

Committee discussion for Sections 8 and 9 of H.74

Current language for a final order includes “restrictions on the defendant’s ability to contact the plaintiff or the children in person, by phone, or by mail”

The proposal is to change the language in the final order to include “restrictions on the defendant’s ability to contact the plaintiff or the children in any way, directly, indirectly, or through a third party, including in writing or by telephone, e-mail, or other electronic communication”

Current language in the temporary order is similar to the final order in that it can order defendant to stay away from the plaintiff, but ***does not include*** “restrictions on the defendant’s ability to contact the plaintiff or the children in person, by phone, or by mail”

The proposal is to add language in the temporary order to include restrictions on the defendant’s ability to contact the plaintiff or the children, or both, in “any way, directly, indirectly, or through a third party, including in writing or by telephone, e-mail, or other electronic communication”

Question #1: Should the options to the court be the same for the temporary and final order?

Question #2: Should the language be expanded beyond “in person, by phone, or by mail”?

Question #3: If so, to what extent?

Option #1: Leave current language

Option #2: Add the current standard from final order to temporary order - “restrictions on the defendant’s ability to contact the plaintiff or the children in person, by phone, or by mail” so they are the same

Option #3: Expand language in final order and add language in temporary order as requested by Network

Option #4: Go with ACLU proposal to add purposeful language to indirect contact by restricting the defendant’s ability to contact the plaintiff or his or her children, or both, in any way, directly, indirectly ***with the purpose of making contact***, or through a third party, including in writing or by telephone, e-mail, or other electronic communication.”