

**Please read and complete the following:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Applicant for a Family Violence Protective Order against \_\_\_\_\_, Respondent, do certify that I have read and do understand the following (*initial each indicating you understand*):

\_\_\_\_\_ A Protective Order is a civil, legal action which I am requesting the Bailey County Attorney to bring against the Respondent on my behalf. A Protective Order is *not a substitute for divorce or a child custody order*. It is a temporary measure designed to stop further violence from happening. This may include removing the Respondent from my house. If Respondent is removed, that will be a condition of the order which neither the Respondent nor I may violate.

\_\_\_\_\_ There may also be orders entered allowing visitation of the children. I may be subject to contempt of court if I disobey. Protection and safety are the primary issues, *not child custody and/or property division*. The County Attorney's Office will not settle property or other disputes, but is only going to request those things which are necessary to protect me and/or my household from family violence.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I will not be charged any fees for initiating this action, but that the Court will charge filing and service fees against the Respondent if an Order is obtained.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if a petition for divorce is filed by me prior to the Protective Order hearing, the County Attorney's Office may withdraw, and it will be up to me to obtain other counsel or handle the Protective Order myself.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I will be required to go to court for my Protective Order on my hearing date and my failure to appear for a hearing may result in this application being dismissed and I may not be able to seek any future help from the Bailey County Attorney's Office.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that when I go to court for my Protective Order hearing, I will have to bring to the hearing any witnesses or evidence pertaining to my case (such as tape recordings, text messages, court orders, photos, police reports and/or medical records).

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that no orders are effective until the Respondent is served with notice of this action (in person by a constable). If I cannot provide a good address for service, this suit may be refused, dismissed or delayed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the County Attorney's Office is filing this action based on my sworn affidavit and that I am a witness in this case. I agree to testify in this matter if called upon, even if I no longer wish to pursue the Protective Order at that time.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that a Protective Order will be effective for 1-2 years.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if the Protective Order is granted, but I wish to have the Protective Order removed at a later date, the County Attorney's Office will not represent me in a proceeding to remove a Protective Order.

\_\_\_\_\_ The statements I make in this questionnaire or to the Judge are sworn to and the Texas Penal Code § 37.03 makes it a Third Degree Felony offense to knowingly or intentionally make false statements about material facts in an official proceeding. The statements made in this questionnaire are true and correct. I understand the consequences of falsifying any information or for bringing this suit for any reason other than for my or my family's protection.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that once the court grants or denies my Application, my attorney-client relationship is concluded.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date