Important Notice to Respondent

If you are served with these papers, one of the following has happened:

A harassment restraining order has been issued against you and you have 45 days to request a hearing

OR

A temporary harassment restraining order has been issued against you and the petitioner has requested a hearing for a two year order **OR**

No harassment restraining order has been issued at this time, but the petitioner has requested a hearing on the affidavit and petition for a harassment restraining order

See attached order for specifics.

Review the attached papers carefully.

What is a Harassment Restraining Order?

A person who is a victim of harassment may seek a restraining order from the Court. The parent or guardian of a minor who is the victim of harassment may seek a restraining order on behalf of the minor. The restraining order prohibits harassment. A restraining order may be issued against an individual who has engaged in harassment, or against organizations that have sponsored or promoted harassment.

What is Harassment? Minn. Stat. § 609.748 defines harassment as ANY of the following:

- A single incident of physical or sexual assault.
- Repeated incidents of intrusive or unwanted acts, words or gestures that have a substantial adverse effect or are intended to have a substantial adverse effect on the safety, security or privacy of another, regardless of the relationship between you and the alleged harasser.
- Targeted residential picketing, which includes:
  a. marching, standing, or patrolling by one or more persons directed solely at a particular residential building in a manner that adversely affects the safety, security, or privacy of an occupant of the building, and
  b. marching, standing, or patrolling by one or more persons which prevents an occupant of a residential building from gaining access to or exiting from the property on which the residential building is located.
- A pattern of attending public events after being notified that one's presence is harassing to another.

Change of Address:

It is important that the court knows your mailing address to send you notices. If your mailing address changes, notify the court administrator of your new mailing address.

Hearing:

You have the right to request a hearing. If you request a hearing you must do so within 45 days of receiving the harassment papers by filing a Request for Hearing with the court. A filing fee will be due. See **(Fee Schedule)** for the filing fee. Please make your check payable to: Hennepin County District Court and mail it, along with the Request for Hearing form, to Hennepin County District Court, 300 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487-0332. If you are unable to pay the fee, you may apply for a waiver known as an In Forma Pauperis Order. This application must be completed in person at the Civil Intake Counter on the Public Service Level of the Hennepin County Government Center at the above address. The court will notify the parties with a date and time to appear. You have the right to request that the order for harassment be issued without findings of harassment. If this is your request, check the box on the Request for Hearing form so the judge is aware of your request.

Violations:

You may be charged with a misdemeanor, subject to a sentence of up to 90 days in jail and/or a fine of $1000.00, if you are aware of the existence of a restraining order and you violate it. Some repeat violations are gross misdemeanors that may result in a sentence of up to one year in jail and/or a $3,000.00 fine. Other

violations are felonies that may result in a sentence of imprisonment for up to five years and/or a fine of $10,000.00. A person who engages in a pattern of harassing conduct is guilty of a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for up to ten years and/or a fine of $20,000.00. You may be arrested and taken into custody without warrant if a peace officer has probable cause to believe you are in violations of the restraining order. You will be held in jail for at least 36 hours, excluding the day of arrest, Sundays, and legal holidays, unless you are released earlier by a judge or judicial officer. Violation of the restraining order also constitutes contempt of court.