

State of Michigan
65B JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
Gratiot County



Stewart D. McDonald
District Court Judge P30191

Telephone: (989) 875-5240
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245 East Newark Street • Ithaca, Michigan 48847

65B District Court policy to lift a “no contact” order

As the victim of a crime, and/or at your request, the court has ordered that the defendant in this case shall have no contact, direct or indirect, with you. This means that he/she cannot call you, approach you in person, text you, email you, or contact you on social media (facebook, twitter, etc.). They also cannot have someone else talk to you, or write to you, or do any of the other prohibited actions without it being a violation of his/her bond conditions and/or probation order. This order is in place for your protection and safety and to help minimize the risk of further harm to you and further violations of the law.

However, we realize that there are sometimes circumstances in which you may want to request the court to consider lifting the no contact order. If you wish to have the court consider lifting the no contact order, there are certain steps that must be followed by both the victim and defendant:

- The victim must complete a minimum of three sessions with a counselor from woman’s aid service, or other licensed agency qualified to address domestic violence issues. The counselor must agree, and confirm to the probation officer in writing, that lifting the no contact order would be appropriate. The defendant must also be in counseling and his/her counselor must agree, and confirm to the probation officer in writing, that lifting the no contact order is appropriate at this time. Please note that not all agencies are willing to provide the court with these documents. It is your responsibility to ensure that the agency you are working with will provide the court with this documentation.
- Once both counselors have provided written confirmation that lifting the no contact order is appropriate the probation officer will provide that information to the prosecutor’s office, giving the prosecutor, on behalf of the people, the opportunity to object to the court lifting the no contact order.
- If there are no objections from the prosecutor’s office the court will set a date and time for both the victim and the defendant to come in to court, and make the request at a hearing on the record. Notice of the hearing date and time will be provided to the victim, defendant, and the prosecutor.
- At the hearing the judge will decide whether to grant your request, and lift the no contact order. This final decision is within the court’s discretion, and can only be made by the Judge. Following these steps is NOT a guarantee that the Judge will grant the request and in fact lift the no contact order. However, the court will not consider lifting the no contact order or schedule a hearing on such a request until these steps are followed and completed.

Court Administrator:

Court Personnel:

Probation Department:

Angelina R. Ballard
Administrator/Magistrate
(989) 875-5371
Angela M. MacLennan
Judicial Secretary/Court Recorder
(989) 875-5377

Pamela S. Schafer
Magistrate/Criminal Clerk
(989) 875-5376
Stacey J. Schafer
Criminal Clerk
(989) 875-5372

Luanne K. Billings
Deputy Clerk/Traffic Clerk
(989) 875-5374
Sherri L. Moon
Deputy Clerk/Traffic Clerk
(989) 875-5362

Kimberly S. Becker
Magistrate/Civil Clerk
(989) 875-5375
Mary Pat Breidinger
Deputy Clerk/Bookkeeper
(989) 875-5373

Daisy K. Beckett
Probation Officer
(989) 875-5243
Jacalyn G. MacDonald
Deputy Probation Officer
(989) 875-5340

Women's Aid Classes in Alma and Mt. Pleasant	PO Box 743 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804	<i>Individual counseling - Mariah</i>	989-773-0078
PATS	4601 W Saginaw Lansing, MI 48917	Domestic violence weekend Program recommended out of weekend	517-323-8149
Alternative Counseling Center	Stanton	Domestic violence counseling	989-831-9111
Cognitive Consultants	4500 Empire Way, Suite 12 Lansing, MI 48917	Domestic Abuse Program	517-322-3050
Taylor Life Center	585 Jewett Road Mason, MI	Batterer's Intervention Program	517-676-5405
Highfields Inc	3400 S. Cedar St., Ste. 201 Lansing, MI 48910	Alternatives	517-887-2762
McMathis	1609 East Michigan suite B Lansing, MI 48912	VISTA	517.267.9720
GroundWork Counseling	P.O. Box 81151 Lansing	MENVision 75/35 Serves Clinton, Ingham, Eaton	517.763-6969
Kelly Martin	110 S Greenville West Dr, Suite 3 Greenville	Batterer Intervention Program	989.289.0542
Saginaw Psychological Program	2100 Hemmeter Rd Saginaw, MI	Batterer's Intervention Treatment Program,	989-799-2100
Macomb Family Services	36975 Utica Rd Suite 104 Clinton Twp, MI 48036	Domestic violence/anger management	586-226-3440 ph 586-226-3740 fax
Cristo Rey Community Center www.cristo-rey.com	1717 North High St Lansing, MI 48915	Anger Management and Domestic violence counseling/prevention	Ph 517-372-4700 Fax 517-372-8499
Safe Center Www.thesafecenter.org	PO Box 472 St. Johns, MI 48879	Domestic and sexual violence services	Ph 877-952-7283 Fax 989-224-6947
Safe Center www.thesafecenter.org	1300 N Hickory Owosso, MI 48867	Domestic and sexual violence services	Ph 989-723-9716 fax 989-723-3822

For the defendant

You may use an agency that is not listed above. However, programs may use diverse intervention methods and techniques to accomplish the primary goal of ending batterers' use of violence and abuse. The curriculum of the educational component shall, at a minimum, include:

- a) Identification and confrontation of abusive and controlling behaviors to victims including partners and children.
- b) Identification and discussion of the effects of violence and abuse on victims, including children who witness such abuse. The short and long term effects of violence on victims and children shall be enumerated. The program staff shall understand, present and attempt to teach batterers to see the perspectives of the victim and children.
- c) Promotion of responsibility and accountability. This includes identification and confrontation of excuses for abuse. Programs will promote the fact that abuse is the sole choice and responsibility of the batterer. Abuse is never justified.
- d) Identification of cultural and social influences that contribute to the choice to use abusive behavior. These issues shall not be allowed to excuse or justify individual responsibility for abuse.
- e) Identification and practice of non-threatening and non-abusive forms of behavior. Batterers are expected to learn non-abusive and responsible ways of treating the victim(s) and children.