



OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
Office of the State Court Administrator

August 21, 2020
(SENT BY EMAIL)

MEMORANDUM

TO: OSB Staff and Justice Partners

FROM: Erin Pettigrew, Access to Justice Counsel for Legislative Affairs
Lisa Norris-Lampe, Appellate Legal Counsel
L. Samuel Dupree, Assistant General Counsel

RE: Electronic Submission of Protective Orders

The Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) has enhanced its Online Forms Center and updated court rules to permit the electronic submission of filings relating to the following types of restraining orders: Family Abuse Protection Act (FAPA), Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities Abuse Prevention Act (EPPDAPA), and sexual abuse restraining orders.

Take away: Starting September 1, if the community or clients you serve need a restraining order, they will be able to file their paperwork electronically (with one limitation in Lane County noted below). They will not need to go to court in person to submit the filing, nor mail the paperwork.

The specific changes are:

- In OJD's electronic forms system accessible in OJD's Online Forms Center ("Guide & File"), all FAPA filings – except dismissals – can be electronically submitted to the court upon completion. UTCR 21.070(3)(m) has been amended accordingly, per [Chief Justice Order \(CJO\) 20-031](#).
- In OJD's eFiling system ("File & Serve"), in all counties except Lane County, registered eFilers may electronically file documents in FAPA, EPPDAPA, and sexual abuse restraining order cases, which now can be expeditiously processed once received by the court. Thus, for all counties except Lane, there are two avenues to file electronically.

- The following changes are being implemented in the four courts that, by Supplementary Local Rule (SLR), have to date required FAPA, EPPDAPA, and sexual abuse restraining order filings to be filed conventionally at *ex parte*:
 - Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington: In each court, SLR 2.501 is being updated to permit submission of the identified filings through both the electronic forms system (Guide & File) and the eFiling system (File & Serve).
 - Lane: SLR 2.501 is being updated to permit submission through the electronic forms system only (Guide & File). (Lane County otherwise works with the Victim Services Division of the local DA's office, to facilitate in-person filing of restraining order documents).
- When eFiling (File & Serve) a document on a FAPA, EPPDAPA, or sexual abuse restraining order case, use one of the following filing codes (assuming that one applies; OJD has created a queue to fast-track the processing of filings containing these codes):
 - Petition – Abuse Prevention (PTAB)
 - Request – Hearing Protective Order (RQHP)
 - Motion – Less Restrictive Terms (MOLI)
 - Motion – Modify Protective Order (MOMP)
 - Motion – Dismissal Protective Order (MODO)
 - Petition – Renewal Protective Order (PTRP)

OJD is in the process of updating its EPPDAPA forms, so they can be added to the electronic forms system (Guide & File). Once added (anticipated first quarter 2021), a user will be able to electronically submit those forms upon completion, as with the FAPA forms.

These changes are intended to improve access to justice for self-represented litigants, by simplifying the filing process. OJD's forms center can be accessed here:
<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/forms/Pages/default.aspx>.

Questions should be directed to Sam Dupree at L.S.Dupree@ojd.state.or.us.

Thank you for your continuing partnership.