

## KEEP A COPY OF YOUR ORDER OF PROTECTION WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES



Your Tennessee Order of Protection is good in other states if everything on this list is true:

- A judge signed the Order of Protection.
- The judge had legal power (jurisdiction) over the people and the case.
- You had a court hearing **OR** the court has set a date for a hearing so the abuser can tell his or her side of the story.

All states must follow a Tennessee Order of Protection the same way they would follow one from their state. They must use the same punishments for violating a Tennessee Order of Protection that they use when someone violates an order from their state.



### How do I enforce my Tennessee Order of Protection when I am in another state or county?

Different states have different rules. It is important to know the rules when you will be living or visiting. Some states require you to “register” or file your order. This lets the court and police know about the order.



Find out the other state’s rules before you try to enforce your order there. **Some states tell your abuser if you register your order there.** If you know this, you can decide what is best for you.

### Will I need help to get my order enforced in another state?

You may. In some places, it is hard to enforce an order without help. A lawyer or a domestic violence advocate may be able to help.

### What things will I need to get my order enforced in another state?

1. A certified copy of your order. A certified copy is one that is signed or initialed by the clerk of the court that gave you the order. Usually, it has some kind of court stamp. If your copy is not certified, ask the court that gave you the order for a certified copy. You can get help with this if you ask the county court clerk, a domestic violence advocate, or a lawyer.
2. The phone number of the court clerk where you got your order.
3. The number of the nearest domestic violence program in the new state.
4. The registration number for your order. Tennessee orders have a National Crime Information Center or NIC number. Some states will want to know what it is.
5. Be sure you take the phone number of the local Tennessee police or sheriff who has your order on file. If the state where you are going needs to the NIC number for your order, they can get it from the Tennessee police or sheriff who has it on file.

### What if my Tennessee Order is ex parte (only good for 15 days)?

Another state will follow it **IF**:

- Your abuser has been served with the order, **and**
- A court hearing will be held in Tennessee before your ex parte order ends.

### What if you cannot be there on the date of the hearing?

If you do not go to the hearing, your ex parte order will end after 15 days. If you need protection longer than 15 days, you **must** go to the hearing. Another state **cannot** change your ex parte Tennessee order.

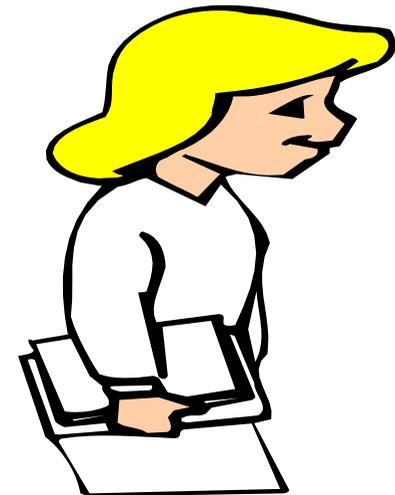
A lawyer or a domestic violence advocate may be able to help you change the date of the hearing so you can be there. After a hearing, the Tennessee court can give you an order that lasts a year.

### Are there any problems with getting my Tennessee order enforced in another state?

Here are some problems that might come up in another state:

1. The rules in some states can put you in danger. For example, some states tell your abuser if you register your Order of Protection there.
2. The law that says states must enforce Orders of Protection from other states is called the Violence Against Women Act. Judges, clerks, and police officers in some states may not know this law as well as they should. You may need an advocate or a lawyer to help you.

If your order gives you custody and you think that your abuser may try to take the children, contract a lawyer or advocate right away. They can make sure that the child custody part of your Order is written to follow the other laws about child custody.



## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



### Court Clerk

In Tennessee \_\_\_\_\_  
In the State when you are going \_\_\_\_\_

### Domestic Violence Program/Hot Line

In Tennessee \_\_\_\_\_  
In the State when you are going \_\_\_\_\_

### State Police

In Tennessee \_\_\_\_\_  
In the State when you are going \_\_\_\_\_

### Local Police

In Tennessee \_\_\_\_\_  
In the State when you are going \_\_\_\_\_

### Your Lawyer

In Tennessee \_\_\_\_\_  
In the State when you are going \_\_\_\_\_

---

National Domestic Violence 24 hour  
HOT LINE  
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)  
1-800-787-3224 (TDD/TTY)

## OFFICE HOURS AND LOCATIONS

Legal Aid of East Tennessee offices are open from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Executive Director - David Yoder  
(865)637-0484

### Associate Director - Eric Miller

311 W. Walnut Street	1001 W 2nd N. Street
Johnson City, TN 37604	Morristown, TN 37814
(423)928-8311	(423)587-4850
1(800)821-1312	1(800)821-1309
Fax (423)928-9488	Fax (423)587-4857

### Associate Director - Debra House

502 South Gay Street	Compton Place
Suite 404	307 Ellis Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37902	Maryville, TN 37801
(865)637-0484	(865)981-1818
Fax (865)525-1162	Fax (865)981-1816
and (865)525-5277	

### Associate Director - Russell Fowler

744 McCallie Avenue	85 Central Ave., NW
Suite 410	Cleveland, TN 37311
Chattanooga, TN 37403	
(423)756-4013	(423)479-8577
1(800)572-7457	1(800)445-3219
Fax (423)265-4164	Fax (423)339-3282

Linea Gratis en Español 1(866)408-6573

No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

This pamphlet is intended for general information only. The circumstances of every case are different and need to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. This is not a substitute for the advice of a lawyer. Also, the law may change and may be different from county to county.



FL 8/07



# USING YOUR TENNESSEE ORDER OF PROTECTION IN ANOTHER STATE



## LEGAL AID OF EAST TENNESSEE

Serving Bledsoe, Bradley, Blount, Carter, Cocke, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Loudon, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Counties.