



## **Frequently Asked Order Service Questions**

### ***How will I know the order has been served?***

The Detective assigned to serve your order will leave you a phone message only if the order could not be served.

Because of the sheer volume of order service requests TPD receives, we cannot guarantee your order will be served.

### ***What is the policy for serving orders?***

It is TPD practice to make three attempts to serve Respondents of Domestic Violence Protection Orders.

Anti-harassment orders are civil not criminal orders, therefore are only served as staffing and caseloads allows.

### ***Can someone be arrested for not accepting service?***

No, TPD cannot force a Respondent to accept service of a court order.

### ***Can someone other than a police officer serve my order?***

Yes, if possible you should have a second individual attempting to serve your court order on the Respondent. Any person over the age of 18 not listed on the court order may serve the court order.

You may make copies of the order and distribute them to friends or family members to attempt service on the Respondent.

If service is made, the individual who served the order must complete the Return of Service form and file it with South Sound 911- Records Division located at 945 Tacoma Ave S. You may also hire a process server to serve your order.

### ***What happens if my order cannot be served?***

If the service is not made, you should attend the scheduled court hearing, request an extension and continue attempts at serving the respondent.

### **Domestic Violence Community Resources:**

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233(SAFE) and [NDVH.ORG](http://NDVH.ORG)

Local YWCA Hotline 253-383-2593

Crystal Judson Family Justice Center 253-798-4166  
718 Court E  
Tacoma, WA 98402