

CHAPTER 518B

DOMESTIC ABUSE

518B.01 Domestic Abuse Act.

518B.01 DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT.*[For text of subs 1 to 5, see M.S.2004]*

Subd. 6. Relief by the court. (a) Upon notice and hearing, the court may provide relief as follows:

- (1) restrain the abusing party from committing acts of domestic abuse;
 - (2) exclude the abusing party from the dwelling which the parties share or from the residence of the petitioner;
 - (3) exclude the abusing party from a reasonable area surrounding the dwelling or residence, which area shall be described specifically in the order;
 - (4) award temporary custody or establish temporary parenting time with regard to minor children of the parties on a basis which gives primary consideration to the safety of the victim and the children. In addition to the primary safety considerations, the court may consider particular best interest factors that are found to be relevant to the temporary custody and parenting time award. Findings under section 257.025, 518.17, or 518.175 are not required with respect to the particular best interest factors not considered by the court. If the court finds that the safety of the victim or the children will be jeopardized by unsupervised or unrestricted parenting time, the court shall condition or restrict parenting time as to time, place, duration, or supervision, or deny parenting time entirely, as needed to guard the safety of the victim and the children. The court's decision on custody and parenting time shall in no way delay the issuance of an order for protection granting other relief provided for in this section. The court must not enter a parenting plan under section 518.1705 as part of an action for an order for protection;
 - (5) on the same basis as is provided in chapter 518, establish temporary support for minor children or a spouse, and order the withholding of support from the income of the person obligated to pay the support according to chapter 518;
 - (6) provide upon request of the petitioner counseling or other social services for the parties, if married, or if there are minor children;
 - (7) order the abusing party to participate in treatment or counseling services, including requiring the abusing party to successfully complete a domestic abuse counseling program or educational program under section 518B.02;
 - (8) award temporary use and possession of property and restrain one or both parties from transferring, encumbering, concealing, or disposing of property except in the usual course of business or for the necessities of life, and to account to the court for all such transfers, encumbrances, dispositions, and expenditures made after the order is served or communicated to the party restrained in open court;
 - (9) exclude the abusing party from the place of employment of the petitioner, or otherwise limit access to the petitioner by the abusing party at the petitioner's place of employment;
 - (10) order the abusing party to pay restitution to the petitioner;
 - (11) order the continuance of all currently available insurance coverage without change in coverage or beneficiary designation; and
 - (12) order, in its discretion, other relief as it deems necessary for the protection of a family or household member, including orders or directives to the sheriff, constable, or other law enforcement or corrections officer as provided by this section.
- (b) Any relief granted by the order for protection shall be for a fixed period not to exceed one year, except when the court determines a longer fixed period is appropriate.

When a referee presides at the hearing on the petition, the order granting relief becomes effective upon the referee's signature.

(c) An order granting the relief authorized in paragraph (a), clause (1), may not be vacated or modified in a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or legal separation, except that the court may hear a motion for modification of an order for protection concurrently with a proceeding for dissolution of marriage upon notice of motion and motion. The notice required by court rule shall not be waived. If the proceedings are consolidated and the motion to modify is granted, a separate order for modification of an order for protection shall be issued.

(d) An order granting the relief authorized in paragraph (a), clause (2) or (3), is not voided by the admittance of the abusing party into the dwelling from which the abusing party is excluded.

(e) If a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or legal separation is pending between the parties, the court shall provide a copy of the order for protection to the court with jurisdiction over the dissolution or separation proceeding for inclusion in its file.

(f) An order for restitution issued under this subdivision is enforceable as civil judgment.

[For text of subds 6a to 21, see M.S.2004]

Subd. 22. Domestic abuse no contact order. (a) A domestic abuse no contact order is an order issued by a court against a defendant in a criminal proceeding for:

- (1) domestic abuse;
- (2) harassment or stalking charged under section 609.749 and committed against a family or household member;
- (3) violation of an order for protection charged under subdivision 14; or
- (4) violation of a prior domestic abuse no contact order charged under this subdivision.

It includes pretrial orders before final disposition of the case and probationary orders after sentencing.

(b) A person who knows of the existence of a domestic abuse no contact order issued against the person and violates the order is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(c) A peace officer shall arrest without a warrant and take into custody a person whom the peace officer has probable cause to believe has violated a domestic abuse no contact order, even if the violation of the order did not take place in the presence of the peace officer, if the existence of the order can be verified by the officer. The person shall be held in custody for at least 36 hours, excluding the day of arrest, Sundays, and holidays, unless the person is released earlier by a judge or judicial officer. A peace officer acting in good faith and exercising due care in making an arrest pursuant to this paragraph is immune from civil liability that might result from the officer's actions.

Subd. 23. Prohibition against employer retaliation. (a) An employer shall not discharge, discipline, threaten, otherwise discriminate against, or penalize an employee regarding the employee's compensation, terms, conditions, location, or privileges of employment, because the employee took reasonable time off from work to obtain or attempt to obtain relief under this chapter. Except in cases of imminent danger to the health or safety of the employee or the employee's child, or unless impracticable, an employee who is absent from the workplace shall give 48 hours' advance notice to the employer. Upon request of the employer, the employee shall provide verification that supports the employee's reason for being absent from the workplace. All information related to the employee's leave pursuant to this section shall be kept confidential by the employer.

(b) An employer who violates paragraph (a) is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished for contempt of court. In addition, the court shall order the employer to

pay back wages and offer job reinstatement to any employee discharged from employment in violation of paragraph (a).

(c) In addition to any remedies otherwise provided by law, an employee injured by a violation of paragraph (a) may bring a civil action for recovery of damages, together with costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorneys fees, and may receive such injunctive and other equitable relief, including reinstatement, as determined by the court.

History: 2005 c 76 s 1; 2005 c 136 art 8 s 20; art 17 s 5