

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1475

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

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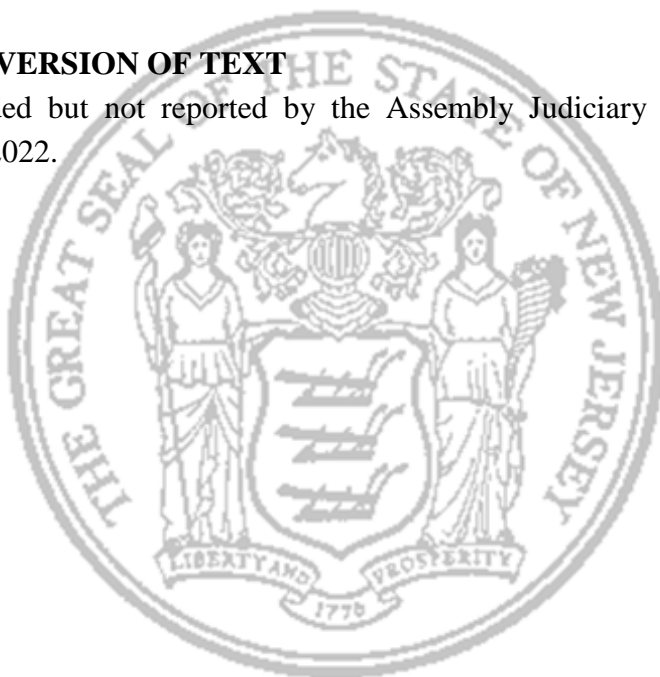
Assemblywomen Chaparro, McKnight and Jaffer

SYNOPSIS

Requires court to consider information concerning coercive control in domestic violence proceedings.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended but not reported by the Assembly Judiciary Committee on October 17, 2022.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/28/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning domestic violence and amending P.L.1991,
2 c.261.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 ¹**[**1. Section 3 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-19) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 3. As used in this act:

10 a. "Domestic violence" means the occurrence of one or more of
11 the following acts inflicted upon a person protected under this act
12 by an adult or an emancipated minor:

- 13 (1) Homicide N.J.S.2C:11-1 et seq.
- 14 (2) Assault N.J.S.2C:12-1
- 15 (3) Terroristic threats N.J.S.2C:12-3
- 16 (4) Kidnapping N.J.S.2C:13-1
- 17 (5) Criminal restraint N.J.S.2C:13-2
- 18 (6) False imprisonment N.J.S.2C:13-3
- 19 (7) Sexual assault N.J.S.2C:14-2
- 20 (8) Criminal sexual contact N.J.S.2C:14-3
- 21 (9) Lewdness N.J.S.2C:14-4
- 22 (10) Criminal mischief N.J.S.2C:17-3
- 23 (11) Burglary N.J.S.2C:18-2
- 24 (12) Criminal trespass N.J.S.2C:18-3
- 25 (13) Harassment N.J.S.2C:33-4
- 26 (14) Stalking P.L.1992, c.209 (C.2C:12-10)
- 27 (15) Criminal coercion N.J.S.2C:13-5
- 28 (16) Robbery N.J.S.2C:15-1
- 29 (17) Contempt of a domestic violence order pursuant to
30 subsection b. of N.J.S.2C:29-9 that constitutes a crime or disorderly
31 persons offense
- 32 (18) Any other crime involving risk of death or serious bodily
33 injury to a person protected under the "Prevention of Domestic
34 Violence Act of 1991," P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et al.)
- 35 (19) Cyber-harassment P.L.2013, c.272 (C.2C:33-4.1)
- 36 (20) Coercive control. As used in this paragraph, "coercive
37 control" means a pattern of behavior against a person protected
38 under this act that in purpose or effect unreasonably interferes with
39 a person's free will and personal liberty. "Coercive control"
40 includes, but is not limited to, unreasonably engaging in any of the
41 following:
42 (a) Isolating the person from friends, relatives, or other sources
43 of support;
44 (b) Depriving the person of basic necessities;

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined **thus** is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AJU committee amendments adopted October 17, 2022.

1 (c) Controlling, regulating or monitoring the person's
2 movements, communications, daily behavior, finances, economic
3 resources or access to services;

4 (d) Compelling the person by force, threat or intimidation,
5 including, but not limited to, threats based on actual or suspected
6 immigration status, to (i) engage in conduct from which such person
7 has a right to abstain, or (ii) abstain from conduct that such person
8 has a right to pursue;

9 (e) Name-calling, degradation, and demeaning the person
10 frequently;

11 (f) Threatening to harm or kill the individual or a child or
12 relative of the individual;

13 (g) Threatening to public information or make reports to the
14 police or to the authorities;

15 (h) Damaging property or household goods; or

16 (i) Forcing the person to take part in criminal activity or child
17 abuse.

18 When one or more of these acts is inflicted by an unemancipated
19 minor upon a person protected under this act, the occurrence shall
20 not constitute "domestic violence," but may be the basis for the
21 filing of a petition or complaint pursuant to the provisions of
22 section 11 of P.L.1982, c.77 (C.2A:4A-30).

23 b. "Law enforcement agency" means a department, division,
24 bureau, commission, board or other authority of the State or of any
25 political subdivision thereof which employs law enforcement
26 officers.

27 c. "Law enforcement officer" means a person whose public
28 duties include the power to act as an officer for the detection,
29 apprehension, arrest and conviction of offenders against the laws of
30 this State.

31 d. "Victim of domestic violence" means a person protected
32 under this act and shall include any person who is 18 years of age or
33 older or who is an emancipated minor and who has been subjected
34 to domestic violence by a spouse, former spouse, or any other
35 person who is a present household member or was at any time a
36 household member. "Victim of domestic violence" also includes
37 any person, regardless of age, who has been subjected to domestic
38 violence by a person with whom the victim has a child in common,
39 or with whom the victim anticipates having a child in common, if
40 one of the parties is pregnant. "Victim of domestic violence" also
41 includes any person who has been subjected to domestic violence
42 by a person with whom the victim has had a dating relationship.

43 e. "Emancipated minor" means a person who is under 18 years
44 of age but who has been married, has entered military service, has a
45 child or is pregnant or has been previously declared by a court or an
46 administrative agency to be emancipated.

47 (cf: P.L.2016, c.77, s.1)J¹

1 ¹1. Section 13 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-29) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 13. a. A hearing shall be held in the Family Part of the
4 Chancery Division of the Superior Court within 10 days of the
5 filing of a complaint pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1991, c.261
6 (C.2C:25-28) in the county where the ex parte restraints were
7 ordered, unless good cause is shown for the hearing to be held
8 elsewhere. A copy of the complaint shall be served on the
9 defendant in conformity with the Rules of Court. If a criminal
10 complaint arising out of the same incident which is the subject
11 matter of a complaint brought under P.L.1981, c.426 (C.2C:25-1 et
12 seq.) or P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) has been filed,
13 testimony given by the plaintiff or defendant in the domestic
14 violence matter shall not be used in the simultaneous or subsequent
15 criminal proceeding against the defendant, other than domestic
16 violence contempt matters and where it would otherwise be
17 admissible hearsay under the rules of evidence that govern where a
18 party is unavailable. At the hearing the standard for proving the
19 allegations in the complaint shall be by a preponderance of the
20 evidence. In considering the necessity of ordering a restraining
21 order **【The】** the court shall consider but not be limited to the
22 following factors:

23 (1) The previous history of domestic violence between the
24 plaintiff and defendant, including threats, harassment and physical
25 abuse;

26 (2) The existence of immediate danger to person or property;

27 (3) The financial circumstances of the plaintiff and defendant;

28 (4) The best interests of the victim and any child;

29 (5) In determining custody and parenting time the protection of
30 the victim's safety; **【and】**

31 (6) The existence of a verifiable order of protection from
32 another jurisdiction; and

33 (7) Any pattern of coercive control against a person that in
34 purpose or effect unreasonably interferes with a person's free will
35 and personal liberty. Coercive control includes, but is not limited
36 to:

37 (a) isolating the person from friends, relatives, transportation,
38 medical care, or other source of support;

39 (b) depriving the person of basic necessities;

40 (c) monitoring the person's movements, communications, daily
41 behavior, finances, economic resources, or access to services;

42 (d) compelling the person by force, threat, or intimidation,
43 including, but not limited to, threats based on actual or suspected
44 immigration status;

45 (e) threatening to make or making baseless reports to the police,
46 courts, the Department of Child Protection and Permanency
47 (DCPP), the Board of Social Services, Immigration and Customs
48 Enforcement (ICE), or other parties;

1 (f) name-calling, degradation, and demeaning the person
2 frequently;

3 (g) threatening to harm or kill the individual's relative or pet; or

4 (h) threatening to take the individual's children away.

5 An order issued under this act shall only restrain or provide
6 damages payable from a person against whom a complaint has been
7 filed under this act and only after a finding or an admission is made
8 that an act of domestic violence was committed by that person. The
9 issue of whether or not a violation of this act occurred, including an
10 act of contempt under this act, shall not be subject to mediation or
11 negotiation in any form. In addition, where a temporary or final
12 order has been issued pursuant to this act, no party shall be ordered
13 to participate in mediation on the issue of custody or parenting time.

14 b. In proceedings in which complaints for restraining orders
15 have been filed, the court shall grant any relief necessary to prevent
16 further abuse. In addition to any other provisions, any restraining
17 order issued by the court shall bar the defendant from purchasing,
18 owning, possessing or controlling a firearm and from receiving or
19 retaining a firearms purchaser identification card or permit to
20 purchase a handgun pursuant to N.J.S.2C:58-3 during the period in
21 which the restraining order is in effect or two years, whichever is
22 greater. The order shall require the immediate surrender of any
23 firearm or other weapon belonging to the defendant. The order
24 shall include notice to the defendant of the penalties for a violation
25 of any provision of the order, including but not limited to the
26 penalties for contempt of court and unlawful possession of a firearm
27 or other weapon pursuant to N.J.S.2C:39-5.

28 A law enforcement officer shall accompany the defendant, or
29 may proceed without the defendant if necessary, to any place where
30 any firearm or other weapon belonging to the defendant is located
31 to ensure that the defendant does not gain access to any firearm or
32 other weapon, and a law enforcement officer shall take custody of
33 any firearm or other weapon belonging to the defendant. If the
34 order prohibits the defendant from returning to the scene of
35 domestic violence or other place where firearms or other weapons
36 belonging to the defendant are located, any firearm or other weapon
37 located there shall be seized by a law enforcement officer. The
38 provisions of this subsection requiring the surrender or removal of a
39 firearm, card, or permit shall not apply to any law enforcement
40 officer while actually on duty, or to any member of the Armed
41 Forces of the United States or member of the National Guard while
42 actually on duty or traveling to or from an authorized place of duty.
43 At the hearing the judge of the Family Part of the Chancery
44 Division of the Superior Court may issue an order granting any or
45 all of the following relief:

46 (1) An order restraining the defendant from subjecting the
47 victim to domestic violence, as defined in this act.

1 (2) An order granting exclusive possession to the plaintiff of the
2 residence or household regardless of whether the residence or
3 household is jointly or solely owned by the parties or jointly or
4 solely leased by the parties. This order shall not in any manner
5 affect title or interest to any real property held by either party or
6 both jointly. If it is not possible for the victim to remain in the
7 residence, the court may order the defendant to pay the victim's rent
8 at a residence other than the one previously shared by the parties if
9 the defendant is found to have a duty to support the victim and the
10 victim requires alternative housing.

11 (3) An order providing for parenting time. The order shall
12 protect the safety and well-being of the plaintiff and minor children
13 and shall specify the place and frequency of parenting time.
14 Parenting time arrangements shall not compromise any other
15 remedy provided by the court by requiring or encouraging contact
16 between the plaintiff and defendant. Orders for parenting time may
17 include a designation of a place of parenting time away from the
18 plaintiff, the participation of a third party, or supervised parenting
19 time.

20 (a) The court shall consider a request by a custodial parent who
21 has been subjected to domestic violence by a person with parenting
22 time rights to a child in the parent's custody for an investigation or
23 evaluation by the appropriate agency to assess the risk of harm to
24 the child prior to the entry of a parenting time order. Any denial of
25 such a request must be on the record and shall only be made if the
26 judge finds the request to be arbitrary or capricious.

27 (b) The court shall consider suspension of the parenting time
28 order and hold an emergency hearing upon an application made by
29 the plaintiff certifying under oath that the defendant's access to the
30 child pursuant to the parenting time order has threatened the safety
31 and well-being of the child.

32 (4) An order requiring the defendant to pay to the victim
33 monetary compensation for losses suffered as a direct result of the
34 act of domestic violence. The order may require the defendant to
35 pay the victim directly, to reimburse the Victims of Crime
36 Compensation Office for any and all compensation paid by the
37 Victims of Crime Compensation Office directly to or on behalf of
38 the victim, and may require that the defendant reimburse any parties
39 that may have compensated the victim, as the court may determine.
40 Compensatory losses shall include, but not be limited to, loss of
41 earnings or other support, including child or spousal support, out-
42 of-pocket losses for injuries sustained, cost of repair or replacement
43 of real or personal property damaged or destroyed or taken by the
44 defendant, cost of counseling for the victim, moving or other travel
45 expenses, reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and compensation
46 for pain and suffering. Where appropriate, punitive damages may be
47 awarded in addition to compensatory damages.

1 (5) An order requiring the defendant to receive professional
2 domestic violence counseling from either a private source or a
3 source appointed by the court and, in that event, requiring the
4 defendant to provide the court at specified intervals with
5 documentation of attendance at the professional counseling. The
6 court may order the defendant to pay for the professional
7 counseling. No application by the defendant to dissolve a final
8 order which contains a requirement for attendance at professional
9 counseling pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted by the court
10 unless, in addition to any other provisions required by law or
11 conditions ordered by the court, the defendant has completed all
12 required attendance at such counseling.

13 (6) An order restraining the defendant from entering the
14 residence, property, school, or place of employment of the victim or
15 of other family or household members of the victim and requiring
16 the defendant to stay away from any specified place that is named
17 in the order and is frequented regularly by the victim or other
18 family or household members.

19 (7) An order restraining the defendant from making contact with
20 the plaintiff or others, including an order forbidding the defendant
21 from personally or through an agent initiating any communication
22 likely to cause annoyance or alarm including, but not limited to,
23 personal, written, or telephone contact with the victim or other
24 family members, or their employers, employees, or fellow workers,
25 or others with whom communication would be likely to cause
26 annoyance or alarm to the victim.

27 (8) An order requiring that the defendant make or continue to
28 make rent or mortgage payments on the residence occupied by the
29 victim if the defendant is found to have a duty to support the victim
30 or other dependent household members; provided that this issue has
31 not been resolved or is not being litigated between the parties in
32 another action.

33 (9) An order granting either party temporary possession of
34 specified personal property, such as an automobile, checkbook,
35 documentation of health insurance, an identification document, a
36 key, and other personal effects.

37 (10) An order awarding emergency monetary relief, including
38 emergency support for minor children, to the victim and other
39 dependents, if any. An ongoing obligation of support shall be
40 determined at a later date pursuant to applicable law.

41 (11) An order awarding temporary custody of a minor child.
42 The court shall presume that the best interests of the child are
43 served by an award of custody to the non-abusive parent.

44 (12) An order requiring that a law enforcement officer
45 accompany either party to the residence or any shared business
46 premises to supervise the removal of personal belongings in order
47 to ensure the personal safety of the plaintiff when a restraining
48 order has been issued. This order shall be restricted in duration.

1 (13) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1995, c.242).

2 (14) An order granting any other appropriate relief for the
3 plaintiff and dependent children, provided that the plaintiff consents
4 to such relief, including relief requested by the plaintiff at the final
5 hearing, whether or not the plaintiff requested such relief at the time
6 of the granting of the initial emergency order.

7 (15) An order that requires that the defendant report to the
8 intake unit of the Family Part of the Chancery Division of the
9 Superior Court for monitoring of any other provision of the order.

10 (16) In addition to the order required by this subsection
11 prohibiting the defendant from possessing any firearm, the court
12 may also issue an order prohibiting the defendant from possessing
13 any other weapon enumerated in subsection r. of N.J.S.2C:39-1 and
14 ordering the search for and seizure of any firearm or other weapon
15 at any location where the judge has reasonable cause to believe the
16 weapon is located. The judge shall state with specificity the reasons
17 for and scope of the search and seizure authorized by the order.

18 (17) An order prohibiting the defendant from stalking or
19 following, or threatening to harm, to stalk or to follow, the
20 complainant or any other person named in the order in a manner
21 that, taken in the context of past actions of the defendant, would put
22 the complainant in reasonable fear that the defendant would cause
23 the death or injury of the complainant or any other person.
24 Behavior prohibited under this act includes, but is not limited to,
25 behavior prohibited under the provisions of P.L.1992, c.209
26 (C.2C:12-10).

27 (18) An order requiring the defendant to undergo a psychiatric
28 evaluation.

29 (19) An order directing the possession of any animal owned,
30 possessed, leased, kept, or held by either party or a minor child
31 residing in the household. Where a person has abused or threatened
32 to abuse such animal, there shall be a presumption that possession
33 of the animal shall be awarded to the non-abusive party.

34 c. Notice of orders issued pursuant to this section shall be sent
35 by the clerk of the Family Part of the Chancery Division of the
36 Superior Court or other person designated by the court to the
37 appropriate chiefs of police, members of the State Police and any
38 other appropriate law enforcement agency.

39 d. Upon good cause shown, any final order may be dissolved or
40 modified upon application to the Family Part of the Chancery
41 Division of the Superior Court, but only if the judge who dissolves
42 or modifies the order is the same judge who entered the order, or
43 has available a complete record of the hearing or hearings on which
44 the order was based.

45 e. Prior to the issuance of any order pursuant to this section,
46 the court shall order that a search be made of the domestic violence
47 central registry.¹

48 (cf: P.L.2016, c.91, s.3)

1 ¹2. Section 12 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-28) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 12. a. A victim may file a complaint alleging the commission of
4 an act of domestic violence with the Family Part of the Chancery
5 Division of the Superior Court in conformity with the Rules of
6 Court. The court shall not dismiss any complaint or delay
7 disposition of a case because the victim has left the residence to
8 avoid further incidents of domestic violence. Filing a complaint
9 pursuant to this section shall not prevent the filing of a criminal
10 complaint for the same act.

11 On weekends, holidays and other times when the court is closed,
12 a victim may file a complaint before a judge of the Family Part of
13 the Chancery Division of the Superior Court or a municipal court
14 judge who shall be assigned to accept complaints and issue
15 emergency, ex parte relief in the form of temporary restraining
16 orders pursuant to this act.

17 A plaintiff may apply for relief under this section in a court
18 having jurisdiction over the place where the alleged act of domestic
19 violence occurred, where the defendant resides, or where the
20 plaintiff resides or is sheltered, and the court shall follow the same
21 procedures applicable to other emergency applications. Criminal
22 complaints filed pursuant to this act shall be investigated and
23 prosecuted in the jurisdiction where the offense is alleged to have
24 occurred. Contempt complaints filed pursuant to N.J.S.2C:29-9
25 shall be prosecuted in the county where the contempt is alleged to
26 have been committed and a copy of the contempt complaint shall be
27 forwarded to the court that issued the order alleged to have been
28 violated.

29 b. The court shall waive any requirement that the petitioner's
30 place of residence appear on the complaint.

31 c. (1) The clerk of the court, or other person designated by the
32 court, shall assist the parties in completing any forms necessary for
33 the filing of a summons, complaint, answer or other pleading.

34 (2) The plaintiff may provide information concerning firearms
35 to which the defendant has access, including the location of these
36 firearms, if known, on a form to be prescribed by the
37 Administrative Director of the Courts.

38 (3) Information provided by the plaintiff concerning firearms to
39 which the defendant has access shall be kept confidential and shall
40 not be disseminated or disclosed, provided that nothing in this
41 subsection shall prohibit dissemination or disclosure of this
42 information in a manner consistent with and in furtherance of the
43 purpose for which the information was provided.

44 (4) The plaintiff may provide information concerning coercive
45 control that in purpose or effect unreasonably interferes with a
46 person's free will and personal liberty. Coercive control includes,
47 but is not limited to:

1 (a) isolating the person from friends, relatives, transportation,
2 medical care, or other source of support;

3 (b) depriving the person of basic necessities;

4 (c) monitoring the person's movements, communications, daily
5 behavior, finances, economic resources, or access to services;

6 (d) compelling the person by force, threat, or intimidation,
7 including, but not limited to, threats based on actual or suspected
8 immigration status;

9 (e) threatening to make or making baseless reports to the police,
10 courts, the Department of Child Protection and Permanency
11 (DCPP), the Board of Social Services, Immigration and Customs
12 Enforcement (ICE), or other parties;

13 (f) name-calling, degradation, and demeaning the person
14 frequently;

15 (g) threatening to harm or kill the individual's relative or pet; or

16 (h) threatening to take the individual's children away.

17 d. Summons and complaint forms shall be readily available at
18 the clerk's office, at the municipal courts and at municipal and State
19 police stations.

20 e. As soon as the domestic violence complaint is filed, both the
21 victim and the abuser shall be advised of any programs or services
22 available for advice and counseling.

23 f. A plaintiff may seek emergency, ex parte relief in the nature
24 of a temporary restraining order. A municipal court judge or a
25 judge of the Family Part of the Chancery Division of the Superior
26 Court may enter an ex parte order when necessary to protect the
27 life, health or well-being of a victim on whose behalf the relief is
28 sought.

29 g. If it appears that the plaintiff is in danger of domestic
30 violence, the judge shall, upon consideration of the plaintiff's
31 domestic violence complaint, order emergency ex parte relief, in the
32 nature of a temporary restraining order. A decision shall be made
33 by the judge regarding the emergency relief forthwith.

34 h. A judge may issue a temporary restraining order upon sworn
35 testimony or complaint of an applicant who is not physically
36 present, pursuant to court rules, or by a person who represents a
37 person who is physically or mentally incapable of filing personally.
38 A temporary restraining order may be issued if the judge is satisfied
39 that exigent circumstances exist sufficient to excuse the failure of
40 the applicant to appear personally and that sufficient grounds for
41 granting the application have been shown.

42 i. An order for emergency, ex parte relief shall be granted
43 upon good cause shown and shall remain in effect until a judge of
44 the Family Part issues a further order. Any temporary order
45 hereunder is immediately appealable for a plenary hearing de novo
46 not on the record before any judge of the Family Part of the county
47 in which the plaintiff resides or is sheltered if that judge issued the
48 temporary order or has access to the reasons for the issuance of the

1 temporary order and sets forth in the record the reasons for the
2 modification or dissolution. The denial of a temporary restraining
3 order by a municipal court judge and subsequent administrative
4 dismissal of the complaint shall not bar the victim from refiling a
5 complaint in the Family Part based on the same incident and
6 receiving an emergency, ex parte hearing de novo not on the record
7 before a Family Part judge, and every denial of relief by a
8 municipal court judge shall so state.

9 j. Emergency relief may include forbidding the defendant from
10 returning to the scene of the domestic violence, forbidding the
11 defendant from possessing any firearm or other weapon enumerated
12 in subsection r. of N.J.S.2C:39-1, ordering the search for and
13 seizure of any firearm or other weapon at any location where the
14 judge has reasonable cause to believe the weapon is located and the
15 seizure of any firearms purchaser identification card or permit to
16 purchase a handgun issued to the defendant and any other
17 appropriate relief.

18 If the order requires the surrender of any firearm or other
19 weapon, a law enforcement officer shall accompany the defendant,
20 or may proceed without the defendant if necessary, to the scene of
21 the domestic violence or any other location where the judge has
22 reasonable cause to believe any firearm or other weapon belonging
23 to the defendant is located, to ensure that the defendant does not
24 gain access to any firearm or other weapon, and that the firearm or
25 other weapon is appropriately surrendered in accordance with the
26 order. If the order prohibits the defendant from returning to the
27 scene of domestic violence or any other location where the judge
28 has reasonable cause to believe any firearm or other weapon
29 belonging to the defendant is located, any firearm or other weapon
30 located there shall be seized by a law enforcement officer. The
31 order shall include notice to the defendant of the penalties for a
32 violation of any provision of the order, including but not limited to
33 the penalties for contempt of court and unlawful possession of a
34 firearm or other weapon pursuant to N.J.S.2C:39-5. Other
35 appropriate relief may include but is not limited to an order
36 directing the possession of any animal owned, possessed, leased,
37 kept, or held by either party or a minor child residing in the
38 household and providing that the animal shall not be disposed of
39 prior to entry of a final order pursuant to section 13 of P.L.1991,
40 c.261 (C.2C:25-29).

41 The judge shall state with specificity the reasons for and scope of
42 any search and seizure authorized by the order. The provisions of
43 this subsection prohibiting a defendant from possessing a firearm or
44 other weapon shall not apply to any law enforcement officer while
45 actually on duty, or to any member of the Armed Forces of the
46 United States or member of the National Guard while actually on
47 duty or traveling to or from an authorized place of duty.

- 1 k. The judge may permit the defendant to return to the scene of
2 the domestic violence to pick up personal belongings and effects
3 but shall, in the order granting relief, restrict the time and duration
4 of such permission and provide for police supervision of such visit.
- 5 l. An order granting emergency relief, together with the
6 complaint or complaints, shall immediately be forwarded to the
7 appropriate law enforcement agency for service on the defendant,
8 and to the police of the municipality in which the plaintiff resides or
9 is sheltered, and shall immediately be served upon the defendant by
10 the police, except that an order issued during regular court hours
11 may be forwarded to the sheriff for immediate service upon the
12 defendant in accordance with the Rules of Court. If personal
13 service cannot be effected upon the defendant, the court may order
14 other appropriate substituted service. At no time shall the plaintiff
15 be asked or required to serve any order on the defendant.
- 16 m. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.94.)
- 17 n. Notice of temporary restraining orders issued pursuant to
18 this section shall be sent by the clerk of the court or other person
19 designated by the court to the appropriate chiefs of police, members
20 of the State Police and any other appropriate law enforcement
21 agency or court.
- 22 o. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.94.)
- 23 p. Any temporary or final restraining order issued pursuant to
24 this act shall be in effect throughout the State, and shall be enforced
25 by all law enforcement officers.
- 26 q. Prior to the issuance of any temporary or final restraining
27 order issued pursuant to this section, the court shall order that a
28 search be made of the domestic violence central registry with regard
29 to the defendant's record.¹
30 (cf: P.L.2016, c.91, s.2)
31
- 32 ¹**[2.] 3.**¹ This act shall take effect immediately.