COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
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TO: ALL JUSTICES, REGISTERS, FIRST ASSISTANT REGISTERS
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT

FROM: MARY C. FITZPATRICK, CHIEF JUSTICE M. C. F.

DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 1996

RE: REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN PROTECTION ORDERS

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A recent bulletin dated October 10, 1996 detailed legislation regarding stalking which amended certain portions of G.L. 209A to grant full faith and credit throughout Massachusetts to protection orders issued in other jurisdictions.

A copy of the legislation (Chapter 298 of the Acts of 1996) was included with that mailing.

This legislation becomes effective Thursday, November 7, 1996.

Enclosed please find information regarding Registry Guidelines and Procedures for the filing of Foreign Protection Orders.

Also enclosed is a form entitled Affidavit of Filing of Certified Copy of Foreign Protection Order. Until we have some indication of the volume of these filings, this form should be xeroxed internally. If a large number of foreign protection orders are filed we will consider making it available through Uniform Printing.

All Registers are asked to share the information in this bulletin with the appropriate Registry personnel.

All First Assistant Registers are asked to share the information in this bulletin with all Assistant Registers and Deputy Assistant Registers.

Please contact Attorney Jocelynne D. Welsh of this office if you have any questions.

Thank you.

MCFj
cc: Hon. John J. Irwin, Jr., Chief Justice for Administration and Management

**REGISTRY GUIDELINES/PROCEDURES**
**for the FILING of FOREIGN PROTECTION ORDERS**

Pursuant to Chapter 298 of Acts of 1996: An Act Relative to the Crime of Stalking which amends certain sections of G.L.M. 209A.

1. Regardless of residency, plaintiff/petitioner may file copy of foreign protection order in any county in Massachusetts.

2. Affidavit **must** be accompanied by a **certified copy** of the foreign protection order.

3. No Affidavit of Care or Custody is required.

4. A copy of the completed Affidavit of Filing of Certified Copy of Foreign Protection Order should be given to the plaintiff/petitioner.

5. If plaintiff/petitioner requests that a copy be sent to the police, the Registry should mail a certified copy of the Affidavit and a xerox copy of the foreign protection order to the police.

6. Docketing: 96D 0001- FP1 or 96W 0001- FP1, etc.
"FP"is the suffix code for Foreign Protection order.
Any Massachusetts case involving the same two parties should be cross referenced on the case folder.
The docket sheet should capture plaintiff/petitioner's name, defendant's name and last known address, and the state where the foreign protection order issued.

7. Registry personnel should send the file to the FSO so that information may be entered into the statewide domestic violence record keeping system. FSO will supply FF number on lower right corner of Affidavit.

8. FSO to return case folder to the Registry for filing.

11/5/96

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
**The Trial Court**
**_____ Division Probate and Family Court Department Docket No. _____**

## Affidavit of Filing of Certified Copy of Foreign Protection Order

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the attached is a certified copy of the protection order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of _____.
I further certify that to the best of my knowledge this order is presently in effect as written, and has not been altered or modified.

Defendant's name and last known address:

_____
Print Name and Address

_____

_____

_____
Signature of Plaintiff/Petitioner

_____
Print Name and Address

_____

[ ] Check if petitioner's address is to be impounded.

## NOTARIZATION

_____ SS Date _____

Then personally appeared _____ to me known and made oath that the information contained in the foregoing statement is true to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Before me, _____
Notary Public/Justice of the Peace
My commission expires _____

## Certificate of Filing of Certified Copy of Foreign Protection Order

I hereby acknowledge that a certified copy of the foreign protection order issued by the _____ court, of the State of_____, has been filed at the Registry of Probate for the County of _____ this _____ day of _____, 19 ____. A copy of said judgment has been attached to this certificate.

A foreign protection order so filed has the same effect and shall be enforced in a like manner as an abuse prevention order rendered by a court of this Commonwealth.

_____
Register of Probate

**NOTE:** This affidavit must be accompanied by a certified copy of the foreign protection order.

(11/96) FF No.: