

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
Section 4-503 and 4-504  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1981 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

4-503.

(a) If a petition is filed under this subtitle and the court determines that the petitioner has demonstrated an abuse of a household member, the court may enter a temporary ex parte order to protect the petitioner or another household member from abuse. The order shall be served immediately by a law enforcement officer on the household member named in the petition, and that household member shall have an opportunity to be heard on the question of continuing the temporary order. Notice of the date of the hearing shall be contained in the order, and this hearing shall be held not later than 5 days after service of the order on the household member.

(b) If the court determines by clear and convincing evidence that the alleged abuse has occurred, the court may grant a protective order to stop the abuse of the household member. The relief granted may include the following:

(1) An order to refrain from abusing household members;

(2) An order to require the respondent to vacate the family home immediately and grant temporary possession of the family home to the petitioner ON SERVICE OF THE EX PARTE ORDER for up to 5 days. Any extensions to the order to vacate the family home and grant temporary possession of it to the petitioner, granted for good cause shown, may not exceed a total period of 15 days;

(3) An award of temporary custody of a minor;  
and

(4) An order directing any or all of the household members to participate in a professionally supervised counseling program.

(c) An order issued under this subtitle shall state that a violation of the order could result in a finding of contempt, criminal prosecution, and incarceration.