

Worksheet for the Harassment and/or Stalking Petition

There are several different kinds of protection orders. This worksheet is designed to help you complete a petition for Harassment Orders and/or Stalking Protection Orders.

If you qualify for a Domestic Violence Protection order, this is not the correct form to complete.

To help you figure out which order you may be able to get, read the 2 options in the table below. Each option generally describes harassment or stalking conduct. More than one option may apply:

Option 1 (Harassment protection order) Harassment is a pattern of conduct that makes you feel annoyed, alarmed or distressed.	Option 2 (stalking protection order) Stalking is conduct like harassment, following, or monitoring, that makes you feel intimidated, frightened, or threatened and occurs more than once. It may also involve cyberstalking which is transmitting threats or obscene words or pictures to or about you one or more times.
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You can find a complete definition of Harassment or Stalking at the end of this worksheet.

Your next step is to fill out the petition. In the petition, you will let the court know what protections you want and explain what the other party has done.

If you think the conduct is harassment, then file your petition in this county if the harassment took place here OR if the person who committed the acts lives in this county.

If you think the conduct is stalking, then file your petition in the county where you reside or where you fled to avoid the stalking contact.

➤ **You can start your petition in District Court.**

- The District Court will transfer your case to Superior Court, **or**
- You can start your petition in Superior Court instead of District Court

If:

1. this case involves title or possession of real property, and the respondent claims an interest in that property such as ownership or right to occupy.
2. the order put limits on the respondent's care, custody, or control of his or her minor children.
3. you and the respondent are parties in a superior court case.
- 4a. you are alleging harassment by a respondent who is under the age of 18.
- 4b. you are alleging stalking and the petitioner, victim, or respondent is under the age of 18.

➤ **Definitions**

Unlawful harassment means:

- a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person which seriously alarms, annoys, or harasses, or is detrimental to such person and which serves no legitimate or lawful purpose.
 - The course of conduct shall be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress and shall actually cause substantial emotional distress to

the petitioner, or when the course of conduct would cause a reasonable parent to fear for the well-being of their child.

“Course of conduct:”

- means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose.
- includes, in addition to any other form of communication, contact, or conduct, the sending of an electronic communication. Constitutionally protected activities, including free speech, are not included within the meaning of “course of conduct.”

Stalking Conduct means:

a) any act of stalking as defined under RCW 9A.46.110: A person intentionally and repeatedly harasses or repeatedly follows another person, and

- the person being harassed or followed is placed in fear that the stalker intends to injure the person, another person, or property of the person or of another person. The feeling of fear must be one that a reasonable person in the same situation would experience under all the circumstances; and
- the stalker either: (i) intends to frighten, intimidate, or harass the person; or (ii) knows or reasonably should know that the person is afraid, intimidated, or harassed even if the stalker did not intend to place the person in fear or intimidate or harass the person.

Or

b) any act of cyberstalking as defined under RCW 9.61.260: With intent to harass, intimidate, torment, or embarrass any other person, and under circumstances not constituting telephone harassment, the stalker makes an electronic communication to a person or a third party:

- using any lewd, lascivious, indecent, or obscene words, images, or language, or suggesting the commission of any lewd or lascivious act;
- anonymously or repeatedly whether or not conversation occurs; or
- threatening to inflict injury on the person or property of the person called or any member of his or her family or household.

Or

c) any course of conduct involving repeated or continuing contacts, attempts to contact, monitoring, tracking, keeping under observation, or following another [person] that:

- would cause a reasonable person to feel intimidated, frightened, or threatened and that actually causes such a feeling;
- serves no lawful purpose; and
- the stalker knows or reasonably should know threatens, frightens, or intimidates the person, even if the stalker did not intend to intimidate, frighten, or threaten the person.