

## **How to File a Petition for a Temporary Protection from Abuse Order**

-The Emergency Judicial Order dated April 3, 2020, governs the policy for filing a petition for a Temporary Protection from Abuse Order (PFA).

-All PFA petitions are to be completed and heard **remotely**. Petitions will be reviewed by a Judge between the hours of **9 AM and 2 PM** - Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

-You can find the PFA packet - which includes a data sheet, petition, and order on the Lackawanna County website – **[www.lackawannacounty.org](http://www.lackawannacounty.org)**  
You can find the form under Government Directory, then click Judiciary, then Family Court. The form may also be found under the tab "Document Shop"

-There is a PDF as well as a fillable form. The forms must be filled out **completely**, otherwise delay in processing will occur.

-When the form(s) is/are completed, you may save and email the fillable form, or scan and email, fax to 570-963-5693 or drop off the printed form(s) in the Family Court drop box located at 123 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA. The e-mail address is **[familymotion@lackawannacounty.org](mailto:familymotion@lackawannacounty.org)**

-You can also pick up a hard copy PFA packet to fill out at 123 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA.

For any questions, please call the Family Court Administrator's Office at 570-963-5692.

**\*Please be aware that we cannot answer questions in person, as the office is closed to the public.**

**\*Please be aware that staff cannot provide legal advice, nor can they assist with technical issues.**

**\*\*\*If you feel that you are in immediate danger, you may contact your local police department and ask to obtain an emergency protection from abuse order that will be valid, if granted, until the close of next day the Court is available.**