

IMPORTANT

ATTENTION PETITIONER

Under the Minnesota Domestic Violence Act, an Order for Protection must be personally served on the respondent within 14 days from the date of the order. **If there is no hearing scheduled in your case, it is your responsibility to know whether the sheriff's department has been able to serve the order within 14 days.** You or your advocate can contact the sheriff's department in the county where the order is being served to check on the status.

If the respondent has not been served within 14 days, you must come back to the court administrator's office by the end of that day and sign an affidavit for publication. This allows the court to publish a notice in a legal newspaper to inform the respondent of the Order for Protection and the right to request a hearing.

If your order is not served and you do not sign the affidavit for publication, your order will no longer be in effect. You will receive a notice in the mail indicating that your order has expired.