

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

You are required to appear for a hearing on the Petitioner's request for a Civil Protection Order. Upon your arrival at the designated Courtroom, you must check in with the clerk outside of the Courtroom. When both parties are present, the parties will meet separately with an attorney-negotiator who is employed by the Court. The attorney-negotiator will present to you what the petitioner is requesting. Please arrive on time -cases are submitted to the attorney-negotiator roughly on a first-come, first-served" basis.

You have two choices. You may consent to the Court issuing a Civil Protection Order with the conditions requested by the Petitioner; or you may request a hearing. If you request a hearing, the hearing will be held on the same day. Therefore, witnesses relevant to your position should be present and you should bring with you any evidence which supports your position.

A request for a Civil Protection Order is a civil proceeding and therefore, you do not have the right to a court appointed attorney. However, you may have an attorney represent you AT YOUR EXPENSE.

Finally, if you were also served with a petition for child support, you should read the "Notice of Hearing and Order to Appear." It includes a list of documents you must bring to the child support hearing.