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TO: Hon. Thomas W. Sumners, Jr.
Assignment Judges
Hon. Mala Sundar
AOC Directors and Assistant Directors
Clerks of Court
Trial Court Administrators

DIRECTIVE #03-26
Supersedes Directive #07-24
[Questions may be directed to the Court and
Judicial Security Unit at (609) 815-2929]

FROM: Michael J. Blee, J.A.D. 

SUBJ: Guidelines for Judicial Officer Protection Orders

DATE: March 10, 2026

This Directive supersedes Directive #07-24, promulgates updated procedures for Judicial Officer Protection Order matters, and promulgates a new continuance order form (Continuance Order, CN 13396), effective immediately. The updates: (1) clarify the process for obtaining counsel for Judicial Officers before the final hearing; and (2) revises the attached summary to refer to the “parties” more generally.

Overview

These procedures implement the civil process, as set forth in N.J.S.A. 2C:12-14 et seq. and as provided by L.2021, c.327, for a petitioner to obtain an order of protection on behalf of a current or former judicial officer, upon a charge or conviction of a crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer with a nexus to the judicial officer’s performance of public duties. As set forth in the statute, a “judicial officer” is any active, formerly active, or retired federal, state, county, or municipal judge, including a judge of the Tax Court and any other court of limited jurisdiction established, altered, or abolished by law, a judge of the Office of Administrative Law, a judge of the Division of Workers’ Compensation, and any other judge established by law who serves in the executive branch.

Specifically, the protection order would prohibit a respondent from returning to

the scene of the alleged crime or contacting the judicial officer, household members, friends, co-workers, or relatives in any way. It would also prohibit the respondent from possessing a firearm or any other weapon enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r) and would disqualify the respondent from purchasing, possessing, or carrying a handgun, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3(c)(11). As a result, any existing permit to carry a handgun would be revoked pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4(f). The statute further provides for the search and seizure of any firearm or weapon at any location where the court has reasonable cause to believe the weapon is located, and for the seizure of any purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun issued to the respondent. A final protection order also could require the respondent to undergo a mental health evaluation and appropriate treatment.

I. Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Orders

a. Filing

A petitioner may file a petition with the Superior Court for emergency *ex parte* relief in the form of a temporary protection order at any time following the charge or conviction of a defendant for any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer where there is a nexus between the alleged or convicted crime and the judicial officer's public duties. (See, Petition for Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order – CN 12976). The petitioner may be (1) a law enforcement officer, (2) a formerly active or retired judicial officer or a family or household member of such judicial officer, (3) an active judicial officer or a family or household member of such judicial officer, or (4) an active judicial officer where a law enforcement officer has declined to petition the Superior Court or a family or household member of such judicial officer. As provided in the statute, a "family or household member" is a spouse, domestic partner as defined in N.J.S.A. 26:8A-3, partner in a civil union couple as defined in N.J.S.A. 37:1-29, or former spouse, former domestic partner, or former partner in a civil union couple, or any other person who is a present household member or was at any time a household member; a person with whom the respondent has a child in common, or with whom the respondent anticipates having a child in common if one of the parties is pregnant; or a current or former dating partner.

As noted above, applications for the temporary protection order may be filed emergently. Indeed, a judicial officer may need the protections articulated in the temporary order immediately. Law enforcement may file the petition using the attached form on behalf of the judicial officer. There is an established means to contact the Division of Law in the Attorney General's Office, whether during normal business hours, after normal business hours, or on weekends, so that that office can provide an attorney

as soon as reasonably practicable before the final hearing. When it is known that law enforcement or the judicial officer will seek a protection order, law enforcement, the judicial officer, or a designee of the judicial officer, must contact the Judiciary's Court and Judicial Security Unit, who then on behalf of the Judicial Officer will contact the Office of Counsel to the Administrative Director to obtain outside counsel for the petitioner through the Attorney General's Division of Law. The Division of Law has indicated to the Judiciary that in these instances it will provide an outside attorney or law firm to represent the judicial officer solely on the civil matter related to the protection order. The Office of Counsel to the Administrative Director will ensure that the court that is hearing the JPO matter is made aware of the assignment and also ensure that outside counsel contacts the petitioner and the court. It is likewise expected that outside counsel will, upon assignment, immediately contact the petitioner, enter their appearance on the matter with the court and confirm the scheduled hearing date, and subsequently confirm with the Office of Counsel to the Administrative Director that these contacts were completed.

Petitions for these Judicial Officer Protection Orders must be filed in the Superior Court with contemporaneous notice to the Assignment Judge, following local emergent application protocols. The Assignment Judge, or designee, shall assign a judge to hear the petition. If that judge after hearing the petition grants a temporary protection order, the Assignment Judge shall determine whether the matter should be transferred to another county for the final hearing. The following docketing number system (shown as an example) shall be used for these petitions:

<u>County</u>	<u>JPO</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Sequence Number</u>
ATL	JPO	2023	000001

b. Issuance and Form of Relief

The statutory standard for the court to issue a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order is upon good cause shown. To issue the protection order, the court must: (1) consider the petitioner's sworn testimony or the petition by the petitioner; (2) find that there was a nexus between the defendant's alleged or convicted crime and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties; and (3) also find that the respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member. See attached (Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order – CN 12977).

The court in its temporary protection order may include the following forms of emergent relief, prohibiting the respondent from: (1) returning to the scene of the alleged crime; (2) having any contact with the judicial officer, family or household members or friends, co-workers, or relatives in any way; and/or (3) possessing any firearm or other weapon enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r). The statute also authorizes the court to order the search for and seizure of any firearm or other weapon at any location where the court has “reasonable cause to believe the weapon is located,” and the seizure of any firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun issued to the respondent. The court shall state with specificity the reasons for and the scope of any search and seizure authorized by the order.

c. Standard for Issuing a Search Warrant in Conjunction with a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order

As noted above, the statutory standard for issuance of a protection order is “good cause shown,” and the statutory provision regarding search warrants uses the phrase “reasonable cause” as to the location to be searched. These statutory provisions are identical to those found in the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, N.J.S.A. 2C:25-28(i) and (j). In State v. Hemenway, 239 N.J. 111 (2019), the Court determined that a “probable cause” standard was required for search warrants issued pursuant to the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act to ensure compliance with constitutional requirements.

Accordingly, applying that same standard, a search warrant for any firearms and or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r) that the respondent may possess or own can only be issued in conjunction with a temporary protection order when the court finds that probable cause exists to believe that the respondent (1) was charged with or convicted of a crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted and the performance of the judicial officer’s public duties; (2) the respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer; (3) the respondent owns or possesses firearms or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r); and (4) such firearms or other weapons are presently at a specifically described location.

d. Service and Duration of a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order

A Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order granting emergent relief, together with the petition, shall be immediately served on the respondent and provided to the appropriate law enforcement agencies for the municipalities in which the victim and the

respondent reside. Additionally, notices shall be immediately forwarded to any law enforcement agencies for the municipalities in which the victim is employed, if different from where they reside.

The temporary order shall remain in effect until further order of the court. The temporary order will include the date for the hearing for a final protection order, which must take place within 10 days after the date the petition was filed. The hearing for a final order shall be held where the pending criminal charges or conviction are venued, unless good cause is shown for the hearing to be held elsewhere.

e. Appeals from Denials of Petitions for a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order

If the court denies the petition for a temporary protection order, the petitioner may file an appeal to the Appellate Division as of right within 45 days of the entry of that order pursuant to R. 2:2-3(a)(1).

II. Final Judicial Officer Protection Orders

a. Hearing Requirements

A hearing for the final protection order shall be scheduled to take place within 10 days after the petition was filed, but may be postponed upon request and in the discretion of the court (e.g., to allow for the corresponding criminal matter to be concluded). The hearing for a final order shall be held in the county where the pending criminal charges or the conviction are venued, unless good cause is shown for the hearing to be held elsewhere. The respondent shall have the right to be present at the hearing. The judicial officer shall be represented by an attorney or firm provided by the Division of Law. The petitioner and the respondent shall be given an opportunity to provide information to the court to consider whether to issue a final protection order. Additionally, the respondent shall be afforded the right to testify, to present witnesses, to submit documents, to cross-examine any witnesses who may appear at the hearing, and to present relevant information. The rules governing admissibility of evidence at trial shall not apply to the presentation and consideration of information at the hearing.

At the hearing for the final protection order, the standard for proving the allegations in the petition shall be a preponderance of the evidence, and the petition shall be granted if the court finds (1) there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted and the performance of the judicial

officer's public duties, and (2) the respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer. Additionally, in determining whether a final order of protection should be granted, the court shall consider but not be limited to the previous history between the judicial officer and the respondent, including any threats, harassment, or physical intimidation; and the existence of immediate danger to person and property.

b. Final Relief

The court shall grant any relief necessary to protect the victim from further harm, including but not limited to: (1) prohibiting the respondent from returning to the scene of the alleged crime; (2) prohibiting the respondent from having any contact in any way with the judicial officer, family, household members, friends, co-workers, or relatives; (3) forbidding the respondent from possessing any firearm or other weapon enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r); (4) in accordance with Guideline I(c) above, ordering the search for and seizure of any firearms or other weapons at any location where the court has reasonable cause to believe the weapon is located; (5) ordering the seizure of any firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun issued to the respondent; and (6) requiring the respondent to undergo a mental health evaluation and appropriate treatment. See attached (Final Judicial Officer Protection Order – CN 12978).

c. Appeals from a Final Judicial Officer Protection Order Decision

If the petitioner or the respondent wishes to appeal the decision by the court to grant or deny issuance of the Final Judicial Officer Protection Order, any such appeal must be filed within 45 days after the entry of that decision pursuant to R. 2:2-3(a)(1).

d. Termination of a Final Judicial Officer Protection Order

The petitioner, the judicial officer victim, or the respondent may apply for termination of a final protection order at any time following issuance of the order. A petition to terminate a Final Judicial Officer Protection order shall be filed in the vicinage where the final order was entered. (See, Petition for Termination of Judicial Officer Protection Order – CN 12979).

The court, on notice to the petitioner, the respondent, and the appropriate law enforcement agency, may terminate the final protection order after a hearing. See attached (Order Regarding Termination of Final Judicial Officer Protection Order – CN 12980). In

making the determination on a request to terminate a final protection order, the court shall consider whether the factors that were originally assessed in granting the final order are still present and whether there has been a material change in circumstances such that the Final Judicial Officer Protection Order is no longer required to ensure the victim's safety.

III. Violation of a Judicial Officer Protection Order

A violation by the respondent of a Judicial Officer Protection Order (whether temporary or final) issued pursuant to the act constitutes a criminal offense under N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b), and each order shall so state. N.J.S.A. 2C:12-16. The Assignment Judge, or designee, shall determine assignment of a judge to preside over any proceedings resulting from any charges under N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b) alleging violation of a Judicial Officer Protection Order. The Assignment Judge also shall determine whether the case should be transferred to another county.

IV. Confidentiality of Records Related to Judicial Officer Protection Orders

All records related to proceedings for Judicial Officer Protection Orders (whether temporary or final) are confidential and may not be disclosed to anyone other than the respondent and the parties of record participating in the proceedings articulated in this Directive, unless the court finds good cause to release such records. Rule 1:38-3(f)(4). All records relating to these protection orders shall be sealed by the court pursuant to Rule 1:38-11. If records are ordered to be released, the petitioner must be served with a copy of the court's order. If a Judicial Officer Protection Order has been issued and the underlying criminal charges are dismissed, consistent with current policy the records of the criminal case cannot be expunged because of the existence of the order.

V. Continuance Order Form

The Continuance Order form is used when a Final Judicial Officer Protection Order hearing is continued, postponed or adjourned for any reason. The form captures the reason for the continuance or adjournment. Finally, the form includes space for law enforcement to mark the return of service on the respondent and the petitioner.

Any questions may be directed to the Court and Judicial Security Unit via email at Security.Court-Judicial@njcourts.gov or by phone at 609-815-2929.

The following two forms are posted on the Judiciary's website:

- [Petition for Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order \(CN 12976\)](#);
- [Petition for Termination of Judicial Officer Protection Order \(CN 12979\)](#).

Note: Attachment "Process and Procedures for Handling Judicial Officer Protection Orders," is a summary version of the provisions of this Directive intended for quick reference. It is not intended as a replacement for the Directive.

Attachments:

1. Process and Procedures for Handling Judicial Officer Protection Orders (Summary Document - Revised)
2. Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order (CN 12977)
3. Final Judicial Officer Protection Order (CN 12978)
4. Order Regarding Termination of Final Judicial Officer Protection Order (CN 12980)
5. Continuance Order (CN 13396)

cc. Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Associate Justices
Criminal Presiding Judges
Municipal Court Presiding Judges
Jennifer Davenport, Attorney General
Steven D. Bonville, Chief of Staff
Meryl G. Nadler, Counsel to the Administrative Director
Special Assistants to the Administrative Director
Robin Morante, Chief, Court and Judicial Security
Criminal Division Managers and Assistant Division Managers
Municipal Division Managers and Assistant Division Managers
James Pisano, Assistant Chief, Court and Judicial Security



Summary of Processes and Procedures for Judicial Officer Protection Orders

Filing Procedures, Relief, Violations and Terminations
L. 2021 c.327

Promulgated by Superseding Directive #03-26

3/10/2026

I. Definitions:

(1) A Judicial Officer Protection Order is a type of restraining order available to active, formerly active and retired Judicial Officers that provides legal relief to the petitioner by prohibiting the respondent from returning to the scene of the crime, prohibiting contact with the judicial officer or their family or household members, friends, co-workers, etc., and provides for forbidding possession of (and the seizure of) firearms or other weapons; a final order may require mental health treatment.

(2) “Judicial officer” means any active, formerly active, or retired federal, state, county, or municipal judge, including a judge of the Tax Court and any other court of limited jurisdiction established, altered, or abolished by law, a judge of the Office of Administrative Law, a judge of the Division of Workers’ Compensation, and any other judge established by law who serves in the executive branch.

(3) “Petitioner” means a law enforcement officer, a formerly active or retired judicial officer or a family or household member of such judicial officer, or an active judicial officer on behalf of whom a law enforcement officer has declined to petition the Superior Court pursuant to this section or a family or household member of such judicial officer.

(4) “Family or household member” means a spouse, domestic partner as defined in N.J.S.A. 26:8A-3, partner in a civil union couple as defined in N.J.S.A. 37:1-29, or former spouse, former domestic partner, or former partner in a civil union couple, or any other person who is a present household member or was at any time a household member; a person with whom the respondent has a child in common, or with whom the respondent anticipates having a child in common if one of the parties is pregnant; or a current or former dating partner.

II. Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Orders (TJPOs)

- a. The Petitioner may file a petition with the Superior Court for emergency *ex parte* relief in the form of a temporary protection order at any time following the charge or conviction of a defendant if:
 - i. The respondent was charged or convicted with any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer where there is a nexus between the alleged or convicted crime and the judicial officer's public duties; and
 - ii. the respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer.
- b. When it is known that law enforcement or the judicial officer will seek a protection order, law enforcement, the judicial officer, or a designee of the judicial officer, must contact the Judiciary's Court and Judicial Security Unit, who then on behalf of the Judicial Officer will contact the Office of Counsel to the Administrative Director to obtain outside counsel for the petitioner through the Attorney General's Division of Law. The Office of Counsel to the Administrative Director will ensure that the court that is hearing the JPO matter is made aware of the assignment and also ensure that outside counsel contacts the petitioner and the court. It is likewise expected that outside counsel will, upon assignment, immediately contact the petitioner, enter their appearance on the matter with the court and confirm the scheduled hearing date, and subsequently confirm with the Office of Counsel to the Administrative Director that these contacts were completed.
- c. The Division of Law will provide an outside attorney or law firm to represent the judicial officer solely on the civil matter related to the protection order.
- d. Law enforcement or other petitioner should use the form Petition for Temporary Judicial Protection Order (CN 12976) approved by the Administrative Director of the Courts attached to this Directive.

- e. Petitions for these Judicial Officer Protection Orders must be filed in the Superior Court with contemporaneous notice to the Assignment Judge, following local emergent application protocols.
- f. The Assignment Judge, or designee, shall assign a judge to hear the petition. If that judge after hearing the petition grants a temporary protection order, the Assignment Judge shall determine whether the matter should be transferred to another county for the final hearing.
- g. The following docketing number system (shown as an example) shall be used for these petitions:

<u>County</u>	<u>JPO</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Sequence Number</u>
ATL	JPO	2023	000001

- h. A TJPO shall be issued upon good cause shown through sworn testimony or the petition and will remain in effect until the judge issues a further order.
- i. To issue the protection order, the court must:
 - (1) consider the petitioner’s sworn testimony or the petition by the petitioner;
 - (2) find that there was a nexus between the defendant’s alleged or convicted crime and the performance of the judicial officer’s public duties; and
 - (3) also find that the respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member.
- j. The court in its temporary protection order may include the following forms of emergent relief:
 - i. Forbidding the respondent from returning to the scene of the alleged crime;
 - ii. Prohibiting the respondent from having any contact with the judicial officer, family or household members of the judicial officer, or the judicial officer’s friends, co-workers, or relatives in any way; and

- iii. Forbidding the respondent from possession, and permitting the seizure, of firearms or other weapons enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r).
- k. A TJPO granting emergent relief, together with the petition, shall be immediately served on the respondent and forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agencies for the municipalities in which the victim and the respondent reside and the municipality in which the victim works.
- l. The temporary order shall remain in effect until further order of the court. The temporary order will include the date for the hearing for a final protection order, which must take place within 10 days after the date the petition was filed.
- m. The petitioner may file an appeal of a denial of a TJPO as of right with the Appellate Division pursuant to Court Rule 2:2-3(a)(1) within 45 days of the entry of the order denying the petition.

III. Final Judicial Officer Protection Order (FJPO)

- a. A hearing for the final protection order shall be scheduled to take place within 10 days after the petition was filed but may be postponed upon request and in the discretion of the court (e.g., to allow for the corresponding criminal matter to be concluded).
- b. The hearing for a final order shall be held in the county where the pending criminal charges or conviction are venued, unless good cause is shown for the hearing to be held elsewhere.
- c. The parties shall be given an opportunity to provide information to the court to consider whether to issue an FJPO.
- d. The respondent shall be afforded the right to testify, to present witnesses, to submit documents, to cross-examine any witnesses who may appear at the hearing, and to present relevant information. The rules governing admissibility of evidence at trial shall not apply to the presentation and consideration of information at the hearing.
- e. The judicial officer shall be represented by an attorney or firm provided by the Division of Law.

- f. At the hearing for the final protection order, the standard for proving the allegations in the petition shall be a preponderance of the evidence.
- g. The petition shall be granted if the court finds (1) there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties, and (2) the respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer.
- h. The court shall consider but not be limited to the previous history between the judicial officer and the respondent, including any threats, harassment, or physical intimidation; and the existence of immediate danger to person and property.
- i. The petitioner or the respondent may appeal the decision by the court to grant or deny issuance of the FJPO within 45 days after the entry of that decision pursuant to R. 2:2-3(a)(1).

IV. Final Relief

If appropriate, the court shall grant any relief necessary to protect the victim from further harm, including but not limited to:

- a. Prohibiting the respondent from returning to the scene of the alleged crime;
- b. Prohibiting the respondent from having any contact with the judicial officer, family, household members, friends, co-workers, or relatives in any way;
- c. Forbidding the respondent from possessing any firearm or other weapon enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r);
- d. In accordance with Guideline V below, ordering the search for and seizure of any firearms or other weapons at any location where the court has reasonable cause to believe the weapon is located;
- e. Ordering the seizure of any firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun issued to the respondent;
- f. Requiring the respondent to undergo a mental health evaluation and appropriate treatment.

V. Search Warrant

A search warrant may be issued at the same time as the TJPO or the FJPO. The statute authorizes the court to order the search for and seizure of any firearm or other weapon at any location where the court has “reasonable cause to believe the weapon is located,” and the seizure of any firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun issued to the respondent. The court shall state with specificity the reasons for and the scope of any search and seizure authorized by the order.

As noted above the statutory standard for issuance of a protection order is “good cause shown,” and the statutory provision regarding search warrants uses the phrase “reasonable cause” as to the location to be searched. These statutory provisions are identical to those found in the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, N.J.S.A. 2C:25-28(i) and (j). The standard for issuing a search warrant for the seizure of weapons is controlled by State v. Hemenway, 239 N.J. 111 (2019), where the Court determined that a “probable cause” standard was required for search warrants issued pursuant to the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act to ensure compliance with constitutional requirements. As such, a search warrant for any firearms and or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r) can only be issued in conjunction with a temporary protection order when the court finds that probable cause exists to believe that the respondent: (1) was charged with or convicted of any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted and the performance of the judicial officer’s public duties; (2) the respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer; (3) the respondent owns or possesses firearms or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r); and (4) such firearms or other weapons are presently at a specifically described location.

VI. Violations of a Judicial Officer Protection Order

A violation by the respondent of a Judicial Officer Protection Order (whether temporary or final) constitutes a criminal offense under N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b), and each order shall so state. The Assignment Judge, or designee, shall

determine assignment of a judge to preside over any proceedings resulting from any charges under N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b) alleging violation of a Judicial Officer Protection Order. The Assignment Judge shall determine whether the case should be transferred to another county.

VII. Termination of a Final Judicial Officer Protection Order

- a. The petitioner, judicial officer victim, or the respondent may apply for a termination of a final protection order at any time following issuance of the order. The application to terminate the order shall be filed in the vicinage where the final order was entered.
- b. The court, on notice to the County Prosecutor, the parties, including the judicial officer victim, and the appropriate law enforcement agency, may terminate the final protection order after a hearing.
- c. The court shall determine whether the factors that were originally assessed in granting the FJPO are still present, and whether there has been a material change in circumstances such that the Final Judicial Officer Protection Order is no longer required to ensure the victim's safety.

VIII. Confidentiality of Records Related to Judicial Officer Protection Orders

- a. All records related to Judicial Officer Protection Orders (whether temporary or final) are confidential and may not be disclosed to anyone other than the respondent and the parties of record participating in the proceedings, unless the court finds good cause to release such records. Judicial Officer Protection Order records are therefore sealed from public access pursuant to Rule 1:38-11.
- b. If records are ordered to be released, the petitioner must be served with a copy of the court's order.
- c. If a Judicial Officer Protection Order has been issued and the underlying criminal charges are dismissed, the records of the criminal case cannot be expunged because of the existence of the order.

IX. Continuance Order Form

The Continuance Order form is used when an FJPO hearing is continued or adjourned for any reason. The form captures the reason for the continuance or adjournment. Finally, the form includes space for law enforcement to mark the return of service on the respondent and the petitioner.

Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order (TJPO)

Superior Court of New Jersey

County	Petition Number	Complaint/Indictment Number		
In the Matter of,		Date of Birth		Sex
		Respondent		Social Security Number XXX-XX-
Height				Weight
		ft	in	lbs
		Hair Color		Eye Color
		Race		
		Ethnicity		

Judicial Officer's Information

Name

Bar ID	County of Residence	Status	County of Judicial Office Employment <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Judicial Office Jurisdiction
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Findings

The Petitioner having filed a *Petition for a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order* (TJPO), and the court having conducted an *ex parte* hearing and having considered:

- the certified petition, **AND/OR**
- the testimony of _____, **AND/OR**
- any document(s) provided to the court (list exhibits) _____, **AND**

Also having considered whether the Respondent:

- was charged with or convicted of any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted, as the case may be, and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties;
- demonstrated a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer;
- has an existing or previous judicial officer protection order issued against them;
- has previously violated a judicial officer protection order issued against them; or

- any other relevant factor(s) (specify)

Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED on this date _____, that:

- The *Petition for a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order* is GRANTED.**

The court finds good cause that the Respondent was charged with or convicted of any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted, as the case may be, and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties; and that the Respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer.

It is further ORDERED that:

- The Respondent is prohibited from having any contact with the judicial officer, or the judicial officer's friends, co-workers, or relatives in any way; **AND**
- The Respondent is forbidden from returning to the scene of the alleged crime; **AND**
- The Respondent is prohibited from owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving firearms or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r), and from securing or holding a firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3, or a permit to carry a handgun pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4; **AND**
- Any firearms purchaser identification card, permit to purchase a handgun, or permit to carry a handgun held by the Respondent is hereby immediately revoked; **AND**
- The County Prosecutor is to immediately notify the New Jersey State Police that the Respondent is disqualified from owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving firearms or ammunition pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3(c)(11).

A violation of any condition of this Order shall constitute an offense under N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b).

OR

- The *Petition for a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order* is DENIED.**

The court does not find good cause that the Respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer.

OR

- The *Petition for a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order* is DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE.**

This matter does not meet the requirements for a Judicial Officer Protection Order.

OR

In the Matter of: _____ SBI Number: _____

The *Petition for a Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order* is **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.**

OR

The petition for a *Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order* is **WITHDRAWN.**

Additional Reasons Set Forth on the Record and Herein

	s/
Date	Honorable
Superior Court of New Jersey – Law Division	
	County

In the Matter of: _____

SBI Number: _____

Search Warrant

- The Court finds that probable cause exists to believe that the Respondent
 - (1) was charged with or convicted of any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted, as the case may be, and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties;
 - (2) the Respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer;
 - (3) the Respondent owns or possesses firearms or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r) as described below; and
 - (4) such firearms or other weapons are presently at the location described below.

To Any Law Enforcement Officer Having Jurisdiction

This order shall serve as a warrant to search for and seize any issued permit to carry a handgun, permit to purchase a handgun and firearms purchaser identification card issued to the Respondent and the following firearm(s) and/or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r).

1. **You are hereby commanded** to search for the below described firearms or weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r), and any permit to carry a handgun, permit to purchase a handgun or firearms purchaser identification card and to serve a copy of this Order upon the person at the premises or location described herein:

Weapon	Description	Number	Location

2. **You are hereby ordered** in the event you seize any of the above described items, to give a receipt for the property so seized to the person from whom they were taken or in whose possession they were found, or in the absence of such person to leave a copy of this Order together with such receipt in or upon said structure from which the property was taken.
3. **You are authorized** to execute this Order immediately or as soon thereafter as is practicable:
 - Anytime
 - Other _____
4. **You are further ordered**, after the execution of this Order, to promptly provide the Court with a written inventory of the property seized per this Order.

Date _____ s/
 Superior Court of New Jersey – Law Division _____

 County _____

**All Law Enforcement Officers will serve and fully enforce this order.
This order shall remain in effect until further order of the court.**

Notice to Appear to Petitioner and Respondent

In the Matter of: _____ SBI Number: _____

- Both the Petitioner and Respondent or their representative are ordered to appear for a final hearing on (date) _____ at (time) _____ at the Superior Court, Criminal Part, _____ County, Room _____ located at (address) _____

- Spoken Language Interpreter Needed. Language: _____

Notice to Respondent

Failure to comply with this order may constitute criminal contempt pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b) and may also constitute violations of other state and federal laws which may result in your arrest and/or criminal prosecution. This may result in a jail sentence. Only a court can modify any of the terms or conditions of this court order.

Note that the hearing for a final order will be held in your absence if you have been served with this temporary order but do not appear in court at the time and place listed above for the final hearing.

In the Matter of: _____ SBI Number: _____

Petitioner's Return of Service

Petitioner was given a copy of the Petition/TJPO by:

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

Respondent's Return of Service

I hereby certify that I served the Petition/TJPO by delivering a copy to the Respondent personally:

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

I hereby certify that I served the Petition/TJPO by use of substituted service as follows:

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

Respondent could not be served (explain)

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

- Attached: Copy of Complaint, Indictment or Judgment of Conviction; and/or
 Petition; and/or
 Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order (TJPO); and/or
 Other: _____

Click to send your completed form via email:

TO: Security Court-Judicial Security.Court-Judicial@njcourts.gov

CC: AOCCrimPrac mailbox AOCCrimPrac.mbx@njcourts.gov

Final Judicial Officer Protection Order (FJPO)

Superior Court of New Jersey

County	Petition Number	Complaint/Indictment Number		
In the Matter of,		Date of Birth	Sex	
		Respondent		Social Security Number XXX-XX-
Height				Weight
		ft	in	lbs
		Hair Color		Eye Color
Race				
Ethnicity				

Judicial Officer's Information

Name

Bar ID	County of Residence	Status	County of Judicial Office Employment <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Judicial Office Jurisdiction
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Findings

The Petitioner having filed a *Petition for a Judicial Officer Protection Order*, and the court having entered a *Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order* on _____, and after conducting a hearing and having considered:

- the certified petition, **AND/OR**
- the testimony of _____ **AND/OR**
- any document(s) provided to the court (list exhibits) _____, **AND**

Also having considered whether the Respondent:

- was charged with or convicted of any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted, as the case may be, and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties;
- demonstrated a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer;

In the Matter of: _____ SBI Number: _____

- has an existing or previous judicial officer protection order issued against them;
- has previously violated a judicial officer protection order issued against them; or
- any other relevant factor(s) (specify)

Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED on this date _____, that:

- The petition for a *Final Judicial Officer Protection Order* is GRANTED.**

The court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the Respondent was charged with or convicted of any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the respondent was convicted, as the case may be, and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties; and that the Respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer.

It is further ORDERED that:

- The Respondent is prohibited from having any contact with the judicial officer, or the judicial officer's friends, co-workers, or relatives in any way; **AND**
- The Respondent is forbidden from returning to the scene of the alleged crime; **AND**
- The Respondent is prohibited from owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving firearms or other weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1(r), and from securing or holding a firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3, or a permit to carry a handgun pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4; **AND**
- Any firearms purchaser identification card, permit to purchase a handgun, or permit to carry a handgun held by the Respondent is hereby immediately revoked; **AND**
- The County Prosecutor is to immediately notify the New Jersey State Police that the Respondent is disqualified from owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving firearms or ammunition pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3(c)(11)*.

A violation of any condition of this Order shall constitute an offense under N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b).

OR

- The petition for a *Final Judicial Officer Protection Order* is DENIED.**

The court does not find good cause that the Respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer.

- The court does not find by a preponderance of the evidence that the Respondent was charged with or convicted of any crime directed at or committed against a judicial officer and there is a nexus between the alleged crime charged or the crime for which the

In the Matter of: _____

SBI Number: _____

respondent was convicted, as the case may be, and the performance of the judicial officer's public duties; and/or

- The court does not find by a preponderance of the evidence that the Respondent poses a threat to the safety or well-being of the judicial officer or a family or household member of the judicial officer.
- Petitioner has been advised of the right to file an appeal of this denied Final Order before the Appellate Division.

OR

- The petition for a *Final Judicial Officer Protection Order* is **DISMISSED** with prejudice.**
This matter does not meet the requirements for a Judicial Officer Protection Order.

OR

- The petition for a *Final Judicial Officer Protection Order* is **DISMISSED** without prejudice.**

OR

- The petition for a *Final Judicial Officer Protection Order* is **WITHDRAWN**.**

Additional Reasons Set Forth on the Record and Herein

Date

s/

Honorable

Superior Court of New Jersey – Law Division

County

In the Matter of: _____ SBI Number: _____

Notice to Respondent

Failure to comply with this order may constitute criminal contempt pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9(b)* and may also constitute violations of other state and federal laws which may result in your arrest and/or criminal prosecution. This may result in a jail sentence.

Only a court can modify any of the terms or conditions of this court order.

You have the right to file an appeal of this final Order before the Appellate Division.

In the Matter of: _____ SBI Number: _____

Petitioner's Return of Service

Petitioner was given a copy of the Petition/FJPO by:

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

Respondent's Return of Service

I hereby certify that I served the Petition/FJPO by delivering a copy to the Respondent personally:

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

I hereby certify that I served the Petition/FJPO by use of substituted service as follows:

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

Respondent could not be served (explain)

Print Name

Date

s/

Signature / Badge Number / Department

- Attached:
- Copy of Complaint, Indictment or Judgment of Conviction; and/or
 - Petition; and/or
 - Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order (TJPO); and/or
 - Other: _____

Click to send your completed form via email:

TO: Security Court-Judicial Security.Court-Judicial@njcourts.gov

CC: AOCCrimPrac mailbox AOCCrimPrac.mbx@njcourts.gov

In the Matter of: _____ SBI Number: _____

Petitioner's Return of Service

Petitioner was given a copy of the _____ by:

Print Name _____ Date _____

s/ _____

Signature / Badge Number / Department

Respondent's Return of Service

I hereby certify that I served the _____ by delivering a copy to the Respondent personally:

Print Name _____ Date _____

s/ _____

Signature / Badge Number / Department

I hereby certify that I served the _____ by use of substituted service as follows:

Print Name _____ Date _____

s/ _____

Signature / Badge Number / Department

Respondent could not be served (explain)

Print Name _____ Date _____

s/ _____

Signature / Badge Number / Department

- Attached: Copy of Complaint, Indictment or Judgment of Conviction; and/or
 Final Judicial Officer Protection Order; and/or
 Other:

Click to send your completed form via email:

TO: Security Court-Judicial Security.Court-Judicial@njcourts.gov

CC: AOCCrimPrac mailbox AOCCrimPrac.mbx@njcourts.gov

In the Matter of,

Superior Court of New Jersey

Division

County

Respondent,

Docket Number: _____

Continuance Order

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED on this _____ day of _____, _____, that:

- 1. All restraints previously ordered in the Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order dated _____ **SHALL CONTINUE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.**
- 2. This matter has been partially tried and:
 - will continue on _____ at _____
 - will continue on a date to be scheduled after the disposition of _____ when all parties shall appear for the Final Judicial Officer Protection Order hearing. This hearing will be conducted
 - In-Person.
 - Video Remote.

- 3. This matter is adjourned and:
 - will continue on _____ at _____
 - will continue on a date to be scheduled after the disposition of _____ when all parties shall appear for the Final Judicial Officer Protection Order hearing. This hearing will be conducted
 - In-Person.
 - Video Remote.

The case was adjourned for the following reason:

- a. Request of the Court / Scheduling Conflict
- b. Court Closing
- c. Non-Appearance by Petitioner Respondant
- d. Respondent not Served
- e. Request of Respondent
 - i. To obtain Counsel
- f. Request of Plaintiff
 - i. To obtain Counsel
- g. Scheduled in Error
- h. Technology Issue

- 4. This case has been adjourned _____ number of times. There will be no further adjournments absent extenuating circumstances.
- 5. Respondent has been advised of the following:
 - a. Judicial Protection Order procedures,
 - b. Consequences of a Judicial Protection Order, and
 - c. The right to counsel for the Judicial Protection Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

Notice to Law Enforcement:

- 1. If the Respondent has not been served with the Petition and the Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order, they both **MUST** be attached to this Continuance Order for service.
- 2. Upon service, law enforcement **MUST** send updated contact information and the return of service to the Chambers of the Honorable _____, J.S.C., in the county indicated above.
- 3. This Order shall be served **personally served by law enforcement** on the **Petitioner** **Respondant**

Notice to Parties:

- 1. Upon being served with this Order and Temporary Judicial Officer Protection Order, the Respondent **MUST** contact the Chambers of the Honorable _____, J.S.C., in the county indicated above on the next business day to get a court date. Failure to contact the court may result in a final protection order being issued against the Respondent.
- 2. The parties shall advise the Court of **ANY** changes in address, phone number or email address. Addresses in this matter are confidential.

s/ _____
Honorable

The Judiciary will provide reasonable accommodations to enable individuals with disabilities to access and participate in court events. Please contact the [local ADA coordinator](#) to request an accommodation. Contact information is available at njcourts.gov.

The New Jersey Judiciary provides court-interpreting services. If you need an interpreter, notify the court as soon as possible.

spoken language interpreter required language: _____

Return of Service

Respondent was given a copy of the Order by:

Print Name	Time and Date	Signature / Badge Number / Department
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Petitioner was given a copy of the Order by:

Print Name	Time and Date	Signature / Badge Number / Department
------------	---------------	---------------------------------------