

Your Final PFA Hearing

This is a general timeline, and the actual day may proceed differently. You must remain available all day.

You check in

By 9:00 A.M.

Check in with the court and have a seat in the Plaintiff waiting area. Do not worry if your attorney does not call your name and talk to you right away; attorneys often have multiple cases scheduled for the same day.

Defendant checks in

By 10:00 A.M.

If the Defendant has been served but does not check in, you may be able to get a Final PFA Order by default (without a hearing). Your attorney will talk to you before they submit any kind of order.

Negotiation

Before 12:00 P.M.

Your attorney will speak to the Defendant (or their attorney, if they have one) and try to settle the case without a hearing by either (1) a Final PFA Order by consent or (2) a non-PFA civil consent order.

Conciliation

After 12:00 P.M.

If no agreement has been reached, your attorney and the Defendant (or their attorney, if they have one) will speak to the judge. The judge will see if the case can be settled without a hearing.

Hearing

After 12:00 P.M.

If the case cannot be settled, you will have a formal hearing in front of the judge. Both sides will call witnesses and present evidence. After the hearing, the judge will immediately make a decision.



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