

St. Joseph, Missouri Police Department



DIRECTIVE TYPE: SPECIAL ORDER		INDEX NUMBER: SO0205
SUBJECT: Protection Orders		
ISSUE DATE: July 29, 2002	REVISED: 6/8/16	AMENDS/RESCINDS: N/A
REVISIONS CONTINUED:		DISTRIBUTION: B, C (Communications)

I. POLICY:

The diligent enforcement of orders of protection is an important means to prevent family violence. The St. Joseph Police Department will investigate any alleged violation of protection orders, and when probable cause exists, seek prosecution of the offender. Service of court documents including protection orders is primarily the responsibility of the Buchanan County Sheriffs Department.

II. DEFINITIONS:

- A. **Petitioner:** A family or household member or an adult who has been the victim of family violence, other abuse and/or stalking, who has filed a verified court petition.
- B. **Respondent:** The family or household member or adult alleged to have committed an act of family violence, other abuse, or stalking, against whom a verified petition has been filed.
- C. **Ex-Parte order of protection:** An order of protection issued by the court prior to the respondent having received notice of the proceedings and provided an opportunity to be heard.
- D. **Full order of protection:** An order of protection issued following a hearing on the record where the respondent has received notice of the proceedings, and been provided an opportunity to be heard.

III. PROCEDURE:

A. Issuance and service of protection orders:

1. A copy of valid Buchanan County protection orders shall be kept on file in the Buchanan County Sheriff's Department Records Division.
2. Communications Center personnel shall enter orders into the MULES system for purposes of verification within 24 hours from the time the order is granted.
3. In the event that an officer should encounter an individual who is named as the respondent in an Ex-Parte order that has not been served, the following options are available:
 - a) Original service orders are in the possession of the Buchanan County Sheriffs Department road patrol deputies on any shift. The officer may request that the deputy respond to their location and serve the order

