



**OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY**  
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

**THOMAS A. HAINE**  
STATE'S ATTORNEY

## *How to Obtain an Order of Protection*

- OPTION (1)** Contact the **Madison County State's Attorney's Office**. Our victim advocates can be reached by email at [advocates@co.madison.il.us](mailto:advocates@co.madison.il.us), or leave a message for them at (618) 692-6850 and an advocate will promptly contact you by phone to conduct a brief intake. The State's Attorney's Office may represent crime victims so long as:
- (A) there are, or will be criminal charges filed;
  - (B) the person seeking the Order of Protection doesn't have any pending criminal charges, or child support cases against them; and
  - (C) there is not a pending divorce or family case where the person seeking the Order of Protection is represented by an attorney (or, if they are, the attorney cannot be reached in time to obtain the Emergency Order in time)
- OPTION (2)** If the State's Attorney's Office is unable to assist, please contact **Land of Lincoln Legal Aid** at (618) 462-0029. Land of Lincoln Legal Aid will also conduct a brief intake screening to see if you qualify for free legal aid.
- OPTION (3)** If both the State's Attorney's Office, and Land of Lincoln Legal Aid are unable to represent you, please contact **Oasis Women's Center** at (618) 465-1978. While advocates at Oasis are unable to provide legal representation, they are very familiar with the Madison County Courthouse and may be able to assist you in filling out the necessary forms, guiding you through the filing process, and directing you to further assistance.
- OPTION (4)** If you would like to proceed without legal aid, or the assistance of an advocate, contact the **Madison County Legal Self-Help Center** at (618) 296-4900, or at [lawlibrary@co.madison.il.us](mailto:lawlibrary@co.madison.il.us). The staff at the Self-Help Center can also guide people to forms, guide them through the filing process, or direct them to further assistance.
- OPTION (5)** If you are comfortable, or desire to proceed with filing for an order of protection on your own, please go to Madison County's website at [www.madison.co.il.us](http://www.madison.co.il.us). Once on the main webpage, select "Departments" on the top of the screen. You will be given a list of various departments within Madison County, and should then choose "Circuit Clerk" from the middle of the options list. Once on the Circuit Clerk's website, you will notice another list of legal topics on left hand side of the window. Scroll down until you see "Legal Self-Help Center." Drag your cursor over "Legal Self-Help Center" (DO NOT CLICK IT) and you will be given several other options to select from. From those options, select "Court Forms."

If this process has not worked for you this far, try typing in the following address:

[https://www.co.madison.il.us/departments/circuit\\_court/legal\\_self-help\\_center/court\\_forms.php](https://www.co.madison.il.us/departments/circuit_court/legal_self-help_center/court_forms.php)

Once on the "Forms" page, underneath the heading "Family Division Forms" you will see "Emergency Order of Protection." Please read all instructions carefully, and follow the directions on the left side of the fillable PDF form. When finished, you may either e-file from home or turn in the forms in-person at the Circuit Clerk's Office (Rm 120). If you have questions about filing procedures, you may contact the Circuit Clerk's Office at 296-6200.

*Pursuing truth and seeking justice through application of law.*

157 North Main Street, Suite 402, Edwardsville, Illinois 62025 (618) 692-6280 [www.madco-sa.org](http://www.madco-sa.org)