

3 Senate Bill No. 1476

4 SENATE BILL NO. 1476 - By: BASS of the Senate and BANZ of the House.

5 An Act relating to criminal procedure; amending 22 O.S.
6 2001, Section 60.4, as last amended by Section 15, Chapter
7 348, O.S.L. 2005 (22 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 60.4), which
8 relates to protective orders; modifying certain procedures;
9 and providing an effective date.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

11 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2001, Section 60.4, as
12 last amended by Section 15, Chapter 348, O.S.L. 2005 (22 O.S. Supp.
13 2005, Section 60.4), is amended to read as follows:

14 Section 60.4 A. 1. A copy of ~~the~~ a petition for a protective
15 order, notice of hearing and a copy of any emergency ex parte order
16 issued by the court shall be served upon the defendant in the same
17 manner as a bench warrant. In addition, if the service is to be in
18 another county, the court clerk may issue service to the sheriff by
19 facsimile or other electronic transmission for service by the
20 sheriff. Any fee for service of ~~an emergency ex parte order~~, a
21 petition for protective order, ~~and~~ notice of hearing, and emergency
22 ex parte order shall only be charged pursuant to subsection C of
23 Section 60.2 of this title and, if charged, shall be the same as the
24 sheriff's service fee plus mileage expenses.

1 2. Emergency ex parte orders shall be given priority for
2 service and can be served twenty-four (24) hours a day when the
3 location of the defendant is known. When service cannot be made
4 upon the defendant by the sheriff, the sheriff may contact another
5 law enforcement officer or a private investigator or private process
6 server to serve the defendant.

7 3. An emergency ex parte order, a petition for protective
8 order, and a notice of hearing shall have statewide validity and may
9 be transferred to any law enforcement jurisdiction to effect service
10 upon the defendant.

11 4. The return of service shall be submitted to the sheriff's
12 office in the court where the petition, notice of hearing or order
13 was issued.

14 5. When the defendant is a minor child who is ordered removed
15 from the residence of the victim, in addition to those documents
16 served upon the defendant, a copy of the petition, notice of hearing
17 and a copy of any ex parte order issued by the court shall be
18 delivered with the child to the caretaker of the place where such
19 child is taken pursuant to Section 7303-1.1 of Title 10 of the
20 Oklahoma Statutes.

21 B. 1. Within twenty (20) days of the filing of the petition
22 for a protective order, the court shall schedule a full hearing on
23 the petition, if the court finds sufficient grounds within the scope

1 of the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act stated in the petition to
2 hold such a hearing, regardless of whether an emergency ex parte
3 order has been previously issued, requested or denied. Provided,
4 however, when the defendant is a minor child who has been removed
5 from the residence pursuant to Section 7303-1.1 of Title 10 of the
6 Oklahoma Statutes, the court shall schedule a full hearing on the
7 petition within seventy-two (72) hours, regardless of whether an
8 emergency ex parte order has been previously issued, requested or
9 denied.

10 2. The court may schedule a full hearing on the petition for a
11 protective order within seventy-two (72) hours when the court issues
12 an emergency ex parte order suspending child visitation rights due
13 to physical violence or threat of abuse.

14 3. If service has not been made on the defendant at the time of
15 the hearing, the court shall ~~continue the hearing,~~ at the request of
16 the petitioner, issue a new emergency order reflecting a new hearing
17 date and direct service to issue.

18 4. A petition for a protective order shall ~~automatically,~~ upon
19 the petitioner's request, renew every twenty (20) days with a new
20 hearing date assigned until the defendant is served. A petition for
21 a protective order shall not expire ~~and~~ unless the petitioner fails
22 to appear at the hearing or fails to request a new order. A
23 petitioner may move to dismiss the petition and emergency or final

1 order at any time, however, a protective order must be dismissed by
2 court order.

3 5. Failure to serve the defendant shall not be grounds for
4 dismissal of a petition or an ex parte order unless the victim
5 requests dismissal or fails to appear for the hearing thereon.

6 C. 1. At the hearing, the court may impose any terms and
7 conditions in the protective order that the court reasonably
8 believes are necessary to bring about the cessation of domestic
9 abuse against the victim or stalking or harassment of the victim or
10 the victim's immediate family and may order the defendant to obtain
11 domestic abuse counseling or treatment in a program certified by the
12 Attorney General at the defendant's expense pursuant to Section 644
13 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

14 2. If the court grants a protective order and the defendant is
15 a minor child, the court shall order a preliminary inquiry in a
16 juvenile proceeding to determine whether further court action
17 pursuant to the Oklahoma Juvenile Code should be taken against a
18 juvenile defendant.

19 D. Final protective orders authorized by this section shall be
20 on a standard form developed by the Administrative Office of the
21 Courts.

22 E. 1. After notice and hearing, protective orders authorized
23 by this section may require the plaintiff or the defendant or both

1 to undergo treatment or participate in the court-approved counseling
2 services necessary to bring about cessation of domestic abuse
3 against the victim pursuant to Section 644 of Title 21 of the
4 Oklahoma Statutes.

5 2. Either party or both may be required to pay all or any part
6 of the cost of such treatment or counseling services. The court
7 shall not be responsible for such cost.

8 F. When necessary to protect the victim and when authorized by
9 the court, protective orders granted pursuant to the provisions of
10 this section may be served upon the defendant by a peace officer,
11 sheriff, constable, or policeman or other officer whose duty it is
12 to preserve the peace, as defined by Section 99 of Title 21 of the
13 Oklahoma Statutes.

14 G. 1. Any protective order issued on or after November 1,
15 1999, pursuant to subsection C of this section shall be for a fixed
16 period not to exceed a period of three (3) years unless extended,
17 modified, vacated or rescinded upon motion by either party or if the
18 court approves any consent agreement entered into by the plaintiff
19 and defendant.

20 2. The court shall notify the parties at the time of the
21 issuance of the protective order of the duration of the protective
22 order.

1 3. Upon the filing of a motion by either party to modify,
2 extend, or vacate a protective order, a hearing shall be scheduled
3 and notice given to the parties. At the hearing, the issuing court
4 may take such action as is necessary under the circumstances.

5 4. If a child has been removed from the residence of a parent
6 or custodial adult because of domestic abuse committed by the child,
7 the parent or custodial adult may refuse the return of such child to
8 the residence, unless upon further consideration by the court in a
9 juvenile proceeding, it is determined that the child is no longer a
10 threat and should be allowed to return to the residence.

11 H. 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly and
12 willfully seek a protective order against a spouse or ex-spouse
13 pursuant to the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act for purposes of
14 harassment, undue advantage, intimidation, or limitation of child
15 visitation rights in any divorce proceeding or separation action
16 without justifiable cause.

17 2. The violator shall, upon conviction thereof, be guilty of a
18 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for a
19 period not exceeding one (1) year or by a fine not to exceed Five
20 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

21 3. A second or subsequent conviction under this subsection
22 shall be a felony punishable by imprisonment in the custody of the
23 Department of Corrections for a period not to exceed two (2) years,

1 or by a fine not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), or by
2 both such fine and imprisonment.

3 I. 1. A protective order issued under the Protection from
4 Domestic Abuse Act shall not in any manner affect title to real
5 property, purport to grant to the parties a divorce or otherwise
6 purport to determine the issues between the parties as to child
7 custody, visitation or visitation schedules, child support or
8 division of property or any other like relief obtainable pursuant to
9 Title 43 of the Oklahoma Statutes, except child visitation orders
10 may be temporarily suspended or modified to protect from threats of
11 abuse or physical violence by the defendant or a threat to violate a
12 custody order.

13 2. When granting any protective order for the protection of a
14 minor child from violence or threats of abuse, the court shall allow
15 visitation only under conditions that provide adequate supervision
16 and protection to the child while maintaining the integrity of a
17 divorce decree or temporary order.

18 J. 1. A court shall not issue any mutual protective orders.

19 2. If both parties allege domestic abuse by the other party,
20 the parties shall do so by separate petitions. The court shall
21 review each petition separately, in an individual or a consolidated
22 hearing and grant or deny each petition on its individual merits. If
23 the court finds cause to grant both motions, the court shall do so

1 by separate orders and with specific findings justifying the
2 issuance of each order.

3 3. The court may only consolidate a hearing if:

4 a. the court makes specific findings that:

5 (1) sufficient evidence exists of domestic abuse,
6 stalking, harassment or rape against each party,
7 and

8 (2) each party acted primarily as aggressors, and

9 b. the defendant filed a petition with the court for a
10 protective order no less than three (3) days, not
11 including weekends or holidays, prior to the first
12 scheduled full hearing on the petition filed by the
13 plaintiff, and

14 c. the defendant had no less than forty-eight (48) hours'
15 notice prior to the full hearing on the petition filed
16 by the plaintiff.

17 K. The court may allow a plaintiff or victim to be accompanied
18 by a victim support person at court proceedings. A victim support
19 person shall not make legal arguments, however, a victim support
20 person who is not a licensed attorney may offer the plaintiff or
21 victim comfort or support and may remain in close proximity to the
22 plaintiff or victim.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

1 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, dated 2-7-06 - DO PASS,
2 As Coauthored.