

**COMPLAINT FOR PROTECTION FROM ABUSE**  
**G.L. c. 209A (Page 1 of 2)**

DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**Massachusetts Trial Court**



☐ Boston Municipal Court    ☐ District Court    ☐ Probate & Family Court    ☐ Superior Court    COURT DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PLAINTIFF (*person seeking protection*) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF DEFENDANT (*person accused of abuse*) \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Plaintiff is 18 years old or older.  
☐ Plaintiff is less than 18 years old.  
☐ Plaintiff has one or more children less than 18 years old and is asking for an order about the children. *If yes, Plaintiff completes page 2.*

- ☐ Defendant is 18 years old or older.  
☐ Defendant is less than 18 years old.

**NATURE OF ABUSE**

On or about \_\_\_\_\_ (*date(s), examples: October 6, 2024, Oct 2024, Fall 2024*) the Defendant (*select all that apply*):

- ☐ Caused me physical harm  
☐ Attempted to cause me physical harm  
☐ Placed me in fear of imminent serious physical harm  
☐ Caused me to engage in sexual relations by force, threat, or duress
- ☐ Engaged in coercive control by:  
☐ Harming or attempting to harm my child(ren) or relative  
☐ Abusing or attempting to abuse an animal connected to me  
☐ Publishing or attempting to publish sexually explicit images of me  
☐ A pattern of behavior as described in G.L. c. 209A, 1(d)(a)

**QUALIFYING RELATIONSHIP**

The Defendant and I (*select all that apply*):

- ☐ Are currently married to each other  
☐ Were formerly married to each other  
☐ Are currently engaged to each other  
☐ Were formerly engaged to each other  
☐ Are currently dating each other  
☐ Were formerly dating each other
- ☐ Are the parents of one or more children together  
☐ Are not married, but are related to each other by blood or marriage; specifically, the Defendant is my (*relationship to me*): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Are not related, but live in the same household  
☐ Are not related, but used to live in the same household

**OPEN OR CLOSED COURT MATTERS**

Are there any open or closed court actions involving you and the Defendant, including for divorce, annulment, separate support, legal separation, or abuse prevention (restraining orders) or any criminal proceedings?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes; please list the court name (including any courts not in Massachusetts), type of case, and any other information that will be helpful:

**Court Name and Location**

**Type of Case**

**Is the case open or closed?**

**REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

I am asking the Court (*select all that apply*):

- ☐ To order the Defendant to stop abusing me.  
☐ To order the Defendant not to contact me at all.  
☐ To order the Defendant not to contact me, except as authorized by the court, by: ☐ Phone ☐ Text ☐ Email ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ To order the Defendant to leave and remain away from my residence (home) (*as listed on the Plaintiff Confidential Information form*).  
☐ To order the Defendant to leave and remain away from my workplace/employer (*as listed on the Plaintiff Confidential Information form*).  
☐ To order the Defendant to leave and remain away from my school (*as listed on the Plaintiff Confidential Information form*).  
☐ To order that my residential (home) address not appear on the order so the Defendant does not see it.  
☐ To order that my workplace address not appear on the order so the Defendant does not see it.  
☐ To order that my school address not appear on the order so the Defendant does not see it.  
☐ To order the Defendant to pay me \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in compensation for the following losses suffered as a direct result of the abuse: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ To order the Defendant, who is legally required to, to pay temporary child support and/or alimony to me.  
☐ To order the relief requested on Page 2 of this Complaint pertaining to my minor child(ren).  
☐ To order that the Defendant refrain from abusing, threatening, taking, interfering with, transferring, encumbering, concealing, harming, or otherwise disposing of the following animal(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ To order that I be given possession, care, and control of the following animal(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ To order the following: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE**

Select the most appropriate:

- ☐ I am the Plaintiff and I completed this Complaint form and am filing it myself.  
☐ I am not the Plaintiff, but I completed this Complaint form and am filing it on behalf of the Plaintiff. My relationship to the Plaintiff is: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

If the Court issues a temporary Order, the Court will schedule a hearing within 10 court business days to determine whether to continue the Order. You must be present at the next scheduled hearing, or the Order will expire. The Defendant may participate with or without an attorney to oppose any extension of an Order.