCIN and in no case later than the close of business on the day of issuance of the protective order.					
85	J&DR Clerks have a procedure in place to verify proper entry of all available information on the respondent.					
86	Preliminary Protective Order (PPO) hearings routinely take precedence on the court docket. If not, there is a procedure that ensures legal protection of petitioners and other protected parties until the PPO hearing may take place.					
87	Information on how to modify a protective order is readily available to petitioners and respondents, and modifications of orders take precedence on the court docket.					
88	J&DR Clerks have a process for certifying foreign protective orders.					
89	J&DR Clerk's Office annually informs the DV and SV CCR Team members of the process for certifying foreign protective orders and provides information in writing on what the process entails.					
90	J&DR Clerks have a current list of qualified spoken language and sign language interpreters and utilize translators and interpreters when appropriate or requested.					
91	J&DR Clerks routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent and ensure a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
<b>Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Judges</b>						
92	J&DR Judges receive annual training on:					
	• Dynamics of domestic/sexual violence					
	• Assessing for risks					
	• Impact of post-traumatic stress					
	• Impact of domestic/sexual violence on children					
	• Importance of protective orders with training on how to write an effective order, impact of mutual protective orders, availability of community resources, etc.					
	• Update on any changes to protective order statutes in the Code of Virginia.					
	• Federal and State Firearms prohibitions related to protective orders					
	• Stalking					
93	J&DR Judges routinely clarify to respondents the firearms restrictions (both federal and state) related to protective orders. 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(8) and VA Code §18.2-308.1:4.					
94	J&DR Judges routinely issue protective orders that are clear, comprehensive, and tailored to the specific safety needs of the individual petitioner and his/her family/household members, if appropriate.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

95	J&DR Judges routinely address custody, visitation, temporary child support, and temporary spousal support issues (when appropriate) in protective orders in a specific and detailed manner.					
96	J&DR Judges routinely ensure that respondents with concealed handgun permits are required to surrender their permits for the duration of the protective order.					
97	J&DR Judges routinely clarify to respondents that they are responsible for ensuring that the protective order is not violated and that a no further family abuse/no contact/no coming on the premises violation is a criminal offense.					
98	J&DR Judges routinely explain to all parties that a protective order can be modified only by the court.					
99	J&DR Judges routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent and ensure that the courts provide a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
100	J&DR Judges do not issue mutual orders of protection without a petition, notice, and an opportunity for a full hearing on any allegations of family abuse.					
101	The J&DR Judges have a current list of qualified spoken language and sign language interpreters and utilize translators and interpreters when appropriate or requested.					
	<b>General District Court - Clerks</b>					
102	The General District Court (GDC) Clerk's Office has a process for petitioning for a protective order. There is also a clear process for petitioning when the courts are closed.					
103	There is no fee for filing a petition for a protective order.					
104	GDC Clerks are familiar with the I-CAN! Program, Virginia's online forms completion system, and utilize I-CAN! where appropriate.					
105	GDC Clerks receive annual training that includes:					
	• Dynamics of domestic/sexual violence					
	• Definition of acts of violence, force or threat. §19.2-152.7:1.					
	• Danger assessment					
	• Stalking					
106	GDC Clerks routinely provide a person seeking a protective order with a written explanation of the conditions, procedures, and time limits applicable to the issuance of protective orders.					
107	GDC Clerks routinely provide general information regarding local protective order practices to self-represented litigants.					
108	GDC Clerk's Office routinely provide a person seeking a protective order who is alleging domestic or sexual violence with information on how to contact the local domestic/sexual violence program.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

109	GDC Clerk's Office routinely accepts petitions for protective orders. These petitions contain as much of Respondent's identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, social security number, sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, driver's license number, driver's license state of issuance, driver's license expiration date, distinguishing features (i.e., scars, marks, tattoos, etc.), and if a weapon is involved. These petitions contain as much of Petitioner's and other protected parties' identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, sex, and race. No petitions are rejected for any party's incomplete identifying information.					
110	GDC Clerk's Office accepts protective order petitions where the petitioner and the respondent are intimate partners of the same sex.					
111	GDC Clerks have a current list of qualified spoken language and sign language interpreters and utilize translators and interpreters when appropriate or requested.					
112	GDCs Clerk's Office has a procedure on time sensitive entry of protective orders into the court interface with VCIN. This entry is completed forthwith (immediately) and in no case later than the close of business on the day of issuance of the protective order.					
113	GDC Clerks have a procedure to ensure that all identifying information that is available from the petition for the protective order and/or the protective order is entered accurately into the court interface to be submitted to VCIN.					
114	GDC Clerks remit copies of protective orders to the primary law enforcement agency responsible for entry into VCIN upon entry into the court interface with VCIN and in no case later than the close of business on the day of issuance of the protective order.					
115	The GDC Clerks have a procedure in place to verify proper entry of all available information on the respondent.					
116	Preliminary Protective Order (PPO) hearings routinely take precedence on the court docket. If not, there is a procedure that ensures legal protection of petitioners and other protected parties until the PPO hearing may take place.					
117	Tailored court procedures (e.g., docketing GDC PO matters at the end of the day so a victim alleging sexual violence, for instance, need not request a PPO in a courtroom filled with litigants of traffic and other matters that are unrelated to domestic/sexual violence) are available to petitioners of General District Court protective orders who prefer privacy over precedence on the docket.					
118	Information on how to modify a protective order is readily available to petitioners and respondents, and modifications of orders take precedence on the court docket.					
119	GDC Clerks have a process for certifying foreign protective orders.					
120	GDC Clerk's Office annually informs the DV and SV CCR Team members of the process for certifying foreign protective orders and provides information in writing on what the process entails.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

121	GDC Clerks routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent and ensure a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
<b>General District Court Judges</b>						
122	GDC Judges receive annual training on:					
	• Dynamics of domestic/sexual violence					
	• Assessing for risks					
	• Impact of post-traumatic stress					
	• Importance of protective orders with training on how to write an effective order, impact of mutual protective orders, availability of community resources, etc.					
	• Update on any changes to protective order statutes in the Code of Virginia.					
	• Federal and State Firearms prohibitions related to protective orders					
	• Stalking					
123	GDC Judges routinely clarify to respondents the firearms restrictions (both federal and state) related to protective orders. 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(8) and VA Code §18.2-308.1:4.					
124	GDC Judges routinely issue protective orders that are clear, comprehensive, and tailored to the specific safety needs of the individual petitioner and his/her family/household members, if appropriate.					
125	GDC Judges routinely ensure that respondents with concealed handgun permits are required to surrender their permits for the duration of the protective order.					
126	GDC Judges routinely clarify to respondents that they are responsible for ensuring that the protective order is not violated and that a no further acts of violence, force, or threat/no contact/no coming on the premises violation is a criminal offense.					
127	GDC Judges routinely explain to all parties that a protective order can be modified only by the court.					
128	GDC Judges routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent and ensure that the courts provide a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
129	GDC Judges do not issue mutual orders of protection without a petition, notice, and an opportunity for a full hearing on any allegations of acts of violence, force, or threat.					
130	GDC Judges have a current list of qualified spoken language and sign language interpreters and utilize translators and interpreters when appropriate or requested.					
<b>Law Enforcement Policy and Procedure</b>						
131	The Law Enforcement agency has a written policy on responding to domestic violence pursuant to Virginia Code §9.1-1300 and sexual violence pursuant to Virginia Code §9.1-1301.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

132	This policy is updated by law enforcement and presented to the DV and SV CCR Teams annually for review.				
133	The policy includes but is not limited to:				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrest without a warrant and pro-arrest for assault and battery of a family or household member;</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrest without a warrant and pro-arrest for violation of the no further acts of family abuse or acts of violence, force, or threat/no contact/no coming on the premises provisions of a protective order;</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standards for completion and filing of a required incident report with the department, including the details of any special circumstances which would dictate a course of action other than arrest;</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisions for providing the alleged victim with information on community and legal resources available in the community;</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisions for making a summary report available to the victim;</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standards for determining the predominant physical aggressor;</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The department's policy on providing transportation to the allegedly abused person;</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The department's policy on domestic violence incidents involving law enforcement officers; and</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The department's policy on the handling of cases involving repeat offenders of family abuse or domestic violence.</li> </ul>				
134	Law enforcement agency policy includes guidelines for service of protective orders across jurisdictional lines and across state lines. Those protection orders on file for service receive highest priority for service.				
135	Law enforcement agency policy includes a procedure for providing information on community and legal resources to persons with limited English proficiency.				
136	Law enforcement policy includes a requirement for officers to provide a protected person with the form to file for a preliminary protective order if the officer has requested a Family Abuse Emergency Protective Order. §16.1-253.4.				
137	Law enforcement policy includes a requirement for officers to provide a protected person who alleges domestic/sexual violence victim with the form to file for a preliminary protective order if the officer has requested a GDC Emergency Protective Order.				
138	Law enforcement policy includes guidelines on seizure of weapons/firearms when there is a protective order in place or family abuse conviction. The policy includes a set timeframe for seizure; storage procedures; and a process for returning the weapons.				
139	Law enforcement officers are trained at least annually on the policy. The trainer has the most current information on new laws and best practices.				

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

140	The annual law enforcement training includes identification of probable danger of future acts of family abuse or acts of violence, force, or threat.					
141	The annual law enforcement training includes identification of the predominant aggressor in domestic violence.					
142	Law enforcement agency enters protective order information into VCIN upon receipt of the information from the courts and supportive documentation for VCIN entry is filed according to the respondent's last name.					
143	Law enforcement policy includes information about when, if the person in need of protection is physically or mentally incapable of filing a petition pursuant to §§16.1-253.1 or 16.1-279.10 (Family Abuse) or §§19.2-152.9 or 19.2-152.10, a law enforcement officer may request the extension of an emergency protective order for an additional period of time not to exceed three days after expiration of the original order.					
144	Law enforcement agency (or a designated agency such as Victim/Witness Assistance Program) notifies the petitioner if there is a delay in service of the order or if the order cannot be served.					
145	If a protective order is in place, law enforcement agency (or a designated agency such as VINE) notifies petitioner that respondent/defendant has been released from jail/prison.					
146	Law enforcement officers routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent.					
<b>Magistrates</b>						
147	Magistrates receive annual training on:					
	• Dynamics of domestic/sexual violence					
	• Identification of probable danger of future acts of family abuse or acts of violence, force, or threat/danger assessments					
	• Definition of family abuse (§16.1-228)					
	• Definition of acts of violence, force, or threat (§19.2-152.7:1)					
	• Procedures required or recommended in issuing emergency protective orders pursuant to §16.1-253.4 or §19.2-152.8 regarding provision of information provided to protected persons.					
	• Standards for the determination of the predominant aggressor					
148	The magistrates have a procedure for when the alleged victim requesting an emergency protective order (Family Abuse or GDC) has limited English proficiency.					
149	The magistrate provides the Family Abuse Emergency Protective Order petitioner with information on how to contact the local domestic/sexual violence program and legal referral sources. Va. Code §16.1-253.4.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

150	The magistrate provides the GDC Protective Order petitioner who has alleged domestic/sexual violence with information on how to contact the local domestic/sexual violence program and legal referral sources.					
151	The magistrate provides the alleged victim with information on how to petition for a preliminary protective order/protective order (Family Abuse or GDC) .					
152	When a Family Abuse Emergency Protective Order is issued, the magistrate provides the protected person or the law enforcement officer seeking the Emergency Protective Order with the form for use in filing a petition for a preliminary protective order. Va. Code §16.1-253.4.					
153	When a GDC Emergency Protective Order is issued, the magistrate provides the protected person who has alleged domestic/sexual violence or the law enforcement officer seeking the GDC Emergency Protective Order with the form for use in filing a petition for a preliminary protective order.					
154	The magistrate collects and documents as much of Respondent's identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, social security number, sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, driver's license number, driver's license state of issuance, driver's license expiration date, distinguishing features (i.e., scars, marks, tattoos, etc.), and if a weapon is involved. The magistrate collects and documents as much of Petitioner's and other protected parties' identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, sex, and race. The magistrate enters this information into E-Magistrate system and /or provides to law enforcement for entry into VCIN.					
155	The magistrate utilizes Virginia's E-Magistrate System for all warrants (misdemeanor and felony) and orders of protection.					
156	The magistrate routinely displays a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent and ensures a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					
	<b>Victim/Witness Assistance Program</b>					
157	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates routinely provide court advocacy and court accompaniment services for domestic/sexual violence victims.					
158	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates routinely provide general information regarding local protective order practices to self-represented litigants .					
159	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates assist victims in obtaining and having their protection orders enforced in ways that prioritize victim safety, restoration, and autonomy.					
160	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates have received training on Virginia's <b>Address Confidentiality Program</b> (§2.2-515.2) and provides this information to persons receiving services.					

Ensuring Effectiveness of Protective Orders in Virginia: Community Assessment Tool

161	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates regularly works with community systems (i.e. law-enforcement, courts, C.A.'s) to address victim safety issues and to promote victim safety when policies and procedures conflict with best practice.					
162	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates have a process for petitioning for a protective order. There is also a clear process for petitioning when the courts are closed.					
163	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates are familiar with the I-CAN! Program, Virginia's online forms completion system, and utilize I-CAN! where appropriate.					
164	Victim/Witness Assistance Program personnel receive annual training that includes:					
	• Dynamics of domestic/sexual violence					
	• Definition of family abuse. §16.1-228					
	• Definition of acts of violence, force, or threat (§19.2-152.7:1)					
	• Danger assessment					
	• Stalking					
165	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates routinely provide a person seeking a protective order with a written explanation of the conditions, procedures and time limits applicable to the issuance of protective orders. §16.1-260.					
166	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates routinely provide general information regarding local protective order practices to self-represented litigants.					
167	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates routinely provide a person seeking a protective order with information on how to contact the local domestic/sexual violence program.					
168	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates routinely assist GDC PO petitioners with completing petitions for protective orders. These petitions contain as much of Respondent's identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, social security number, sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, driver's license number, driver's license state of issuance, driver's license expiration date, distinguishing features (i.e., scars, marks, tattoos, etc.), and if a weapon is involved. These petitions contain as much of Petitioner's and other protected parties' identifying information as possible, including name, date of birth, sex, and race. No petitions are rejected for any party's incomplete identifying information.					
169	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates have a current list of qualified spoken language and sign language interpreters and utilize translators and interpreters when appropriate or requested.					
170	Victim/Witness Assistance Program Advocates routinely display a courteous and respectful manner to both the petitioner and the respondent and ensure a safe and welcoming environment for individuals seeking protection.					