

What's the Difference?

If you have a problem with a family member, neighbor, or someone else, there are several Texas laws that may help you. Family Violence Protective Orders, Restraining Orders (TRO), Criminal Trespass Warnings, and Peace Bonds are all different. This chart helps explain the differences.

<i>Which one to Choose?</i>	Family Violence Protective Orders	Restraining Orders (TRO)	Criminal Trespass Warnings	Peace Bonds
What is your situation?	You have been harmed by a family member, a household member, or a person you have dated AND you fear the abuser will harm you again	You have already filed a lawsuit and you want the court to order the party not to harm you or your property.	You want someone to stay away from your property.	Someone has threatened to harm you or your property and you believe she or he will carry out the threats.
What does it do?	It orders the abuser to stay away from you and your household, your home, your work, and your school.	It orders the other party in a lawsuit not to harm your property or to threaten, harass, or harm you or your children.	It warns the person to stay away from your property.	It orders the person making threats to deposit money with the court. The money will be lost if he or she commits the threatened crime.
What happens if a person violates?	He or she could be arrested and charged with a Class A misdemeanor or a 3 rd degree Felony.	He or she could be held in contempt of court (including a fine and / or incarceration in jail.)	He or she could be arrested for Criminal Trespass (Class A or B misdemeanor)	He or she could lose the money deposited with the court.
Who can help you get it?	Hood County Attorney's Office, ¹ 1200 W. Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048 (817) 579-3216 or you can file it by yourself (pro-se).	Your attorney can help you file a TRO. If you don't have an attorney, you can file for a TRO yourself.	The Granbury Police Department (if you live in the city limits) or the Hood County Sheriff's Office (if you live in the county)	You can hire an attorney to help you or you can file it by yourself.
Where do I file the paperwork?	County Clerk or District Clerk	File it with the clerk's office where you filed your lawsuit.	The police department or sheriff's office will keep a copy on file.	In the JP court in the precinct where you live.
How long does it last?	Up to 2 years.	Until your lawsuit ends.	Until you revoke it.	Up to one year.
Where can I find the law?²	Texas Family Code Chapters 71-85	Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, starting at Rule 680	Texas Penal Code §30.05	Texas Code of Criminal Procedure art. 7

¹ Hood County Attorney's website: <http://co.hood.tx.us/index.aspx?nid=241>

² You can access Texas Statutes and Rules at: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/>