

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INFORMATION SHEET



AVO's – Persons named as defendants:

Before Court:

If you have been served with an AVO please read it carefully. Take note of the court date as you must attend the court mentioned on that date or an order can be made against you.

Do I have to comply with the AVO?

Yes, it is an offence to knowingly breach the AVO and you will be charged even if the protected person says its ok. Police may also speak to you to conduct an ADVO compliance check. For further information police.nsw.gov.au

What do I do if I have been excluded from my house?

If your order says you can't live at or go within a certain distance of an address you must not go there as you will be breaching your order. You might be eligible for emergency accommodation. For further information contact Link2home Ph 1800656463

How do I get my property?

If you need to get your personal belongings you can apply for an ancillary property recovery order (APRO) to collect them. For further information [click here](#).

Can I still see my children?

If the AVO says you can't contact your children you shouldn't. Otherwise you will be in breach of the AVO. Visit lawaccess.nsw.gov.au for detailed information regarding AVOs and family law.

Why have my firearms been seized?

Whilst your AVO is at court the law says:

- Your firearms licence will be suspended
- You will have to surrender your firearms

If a final AVO is made your firearms licence will be revoked. Further information can be found at police.nsw.gov.au

At Court:

A DVLO will speak to you at court about what conditions the police are seeking on behalf of the protected person. In court you will be asked by the Magistrate if you consent or don't consent to the AVO.

- If you consent a final AVO will be made with the conditions you agreed with.
- If you don't consent your AVO will be adjourned for:
 - Service of a brief (police statements)
 - Service of your statements
 - Setting a hearing date to have the application heard in court

Further information can be found on the LawAccess website: lawaccess.nsw.gov.au

Will I get a criminal record if a final AVO is made?

No. If a final order is made at court it does not give you a criminal record. You may get a criminal record if you are convicted of a breach of a condition in your AVO.

AVO's and Charges:

If you have been served with an AVO and charged, the Court procedure is different. You may also have bail conditions to comply with. See [DV Charge Information Sheet](#) for further information.