

Information Sheet for a

Petition for an Extreme Risk Protective Order Against a Law Enforcement Officer

The Extreme Risk Protective Order Act (*N.J.S.A.* 2C:58-20 to -32) requires that when the respondent is a law enforcement officer, the petition cannot be filed with the court until the conclusion of an internal affairs investigation, and a determination by the county prosecutor to file a petition with the court.

Specifically, N.J.S.A. 2C:58-23(I) provides:

- (1) A petition for a temporary extreme risk protective order filed against a law enforcement officer shall be filed in the law enforcement agency in which the officer is employed. The law enforcement officer or employee receiving the petition shall advise the petitioner of the procedure for completing and signing a petition.
- (2) Upon receipt of the petition, the law enforcement officer's employer shall immediately initiate an internal affairs investigation.
- (3) The disposition of the internal affairs investigation shall immediately be served upon the county prosecutor who shall make a determination **whether** to refer the matter to the courts.

Attached is the petition form if you want to file a petition for an extreme risk protective order against a law enforcement officer. To file the petition, you must complete the form and provide it to the law enforcement agency where the law enforcement officer is employed. If you have any questions, you can contact that law enforcement agency or the county prosecutor's office. The contact information for the county prosecutor's office is listed below:

(To be completed by staff)