

## DOMESTIC ABUSE : APPLYING FOR A PROTECTIVE MEASURE

**Victim of an abusive spouse, refer the matter to a judge.  
He will take precautions to ensure your safety and that of your children.**

### What is a protection order?

- This is a **decision taken by a Family Court Judge (JAF)** urgently to protect you and your children if you are in danger.
- It can prevent **your partner from coming near you.**
- It may be accompanied **by temporary measures** : allocation of the conjugal home, exercise of parental authority, alimony, proximity alert bracelet, etc.



### veral places to obtain help

Beatings, insults, threats, humiliation, blackmail and rape among others are prohibited and punishable by law. If you are suffering such abuse, **contact an association against domestic abuse** by phone or go to one of the anonymous and free places where you can talk. You will find information about your rights, psychological support, help finding emergency housing, health care facilities and social services.

- **3919** : Free number for women suffering domestic abuse, 7 days a week, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday to Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and public holidays.

- **Women's and Family Rights Information Centres** (CIDFF), [www.infodemmes.com](http://www.infodemmes.com).

**National number : 116 006**, free.

- **France Victimes** (national federation of victim support associations) provides information for each department on associations that can help you if you are a victim of domestic abuse [www.france-victimes.fr](http://www.france-victimes.fr)

- **Fédération nationale solidarité femmes - FNSF** (national federation for women's support) lists the corresponding associations present in France [www.solidaritefemmes.org](http://www.solidaritefemmes.org)

- [Arretonslesviolences.gouv.fr](http://Arretonslesviolences.gouv.fr) has a large amount of information on violence against women.

**115** To request emergency accommodation

### First step: file a complaint at the police station

An incident report is useless !

The police have an obligation to take your complaint.

To certify your physical injuries or psychological after-effects, ask to see a doctor at the forensic medical unit (UMJ). They only work with the police. If there are witnesses, ask them to come with you.

### Gather as much evidence as possible

- photos of injuries (dated),
- medical certificates,
- SMS, emails, voice messages, screenshots,
- testimonies from friends and family,
- receipt showing you have filed a complaint, incident report, etc.

**In case of emergency,**

**17** police/gendarmerie

**112** single European number

**114** by SMS if you can't talk

## The procedure before the judge

**Optional, but strongly advised** : consult a lawyer.

Your lawyer's fees may be covered by legal aid, depending on your income and the composition of your household ([link to legal aid application form](#)).

### Application for

a protection order (cerfa form no. 15458\*04 : [https://www.formulaires.service-public.fr/gf/cerfa\\_15458.do](https://www.formulaires.service-public.fr/gf/cerfa_15458.do)) download or withdraw it from the court attached to your residence.

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### Documents

- proving the abuse and dangers suffered (copy of complaint, medical certificates, testimonies, etc.) ;
- proving that you are or were a couple (full copy of the marriage certificate delivered less than 3 months, civil union registration, divorce ruling, etc.) ;
- a full copy of your and your children's birth certificates delivered less than 3 months beforehand ;
- proof of your income and expenses : payslips for the last 3 months, unemployment benefits, RSA, rent receipts, etc.

Send or Deposit

Clerk of the Family Court Judge (JAF) of the court attached to your residence : [www.justice.fr](http://www.justice.fr)

sent promptly to the family court judge

**Order of the family court judge** : the judge sets a date for a hearing within 6 days.

within 6 days

48 hours

**Order served by bailiff** to your (former) spouse indicating the hearing date and the application. If you have a lawyer, he is the one who will take care of it.

**Hearing at the chambers of the family court judge**, together with the spouse or separately. Your presence is not required if you have a lawyer. **The family court judge renders his decision.**

### Tip

Are you a domestic abuse victim and you can't talk? Draw a dot on your hand. It's a discrete way to alert people, who, if they know the code, can help you #pointnoir (black dot) [www.pointnoir.com](http://www.pointnoir.com)

### Protection order

with the related measures to protect the victim

- **Estrangement** : the perpetrator of the abuse is prohibited from contacting you or living in your home.
- **The proximity alert bracelet** : electronic bracelet to be worn by the spouse that alerts the police or gendarmerie as soon as he approaches the victim within a certain perimeter defined by the judge.
- **Serious danger telephone** : enables the police to be alerted and intervene rapidly using a geolocation system.

**Application rejected** (he considers the facts as not probable)

