



Media Alert

Judge Carol J. Dezso

Judge John P. Quinn

**Court of Common Pleas
Domestic Relations Division
205 South High Street
Akron, OH 44308**

**Contact: Susan Tucker
Community Outreach
330-643-2359
FAX: 330-643-2126**

PLEASE NOTE:

(10/27/14): FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Summit County Domestic Relations Court Introduces New Civil Protection Order Wallet Cards

Honorable John P. Quinn, Administrative Judge
Honorable Carol J. Dezso, Judge

Akron, Ohio (October 27, 2014) – The Summit County Domestic Relations Court has unveiled a wallet-size Civil Protection Order card that provides police agencies with a practical way to verify and enforce such orders. Judges John P. Quinn and Carol J. Dezso are hopeful that the cards will assist victims quickly in emergency situations. “We see this as an essential service we can offer to victims of domestic violence”, said Judge Quinn

The card, which resembles a credit card or driver’s license, is more durable and convenient to carry than the 8 1/2-by-11-inch, multi-page court order itself. The cards are being issued to any person with a Civil Protection Order granted after a full hearing. The card, which can be carried by a victim at all times, contains the protection order information including the name and identifying characteristics of the person ordered to stay away, names of protected people, and dates of issuance and expiration. There is no fee for the Civil Protection Order or the card issued by the court.

The Summit County Domestic Relations Court can grant a Civil Protection Order if the purported aggressor is a spouse, a former spouse, a household member or a blood-relative who has lived with the victim at any time, or a natural parent of the victim’s child.

CPO CARD
CONSENT / CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER
 Against:
JOHN DOE
 DOB: 03/29/1975 Gender: MALE
 Height: 5'6" Weight: 190
 Race: Caucasian
 Eye Color: Hazel Hair Color: Brown
 Scars/Marks/Tattoos:
 Elephant (left arm) Donkey (right arm)
 Brady Disqualified: YES
 Vehicle(s): 2009 Black Audi A-4

This card represents that the person named as Petitioner on the back of this card has a Civil Protection Order issued by the Summit County Domestic Relations Court under O.R.C. 3113.31. Violation of this Protection Order is a criminal offense. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2265, Protection Orders issued by outside jurisdictions must be provided full faith and credit.

State of Ohio
 Summit County
 Domestic Relations Court
 Case No.: DR-2014-12-9999
 Order Issued 05/01/2014
 ORDER EXPIRES: 05/01/2018

Protected Party/Petitioner:
JANE DOE
 DOB: 02/01/1980
 Gender: FEMALE
 Race: CAUCASIAN

Protected Party is Granted Exclusive use of residence at:
 205 S. High St., Akron, OH 44308

Other people protected by this Order:
 Julie Doe 04/03/1998 Joey Doe 9/1/99

Law Enforcement must verify this Order either by checking LEADS/NCIC or contacting the Summit County Sheriff at 330-643-2181

The number of domestic violence filings has grown each year since 2001. In 2001 there were 517 requests for civil protection orders. By 2013 the number of requests rose to 1050 – a 100% increase. The court’s response to victims has grown as well. The court has worked with both Battered Women’s Shelter and Victim Assistance to increase advocacy services, as well as to improve protocols for safety. Increased security staff and equipment have added to the sense of security victims can feel in the courthouse. According to Judge Dezso, “We have always partnered with Battered Women’s Shelter and Victim Assistance whenever addressing our services to victims. We are always looking for new and innovative ways to improve services to our vulnerable populations.”

Terri Heckman, Battered Women’s Shelter CEO was elated with these new cards “We are all for anything that helps improve the systems’ response to domestic violence while helping to keep victims safe. I know that victims will feel more confident carrying this small comprehensive card. When necessary, a victim of domestic violence will be able to immediately hand the Police Officer the card with all the important information right there in black and white. It is just one more step in making the law enforcement and prosecution systems more user friendly.”

The Domestic Relations Court is the division of the Common Pleas Court of Summit County, Ohio empowered by statute to hear all divorce, dissolution, legal separation, annulment, and parentage cases; as well as civil domestic violence cases for residents of Summit County. In addition, the court maintains jurisdiction over post-decree matters such as child custody, child support, parenting time issues, spousal support, and other related matters.

For more information regarding this, or other court services, contact Susan Tucker at 330-643-2359, or at stucker@drcourt.summitoh.net.