

## DV/SA Victim Advocacy Centers

**Belcourt - Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa  
Hearts of Hope**  
Crisis Line: 701.477.0002  
Office: 701.477.0002  
E-mail: [gourneau@utma.com](mailto:gourneau@utma.com)

**Beulah  
Women's Action & Resource Center**  
Crisis Line: 701.873.2274  
Office: 701.873.2274  
[mercerwarc.com](http://mercerwarc.com)

**Bismarck  
Abused Adult Resource Center**  
Crisis Line: 866.341.7009  
Office: 701.222.8370  
[abusedadultresourcecenter.com](http://abusedadultresourcecenter.com)

**Bottineau  
Family Crisis Center**  
Crisis Line: 800.398.1098  
Office: 701.228.2028  
[famcrisiscenter.org](http://famcrisiscenter.org)

**Dickinson  
Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Center**  
Crisis Line: 888.225.4506  
Office: 701.225.4506  
[dvrcnd.com](http://dvrcnd.com)

**Ellendale  
Kedish House**  
Crisis Line: 877.349.5118  
Office: 701.349.4729  
[kedish-house.com](http://kedish-house.com)

**Fargo  
Rape and Abuse Crisis Center**  
Crisis Line: 800.344.7273  
Office: 701.293.7273  
[raccfm.com](http://raccfm.com)

**Fort Totten - Spirit Lake Nation  
Spirit Lake Victim Assistance**  
Crisis Line: 701.766.1816  
Office: 701.766.1816  
[spiritlakenation.com/programs/spirit-lake-victim-assistance/](http://spiritlakenation.com/programs/spirit-lake-victim-assistance/)

**Grafton  
Domestic Violence & Abuse Center Inc.**  
Crisis Line: 866.435.7490  
Office: 701.331.0466  
[dvacnd.org](http://dvacnd.org)

**Grand Forks  
Community Violence Intervention Center**  
Crisis Line: 866.746.8900  
Office: 701.746.0405  
[cviconline.org](http://cviconline.org)

**Jamestown  
Safe Shelter**  
Crisis Line: 888.353.7233  
Office: 701.251.2300  
[safeshelterjamestown.org](http://safeshelterjamestown.org)

**Lisbon  
Abuse Resource Network**  
Crisis Line: 701.683.5061  
Office: 701.683.5061  
[abuseresourcenetwork.org](http://abuseresourcenetwork.org)

**Minot  
Domestic Violence Crisis Center**  
Crisis Line: 701.852.2258  
Office: 701.852.2258  
[courage4change.org](http://courage4change.org)

**Stanley  
Domestic Violence Program NW ND**  
Crisis Line: 800.273.8232  
Office: 701.628.3233  
[dvprwnd.weebly.com](http://dvprwnd.weebly.com)

**Valley City  
Abused Persons Outreach Center**  
Crisis Line: 701.845.0072  
Office: 701.845.0078  
[apocnd.org](http://apocnd.org)

**Wahpeton  
Three Rivers Crisis Center**  
Crisis Line: 701.642.2115  
Office: 701.642.2115  
[threeriverscrisiscenter.com](http://threeriverscrisiscenter.com)

**Washburn  
McLean Family Resource Center**  
Crisis Line: 701.462.8643  
Office: 701.462.8643  
[mcleanfrc.weebly.com](http://mcleanfrc.weebly.com)

**Williston  
Family Crisis Shelter**  
Crisis Line: 701.770.5180  
Office: 701.572.0757  
[familycrisisshelter.com](http://familycrisisshelter.com)

## Enforcement of Military Orders

According to the Armed Forces Domestic Security Act of 2002, military installations shall enforce valid protection orders that are issued by states, tribes, or U.S. territories. This means military police have the authority to enforce non-military orders issued against service members. However, if an order is issued through the military, they are only enforceable on the base where they are issued. This is because military orders do not meet the qualifying conditions to be eligible for full faith and credit (see “*Which Foreign Orders Can be Enforced?*”).

## Enforcement of Tribal Orders

States are required to recognize and enforce tribal court orders that meet the federal definition of a protection order. Tribal courts can issue both civil and criminal protection orders in cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Typically, tribal courts do not have criminal jurisdiction over non-Native American offenders, but some tribes may have special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over non-tribal members. If they don't have jurisdiction over the offender, tribal law enforcement can stop, detain, and transport non-Native American offenders to state or federal authorities who have jurisdiction over them.

Some information in this brochure was taken from the following source:  
National Center on Protection Orders and Full Faith & Credit. (2011, March). *Full Faith and Credit for Protection Orders*. Battered Women's Justice Project. [https://www.bwjp.org/assets/documents/pdfs/ffc\\_advocate\\_guide.pdf](https://www.bwjp.org/assets/documents/pdfs/ffc_advocate_guide.pdf)



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[nddsvc.org](http://nddsvc.org)  
[contact@nddsvc.org](mailto:contact@nddsvc.org)



*NDD SVC does not provide direct services to victims and survivors. Contact a DV/SA advocacy center near you if you are looking for support. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.*

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**North Dakota  
Domestic & Sexual  
Violence Coalition**

# Full Faith & Credit: Enforcement of Protection Orders in North Dakota

## What is Full Faith & Credit?

Full faith and credit is a legal term that means states, tribes, and territories are required to respect the laws and judgments of other states, tribes, and territories. In the case of protection orders, it means that if you receive a qualifying protection order, all states, tribes, and territories must honor it. Just like other states and jurisdictions recognize your driver's license or marriage license, they are also required to recognize and enforce your protection order. “**Jurisdiction**” means the geographic area where a court or police have the power to handle a case and enforce a protection order, or a government's authority over people within its territory.

Full faith and credit also means that if a respondent violates a protection order, they can be arrested and prosecuted in any state or territory.

Full faith and credit for protection orders is enforced federally through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). North Dakota law (N.D.C.C. 14-07.4) further enables courts and law enforcement to enforce orders from other jurisdictions.

## How are Foreign Orders Enforced?

Court orders from other states, territories, or tribal lands are often called foreign orders. Each state, territory, or tribe must enforce foreign orders in the same way they enforce their own orders. If a respondent violates a protection order from another state, the penalties are set by the state enforcing the order, not the state that issued it.

For example, if you live in Minnesota and get a protection order there, Minnesota determines what protections you receive through the order and the length of the order. If you move to North Dakota and the respondent violates the order, North Dakota determines whether the respondent is arrested, what they're charged with, and what penalties they may face.

North Dakota, or any tribe in North Dakota, cannot extend the date of a foreign order. To extend an order, you need to contact the court that issued the order.

### The jurisdiction that **issues** the order decides:

- Who is able to get protection
- What type(s) of relief someone can receive
- How long the order is in effect

### The jurisdiction that **enforces** the order decides:

- How violations are handled
- Whether the respondent is arrested by law enforcement
- What the respondent is charged with
- What the respondent receives as penalties for violations

## Which Foreign Orders Can be Enforced?

**Orders that meet the following conditions can be enforced through full faith and credit:**

- The protected party must be a spouse, former spouse, a person who lives with or has lived with the respondent, a person who has a child in common with the respondent, or be a child of the respondent.
- The order must have been issued following a hearing where the respondent had the chance to appear. In the case of a temporary or *ex parte* order, the respondent was given notice and has had or will have an opportunity to be heard within a reasonable time after the issuing of the order.
- The order must restrain the respondent from having physical contact or communication with the petitioner including harassment, stalking, sexual violence, threats, or any form of violence.
- The protection order was issued by a judge who had jurisdiction over the people in the case.

## Registering an Order

If you relocate, you have the option of registering your foreign protection order in your new jurisdiction. Registering your order makes law enforcement and the courts in your new area aware that your order exists. This may help law enforcement quickly locate and enforce your order if the respondent violates it. However, even if you don't register your order in your new jurisdiction, law enforcement and courts are still required by federal law to enforce your protection order. Registration is mostly a proactive step that may make enforcing your order quicker and easier in the event of a violation.

Registering your foreign protection order can be dangerous if you don't want the respondent to know your location. The Violence Against Women Act expressly prohibits states, territories, and tribes from sending notice of the registration of protection orders to respondents, but some courts may still notify abusers, contrary to federal law. You can request to have the foreign order served to the respondent if you would like them to be notified though. North Dakota law enforcement officers can serve foreign orders, and they cannot charge you any fees for doing so.

If you choose to register your order, you must take a certified copy of your order to your Tribal or District Clerk of Court's office. A certified copy is an official duplicate of an original document. This means that the copy has been signed or initialed by an official—usually the Clerk of Court that gave you the order—and it may have a court stamp. You will be asked to sign an affidavit saying that the copy of the order is up to date and correct and you will inform the court if the order changes. The clerk will take the certified copy of your order and deliver it to the court and the sheriff's department.

## Challenges With Enforcement

As with any process, you may encounter challenges with getting your foreign protection order enforced, including:

- You have more information about your situation than law enforcement and the courts do.
- Some areas of the criminal justice system may have more experience with orders than others.
- If you don't have a certified copy of the order or it's not registered, you may have trouble getting it enforced. A certified copy can be obtained from the Clerk of Court in the jurisdiction that granted the order.

If you are experiencing any of these challenges, contact a domestic violence/sexual assault (DV/SA) victim advocate or an attorney to help you. All DV/SA advocate services are free and confidential.

## Immigrants

Immigrants may face increased difficulties in getting orders enforced. You may want to weigh any risks, options, and rights before you request your order to be enforced. Unfortunately, anyone that does not have legal status in the United States could face deportation. This includes the respondent, household or family members, and yourself. For help understanding your options, contact the ALL ND Victims Legal Line at 701.223.7610. All services provided by ALL ND Victims are free and confidential.

## Custody of Children

The Violence Against Women Act says that custody provisions within protection orders must be enforced across state lines. However, some jurisdictions may require you to take additional steps before they will allow law enforcement to remove children from the respondent. These steps could include registering your order and receiving a removal order from the court to assist you and law enforcement. If this occurs, contact a DV/SA advocate or an attorney to assist you.

## New Court Order

You may be able to get a new protection order in your new jurisdiction to replace the current one. However, the respondent would be informed of your new location and will have the opportunity to be heard at a hearing. Contact a DV/SA advocate or an attorney for help determining if you are eligible for a new order. You may lose or gain some protections by applying for a North Dakota order.