

## CHAPTER 813

## INJUNCTIONS, NE EXEAT AND RECEIVERS

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**813.01 Order substituted for injunction.** The writ of injunction is abolished. An injunction may be the final judgment in the action or may be allowed as a provisional remedy therein; and when so allowed it shall be by order as prescribed by this chapter.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.01.

An injunction may be used to prevent prospective violations of a restrictive covenant. *Cobb v. Milwaukee County*, 60 Wis. 2d 99, 208 N.W.2d 848 (1973).

**813.015 Subject matter jurisdiction.** In an action filed pursuant to s. 813.12, 813.122, or 813.125, the court has jurisdiction of the subject matter under s. 801.04 regardless of whether the alleged abuse or harassment occurred within the state.

**History:** 2015 a. 4.

**813.02 Temporary injunction; when granted.** (1) (a) When it appears from a party's pleading that the party is entitled to judgment and any part thereof consists in restraining some act, the commission or continuance of which during the litigation would injure the party, or when during the litigation it shall appear that a party is doing or threatens or is about to do, or is procuring or suffering some act to be done in violation of the rights of another party and tending to render the judgment ineffectual, a temporary injunction may be granted to restrain such act.

(b) Prior to granting a temporary injunction or temporary restraining order, the court may attempt to contact the party sought to be restrained, or his or her counsel if known, by telephone and allow all parties to be heard on the equities between the parties, the availability of other remedies, the damages which may be sustained if the temporary injunction or restraining order is granted, and other relevant matters.

(c) If the court determines that a temporary injunction may be granted under par. (a) to a prisoner, as defined in s. 801.02 (7) (a) 2., in any action or special proceeding with respect to prison or jail conditions, as defined in s. 801.02 (7) (a) 3., the following apply:

1. The court may not issue the injunction until giving notice and an opportunity to be heard on the request for a preliminary injunction to the attorney general, if the case involves a prisoner in a state correctional institution, as defined in s. 801.02 (7) (a) 1., or to the attorney representing the local correctional institution involved and to all other interested parties. Any injunction issued without giving notice and an opportunity to be heard is void.

2. Any temporary injunction issued shall meet the requirements in s. 813.40 (1) (b). When determining what to require in the temporary injunction, the court shall give substantial weight to any adverse impact on public safety or on the operation of the facility involved in the action or special proceeding caused by the temporary injunction.

3. Any temporary injunction issued under this paragraph shall expire no later than 90 days after the day the temporary injunction is issued unless the court makes a finding that the requirements under s. 813.40 (1) (b) are met and makes the order final before the expiration of the 90-day period.

(2) If, after the commencement of any action for waste or to restrain waste, or any action for the recovery of land or the possession or partition thereof or after any real estate has been levied upon by execution, any party to such action or execution shall commit waste or shall threaten or make preparations to commit waste upon the lands, tenements, or anything appertaining thereto, that party may be restrained by injunction from committing any waste or further waste thereto. Such injunction may be issued in any of said actions or in cases of the levy above mentioned by the court from which the execution issued.

(4) No temporary restraining order or injunction shall be issued by any judge or court in any action where it does not appear that the county where the application for such temporary restraining order or injunction is made is within the judicial circuit in which is located the county that is the proper place of trial of the action, and no temporary restraining order or injunction shall issue unless the residence of each defendant is stated if known. Any temporary restraining order or injunction issued in violation of this subsection shall be void.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 760; Stats. 1975 s. 813.02; Sup. Ct. Order, 141 Wis. 2d xiii (1987); 1993 a. 112, 486; 1995 a. 400; 1997 a. 133.

**Judicial Council Note, 1988:** Sub. (1) (b) [created] allows the court to attempt to hold a telephone conference prior to granting a temporary injunction or temporary restraining order. The telephone conference procedure minimizes the risk of an improvident injunction and aids the court in fixing a realistic security. [Re Order effective Jan. 1, 1988]

A trial court does not abuse its discretion in denying a motion for a temporary injunction when it appears that the moving party has not established a reasonable probability it will ultimately prevail in a trial of the issues. *Akin v. Kewaskum Community Schools*, 64 Wis. 2d 154, 218 N.W.2d 494 (1974).

The purpose of a temporary injunction is to maintain the status quo, not to change the position of the parties, compel acts that constitute the ultimate relief sought, or craft a remedy that the court believes to be equitable. *School District v. Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Ass'n*, 210 Wis. 2d 365, 563 N.W.2d 585 (Ct. App. 1997), 96–3135.

A court may issue a temporary injunction when the moving party demonstrates four elements: 1) the movant is likely to suffer irreparable harm if a temporary injunction is not issued; 2) the movant has no other adequate remedy at law; 3) a temporary injunction is necessary to preserve the status quo; and 4) the movant has a reasonable probability of success on the merits. The grant or denial of injunctive relief is a matter of discretion for the circuit court. *Milwaukee Deputy Sheriffs' Ass'n v. Milwaukee County*, 2016 WI App 56, 370 Wis. 2d 644, 883 N.W.2d 154, 15–1577.

A complaint stating at least one viable legal claim is required as an underlying basis for an injunction. In other words, there must be a viable or protectable legal claim or right upon which the petitioner would have a reasonable probability of success. A request for a temporary injunction is not a claim in and of itself, but a vehicle to prevent harm while litigation is pending on the underlying claims. *Gahl ex rel. Zingsheim v. Aurora Health Care, Inc.*, 2022 WI App 29, 403 Wis. 2d 539, 977 N.W.2d 756, 21–1787.

Affirmed. 2023 WI 35, \_\_\_ Wis. 2d \_\_\_, 989 N.W.2d 561, 21–1787.

A circuit court erroneously exercises its discretion in the context of a temporary injunction when the court fails to consider and make a record of the factors relevant to its determination. In this case, the circuit court erroneously exercised its discretion by issuing an injunction without referencing any basis demonstrating that the plaintiff had a reasonable probability of success on the merits of some type of legal claim. *Gahl ex rel. Zingsheim v. Aurora Health Care, Inc.*, 2023 WI 35, \_\_\_ Wis. 2d \_\_\_, 989 N.W.2d 561, 21–1787.

**813.025 Ex parte restraining orders; right of review of certain orders.** (1) No circuit or supplemental court commissioner may issue any injunction or order suspending or restraining the enforcement or execution of any statute of the state or of any order of an administrative officer, board, department, commission or other state agency purporting to be made pursuant to the statutes of the state. If so issued, the injunction or order shall be void.

(2) The application for such an injunction or restraining order made to a court shall not be heard except upon notice to the attorney general and to such other persons as may be defendants in the action; but if the court is of the opinion that irreparable loss or damage will result to the applicant unless a temporary restraining order is granted, the court may grant such temporary restraining order at any time before such hearing and determination of the application for an interlocutory injunction. However, such temporary restraining order shall be effective only for 5 days unless extended after notice and hearing thereon, or upon written consent of the parties or their attorneys, and in no event shall such temporary restraining order remain in force beyond the time of the determination of the application for an interlocutory injunction.

(3) If a circuit court or a court of appeals enters an injunction, a restraining order, or any other final or interlocutory order suspending or restraining the enforcement of any statute of this state, the injunction, restraining order, or other final or interlocutory order is immediately appealable as a matter of right.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.025; 1979 c. 111; 1983 a. 204; 2001 a. 61; 2013 a. 156.

**813.026 Remedy against heirs and legatees; temporary injunction; receivership; judgment.** In an action, in a court of record, for damages founded upon contract or upon a judgment, when it appears that the defendant is interested, as heir, legatee, or devisee, in the estate of a decedent and that the defendant's property that is liable to execution is probably insufficient to satisfy the plaintiff's claim for damages, the defendant may be enjoined by the court, pending the action, from assigning or otherwise disposing of the defendant's interest in the estate, and a receiver for the defendant's interest may be appointed. The judgment may compel the defendant to transfer sufficient of the defendant's interest to satisfy the judgment or may adjudge the transfer. The remedy given by this section is in addition to that given by proceedings supplementary to execution under ch. 816. If a receiver is appointed, he or she shall give prompt notice of the appointment to the personal representative.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975), 779; Stats. 1975 s. 813.026; 1993 a. 486; 2001 a. 102.

**813.03 When granted defendant.** A temporary injunction may also be granted on the application of the defendant, when it shall appear that the plaintiff is doing, or threatens, or is about to

do, or is procuring or suffering to be done some act in violation of the defendant's rights respecting the subject of the action and tending to the defendant's injury or to render ineffectual such judgment as may be rendered in the defendant's favor.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.03; 1993 a. 486.

**813.04 Same; when granted; Sunday or holiday.** The injunction may be granted at any time before judgment upon its appearing satisfactorily to the court or judge, by the complaint or answer or by affidavit that sufficient grounds exist therefor. A copy of the pleading or affidavit on which granted must be served with the injunction unless previously served. In case of exigency an injunction may be granted and may be served on Sunday or on a legal holiday.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.04.

**813.05 Notice required.** (1) An injunction shall not be allowed after the defendant shall have answered, unless upon notice or upon an order to show cause; but in such case the defendant may be restrained until the decision of the court or judge granting or refusing the injunction.

(2) In an action against an insurance company or fraternal benefit society for an injunction or a receiver the commissioner of insurance shall be notified. Mailing a copy of such notice addressed to the commissioner of insurance at Madison, Wisconsin, shall be sufficient service.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.05.

**813.06 Security for damages.** In proceedings under s. 767.225 the court or judge may, and in all other proceedings except proceedings under ss. 813.12, 813.122, 813.125 and 823.113 the court or judge shall, require a bond of the party seeking an injunction, with sureties, to the effect that he or she will pay to the party enjoined such damages, not exceeding an amount to be specified, as he or she may sustain by reason of the injunction if the court finally decides that the party was not entitled thereto. Copies of such bond, affidavit or other pleading shall be served upon the party enjoined and the officer serving the same shall, within 8 days after such service, file his or her return in the office of the clerk of the court.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.06; 1979 c. 32 s. 92 (4); 1983 a. 204; 1985 a. 234 s. 8; 1989 a. 122; 2005 a. 443 s. 265.

An order of the trial court limiting the amount of annual compensation that the corporation could pay the individual defendants until further order was an injunction, and the trial court was required to demand a bond. *Becker v. Becker*, 66 Wis. 2d 731, 225 N.W.2d 884 (1975).

**813.07 Assessment of damages; bill of particulars; costs.** Upon an assessment of the damages caused by an injunction the defendant may be required to serve upon the plaintiff and the plaintiff's sureties, within such time and in such manner as the court or referee shall direct, a bill of particulars. The plaintiff or the sureties may within 10 days after such service offer in writing to permit the court or referee to assess the defendant's damages at a specified sum together with the costs of such proceeding incurred up to the time of such offer. If such offer be not accepted in writing within 5 days after it is made, it shall be considered withdrawn, and cannot be given in evidence. If the defendant fails to obtain a more favorable assessment of damages, the defendant cannot recover costs, but must pay the costs of the opposite party from the time of the offer.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.07; 1993 a. 486.

Increased construction costs were recoverable even though not in existence when the injunction was issued. *Byrnes v. Metz*, 53 Wis. 2d 627, 193 N.W.2d 675 (1972).

**813.08 Injunction, defendant may be heard before enjoined.** The court or judge may, before granting the injunction, make an order requiring cause to be shown why the injunction should not be granted, and the defendant may in the meantime be restrained.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.08.

**813.11 Injunction, additional security.** The party enjoined may, upon notice, apply for additional security and may combine such application with one to vacate or modify the injunction, and the presiding judge may require a further bond, in a sum and with sureties to be approved by the presiding judge, as a condition of the continuance of the injunction.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.11; 1993 a. 486.

**813.115 Service notification system.** A sheriff who executes or serves, or who assists a petitioner in executing or serving, a temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice under s. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123, or 813.125 may use the Wisconsin Statewide Victim Notification service or another service notification system administered by the department of corrections that enables the petitioner to receive an automated notification of the service of the temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice that must be served on the respondent. A sheriff for a county that uses the system shall enter each order for service into the system as soon as practicable so that the petitioner receives timely notification of the service. The clerk of court for a county that uses a service notification system shall, at the time a petition is filed under s. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123, or 813.125, make available to the petitioner information on how to gain access to the system.

**History:** 2015 a. 349; 2017 a. 365.

**813.12 Domestic abuse restraining orders and injunctions. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(ad) “Caregiver” means an individual who is a provider of in-home or community care to an individual through regular and direct contact.

(ag) “Dating relationship” means a romantic or intimate social relationship between 2 adult individuals but “dating relationship” does not include a casual relationship or an ordinary fraternization between 2 individuals in a business or social context. A court shall determine if a dating relationship existed by considering the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of the interaction between the adult individuals involved in the relationship.

(am) “Domestic abuse” means any of the following engaged in by an adult family member or adult household member against another adult family member or adult household member, by an adult caregiver against an adult who is under the caregiver’s care, by an adult against his or her adult former spouse, by an adult against an adult with whom the individual has or had a dating relationship, or by an adult against an adult with whom the person has a child in common:

1. Intentional infliction of physical pain, physical injury or illness.
2. Intentional impairment of physical condition.
3. A violation of s. 940.225 (1), (2) or (3).
4. A violation of s. 940.32.
5. A violation of s. 943.01, involving property that belongs to the individual.
6. A threat to engage in the conduct under subd. 1., 2., 3., 4., or 5.

(ar) “Elder person” means any individual who is 60 years of age or older.

(b) “Family member” means a spouse, a parent, a child or a person related by blood or adoption to another person.

(c) “Household member” means a person currently or formerly residing in a place of abode with another person.

(ce) “Household pet” means a domestic animal that is not a farm animal, as defined in s. 951.01 (3), that is kept, owned, or cared for by the petitioner or by a family member or a household member of the petitioner.

(cg) “Reasonable grounds” means more likely than not that a specific event has occurred or will occur.

(cj) “Regular and direct contact” means face-to-face physical proximity to an individual that is planned, scheduled, expected, or periodic.

(d) “Tribal court” means a court established by any federally recognized Wisconsin Indian tribe or band, except the Menominee Indian tribe of Wisconsin.

(e) “Tribal order or injunction” means a temporary restraining order or injunction issued by a tribal court under a tribal domestic abuse ordinance adopted in conformity with this section.

**(2) COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION AND RESPONSE.** (a) No action under this section may be commenced by complaint and summons. An action under this section may be commenced only by a petition described under sub. (5) (a). The action commences with service of the petition upon the respondent if a copy of the petition is filed before service or promptly after service. If the judge or a circuit court commissioner extends the time for a hearing under sub. (3) (c) and the petitioner files an affidavit with the court stating that personal service by the sheriff or a private server under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b) was unsuccessful because the respondent is avoiding service by concealment or otherwise, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall inform the petitioner that he or she may serve the respondent by publication of a summary of the petition as a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, and by mailing or sending a facsimile if the respondent’s post-office address or facsimile number is known or can with due diligence be ascertained. The mailing or sending of a facsimile may be omitted if the post-office address or facsimile number cannot be ascertained with due diligence. A summary of the petition published as a class 1 notice shall include the name of the respondent and of the petitioner, notice of the temporary restraining order, and notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing regarding the injunction. The court shall inform the petitioner in writing that, if the petitioner chooses to have the documents in the action served by the sheriff, the petitioner should contact the sheriff to verify the proof of service of the petition.

(b) A petition may be filed in conjunction with an action affecting the family commenced under ch. 767, but commencement of an action affecting the family or any other action is not necessary for the filing of a petition or the issuance of a temporary restraining order or an injunction. A judge or circuit court commissioner may not make findings or issue orders under s. 767.225 or 767.41 while granting relief requested only under this section. Section 813.06 does not apply to an action under this section. The respondent may respond to the petition either in writing before or at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction or orally at that hearing.

(c) When the respondent is served with the petition under this subsection, the person who serves the respondent shall also provide the respondent all of the following information:

1. Notice of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and notice of any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.
2. An explanation of s. 813.1285, including the procedures for surrendering a firearm and the circumstances listed under s. 813.1285 under which a respondent must appear at a hearing to surrender firearms.
3. A firearm possession form developed under s. 813.1285 (5) (a), with instructions for completing and returning the form.

**(2m) TWO-PART PROCEDURE.** Procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First, if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order the court shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold a hearing under sub. (4) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief. If the court issues a temporary restraining order, the order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for the hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.

**(3) TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER.** (a) A judge or circuit court commissioner shall issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts of domestic abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner’s residence,



except as provided in par. (am), or any other location temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both, or to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney or a law enforcement officer to contact the petitioner unless the petitioner consents in writing, to refrain from removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or disposing of, a household pet, to allow the petitioner or a family member or household member of the petitioner acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet, or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, or any other appropriate remedy not inconsistent with the remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner submits to the judge or circuit court commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (5) (a).

2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based on prior conduct of the petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic abuse of the petitioner.

(aj) In determining whether to issue a temporary restraining order, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall consider the potential danger posed to the petitioner and the pattern of abusive conduct of the respondent but may not base his or her decision solely on the length of time since the last domestic abuse or the length of time since the relationship ended. The judge or circuit court commissioner may grant only the remedies requested or approved by the petitioner. The judge or circuit court commissioner may not dismiss or deny granting a temporary restraining order because of the existence of a pending action or of any other court order that bars contact between the parties, nor due to the necessity of verifying the terms of an existing court order.

(am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, the respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides and the petitioner has no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the petitioner's residence under par. (a) the judge or circuit court commissioner may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the duration of the order.

(b) Notice need not be given to the respondent before issuing a temporary restraining order under this subsection. A temporary restraining order may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is held on issuance of an injunction under sub. (4), except that the court may extend the temporary restraining order under s. 813.1285. The temporary restraining order is not voided if the respondent is admitted into a dwelling that the order directs him or her to avoid. A judge or circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing on issuance of an injunction within 14 days after the temporary restraining order is issued, unless the time is extended upon the written consent of the parties, extended under s. 801.58 (2m), or extended once for 14 days upon a finding that the respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order although the petitioner has exercised due diligence. A judge or court commissioner may not extend the temporary restraining order in lieu of ruling on the issuance of an injunction.

(d) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall advise the petitioner of the right to serve the respondent the petition by published notice if with due diligence the respondent cannot be served as provided under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b). The clerk of circuit court shall assist the petitioner with the preparation of the notice and filing of the affidavit of printing.

(4) INJUNCTION. (a) A judge or circuit court commissioner may grant an injunction ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts of domestic abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner's residence, except as provided in par. (am), or any other location temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both, or to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney or a law enforcement officer to contact the petitioner unless the petitioner consents to that contact in writing, to refrain

from removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or disposing of, a household pet, to allow the petitioner or a family member or household member of the petitioner acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet, or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, or any other appropriate remedy not inconsistent with the remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner files a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (5) (a).

2. The petitioner serves upon the respondent a copy or summary of the petition and notice of the time for hearing on the issuance of the injunction, or the respondent serves upon the petitioner notice of the time for hearing on the issuance of the injunction.

3. After hearing, the judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based upon prior conduct of the petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic abuse of the petitioner.

(aj) In determining whether to issue an injunction, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall consider the potential danger posed to the petitioner and the pattern of abusive conduct of the respondent but may not base his or her decision solely on the length of time since the last domestic abuse or the length of time since the relationship ended. The judge or circuit court commissioner may grant only the remedies requested by the petitioner. The judge or circuit court commissioner may not dismiss or deny granting an injunction because of the existence of a pending action or of any other court order that bars contact between the parties, nor due to the necessity of verifying the terms of an existing court order.

(am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, the respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides and the petitioner has no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the petitioner's residence under par. (a) the judge or circuit court commissioner may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the duration of the order.

(b) The judge or circuit court commissioner may enter an injunction only against the respondent named in the petition. No injunction may be issued under this subsection under the same case number against the person petitioning for the injunction. The judge or circuit court commissioner may not modify an order restraining the respondent based solely on the request of the respondent.

(c) 1. An injunction under this subsection is effective according to its terms, for the period of time that the petitioner requests, but not more than 4 years, except as provided in par. (d). An injunction granted under this subsection is not voided if the petitioner allows or initiates contact with the respondent or by the admittance of the respondent into a dwelling that the injunction directs him or her to avoid.

2. When an injunction expires, the court shall extend the injunction if the petitioner states that an extension is necessary to protect him or her. This extension shall remain in effect until 4 years after the date the court first entered the injunction, except as provided in par. (d).

4. Notice need not be given to the respondent before extending an injunction under subd. 2. The clerk of courts shall notify the respondent after the court extends an injunction under subd. 2.

(d) 1. A judge or circuit court commissioner may, upon issuing an injunction or granting an extension of an injunction issued under this subsection, order that the injunction is in effect for not more than 10 years, if the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence stated on the record, that any of the following is true:

a. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit first-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.01, or 2nd-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.05, against the petitioner.

b. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit sexual assault under s. 940.225 (1), (2), or (3), or under s. 948.02 (1) or (2), against the petitioner.

1m. Upon request by the petitioner, a judge or circuit court commissioner may order that the injunction is in effect permanently if the respondent has been convicted of a violation of s. 940.225 (1) to (3) in which the petitioner was the crime victim. An order based on a finding under this subdivision is subject to review and modification under s. 813.126 (1m).

2. This paragraph does not prohibit a petitioner from requesting a new temporary restraining order under sub. (3) or injunction under this subsection before or at the expiration of a previously entered order or injunction.

**(4g) ORDER; TELEPHONE SERVICES.** (a) Unless a condition described in par. (b) exists, a judge or circuit court commissioner who issues an injunction under sub. (4) may, upon request by the petitioner, order a wireless telephone service provider to transfer to the petitioner the right to continue to use a telephone number or numbers indicated by the petitioner and the financial responsibility associated with the number or numbers, as set forth in par. (c). The petitioner may request transfer of each telephone number he or she, or a minor child in his or her custody, uses. The order shall contain all of the following:

1. The name and billing telephone number of the account holder.

2. Each telephone number that will be transferred.

3. A statement that the provider transfers to the petitioner all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this subdivision, “financial responsibility” includes monthly service costs and costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(b) A wireless telephone service provider shall terminate the respondent’s use of, and shall transfer to the petitioner use of, the telephone number or numbers indicated in par. (a) unless it notifies the petitioner, within 72 hours after it receives the order, that one of the following applies:

1. The account holder named in the order has terminated the account.

2. A difference in network technology would prevent or impair the functionality of a device on a network if the transfer occurs.

3. The transfer would cause a geographic or other limitation on network or service provision to the petitioner.

4. Another technological or operational issue would prevent or impair the use of the telephone number if the transfer occurs.

(c) The petitioner assumes all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this paragraph, “financial responsibility” includes monthly service costs and costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(d) A wireless telephone service provider may apply to the petitioner its routine and customary requirements for establishing an account or transferring a number, including requiring the petitioner to provide proof of identification, financial information, and customer preferences.

(e) A wireless telephone service provider is immune from civil liability for its actions taken in compliance with a court order issued under this subsection.

**(4m) NOTICE OF RESTRICTION ON FIREARM POSSESSION; SURRENDER OF FIREARMS.** (a) An injunction issued under sub. (4) shall do all of the following:

1. Inform the respondent named in the petition of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.

2. Except as provided in par. (ag), require in writing the respondent to surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or circuit court commissioner, in accordance with s. 813.1285.

(ag) If the respondent is a peace officer, an injunction issued under sub. (4) may not require the respondent to surrender a firearm that he or she is required, as a condition of employment, to possess whether or not he or she is on duty.

**(5) PETITION.** (a) The petition shall allege facts sufficient to show the following:

1. The name of the petitioner and that the petitioner is the alleged victim.

2. The name of the respondent and that the respondent is an adult.

3. That the respondent engaged in, or based on prior conduct of the petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic abuse of the petitioner.

4. If the petitioner knows of any other court proceeding in which the petitioner is a person affected by a court order or judgment that includes provisions regarding contact with the respondent, any of the following that are known by the petitioner:

a. The name or type of the court proceeding.

b. The date of the court proceeding.

c. The types of provisions regarding contact between the petitioner and respondent.

(am) The petition shall request that the respondent be restrained from committing acts of domestic abuse against the petitioner, that the respondent be ordered to avoid the petitioner’s residence, or that the respondent be ordered to avoid contacting the petitioner or causing any person other than the respondent’s attorney to contact the petitioner unless the petitioner consents to the contact in writing, or any combination of these requests.

(b) The clerk of circuit court shall provide the simplified forms provided under s. 49.165 (3) (c) to help a person file a petition.

(c) A judge or circuit court commissioner shall accept any legible petition for a temporary restraining order or injunction.

(d) A petition may be prepared and filed by the person who alleges that he or she has been the subject of domestic abuse or by the guardian of an individual adjudicated incompetent in this state who has been the subject of domestic abuse.

**(5b) ELDER PERSON PETITIONER.** If the petitioner is an elder person, the court shall permit the petitioner to participate in hearings under this section by telephone or live audiovisual means.

**(5g) STIPULATION.** If the parties enter into a stipulation to convert a petition under this section to a petition for a temporary restraining order or injunction under s. 813.125, the court may not approve that stipulation unless all of the following occur:

(a) Either or both parties submit an oral request on the record for the conversion explaining why the conversion of the petition is requested.

(b) The court addresses the petitioner personally and determines that the petitioner entered into the stipulation voluntarily and with an understanding of the differences between the orders issued under subs. (4) and (4m) and s. 813.125 (4) and (4m).

**(5m) CONFIDENTIALITY OF VICTIM’S ADDRESS.** The petition under sub. (5) and the court order under sub. (3), (4), or (4g) may not disclose the address of the alleged victim. The petitioner shall provide the clerk of circuit court with the petitioner’s address when he or she files a petition under this section. The clerk shall maintain the petitioner’s address in a confidential manner.

**(6) ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.** (a) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the petitioner the court or circuit court commissioner shall order the sheriff to accompany the petitioner and assist in placing him or her in physical possession of his or her residence.

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(ag) 1. The clerk of the circuit court shall forward to the sheriff any temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice that must be served on the respondent under this section and the sheriff shall assist the petitioner in executing or serving the temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice on the respondent. The petitioner may, at his or her expense, elect to use a private server to effect service.

2. If the petitioner elects service by the sheriff, the clerk of circuit court shall provide a form supplied by the sheriff to the petitioner that allows the petitioner to provide information about the respondent that may be useful to the sheriff in effecting service. The clerk shall forward the completed form to the sheriff. The clerk shall maintain the form provided under this subdivision in a confidential manner.

(am) 1. If an injunction is issued or extended under sub. (4) or if a tribal injunction is filed under s. 813.128 (3g), the clerk of the circuit court shall notify the department of justice of the injunction and shall provide the department of justice with information concerning the period during which the injunction is in effect and information necessary to identify the respondent for purposes of responding to a request under s. 165.63 or for purposes of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

2. Except as provided in subd. 3., the department of justice may disclose information that it receives under subd. 1. only to respond to a request under s. 165.63 or as part of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

3. The department of justice shall disclose any information that it receives under subd. 1. to a law enforcement agency when the information is needed for law enforcement purposes.

(b) Within one business day after an order or injunction is issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section, the clerk of the circuit court shall send a copy of the order or injunction, or of the order extending, modifying or vacating an order or injunction, to the sheriff or to any other local law enforcement agency which is the central repository for orders and injunctions and which has jurisdiction over the petitioner's premises.

(c) No later than 24 hours after receiving the information under par. (b), the sheriff or other appropriate local law enforcement agency under par. (b) shall enter the information concerning an order or injunction issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section into the transaction information for management of enforcement system. The sheriff or other appropriate local law enforcement agency shall also make available to other law enforcement agencies, through a verification system, information on the existence and status of any order or injunction issued under this section. The information need not be maintained after the order or injunction is no longer in effect.

(d) The issuance of an order under s. 813.12 (3) or (4) is enforceable despite the existence of any other criminal or civil order restricting or prohibiting contact.

(e) A law enforcement agency and a clerk of circuit court may use electronic transmission to facilitate the exchange of documents under this section. Any person who uses electronic transmission shall ensure that the electronic transmission does not allow unauthorized disclosure of the documents transmitted.

(7) **ARREST.** (am) A law enforcement officer shall arrest and take a person into custody if all of the following occur:

1. A petitioner under sub. (5) presents the law enforcement officer with a copy of a court order issued under sub. (3) or (4), or the law enforcement officer determines that such an order exists through communication with appropriate authorities.

2. The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the person has violated the court order issued under sub. (3) or (4) by any circuit court in this state.

(c) A respondent who does not appear at a hearing at which the court orders an injunction under sub. (4) but who has been served

with a copy of the petition and notice of the time for hearing under sub. (4) (a) 2. has constructive knowledge of the existence of the injunction and shall be arrested for violation of the injunction regardless of whether he or she has been served with a copy of the injunction.

(7m) **TRANSCRIPTS.** The judge or circuit court commissioner shall record the temporary restraining order or injunction hearing upon the request of the petitioner.

(8) **PENALTY.** (a) Whoever knowingly violates a temporary restraining order or injunction issued under sub. (3) or (4) shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both.

(b) The petitioner does not violate the court order under sub. (3) or (4) if he or she admits into his or her residence a person ordered under sub. (3) or (4) to avoid that residence.

(9) **NOTICE OF FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.** An order or injunction issued under sub. (3) or (4) shall include a statement that the order or injunction may be accorded full faith and credit in every civil or criminal court of the United States, civil or criminal courts of any other state and Indian tribal courts to the extent that such courts may have personal jurisdiction over nontribal members.

**History:** 1983 a. 204, 540; 1985 a. 29, 135; 1989 a. 193; 1993 a. 319; 1995 a. 71, 306; 1999 a. 162; 2001 a. 61, 109; 2003 a. 321; 2005 a. 387; 2005 a. 443 s. 265; 2007 a. 20, 124; 2009 a. 262; 2011 a. 35, 266; 2013 a. 223, 311, 321, 322; 2015 a. 109, 195, 253, 349, 352, 353; 2021 a. 76, 256.

This section is constitutional. Schramek v. Bohren, 145 Wis. 2d 695, 429 N.W.2d 501 (Ct. App. 1988).

Sub. (3) (am) provides for a limited-term injunction as an alternative to a restraining order under sub. (3) (a) when three stated conditions are met. Johnson v. Miller, 157 Wis. 2d 482, 459 N.W.2d 886 (Ct. App. 1990).

A person convicted of violating a harassment injunction may not collaterally attack the validity of the injunction in a criminal prosecution to enforce the injunction. State v. Bouzek, 168 Wis. 2d 642, 484 N.W.2d 362 (Ct. App. 1992).

This section does not authorize granting an injunction without filing a formal petition, thus precluding an injunction against the petitioner. Laluzerne v. Stange, 200 Wis. 2d 179, 546 N.W.2d 182 (Ct. App. 1996), 95–1718.

The definition of “household member” requires a continuous residential living arrangement between the parties. They need not reside in only one place, but must reside together on a continuous basis. Petrowsky v. Krause, 223 Wis. 2d 32, 588 N.W.2d 318 (Ct. App. 1998), 97–2205.

It is error to grant an injunction under this section for other than the length of time requested or to refuse to order the sheriff to place the petitioner in possession of the petitioner's residence. The requirement that the injunction granted be for the length of time requested is constitutional. Hayen v. Hayen, 2000 WI App 29, 232 Wis. 2d 447, 606 N.W.2d 606, 99–1361.

Only a true threat is constitutionally punishable under statutes criminalizing threats. The constitutional boundaries for a true threat apply in domestic abuse injunction cases under this section. Acts underlying an earlier vacated domestic abuse injunction were relevant to a prediction of what the defendant would do if the domestic abuse injunction were not granted, and whether recent threats were true threats. Wittig v. Hoffart, 2005 WI App 198, 287 Wis. 2d 353, 704 N.W.2d 415, 04–1653.

If the initial injunction was for less than four years, but expired, and the petitioner states that an extension is necessary to protect the petitioner, sub. (4) (c) 2. requires the court to extend the injunction for up to four years from the date the injunction was first granted. Because the court is required to extend an injunction under the proper circumstances, even after it has expired, it follows that a court has the authority and jurisdiction to grant the extension request after the injunction has expired. Switzer v. Switzer, 2006 WI App 10, 289 Wis. 2d 83, 709 N.W.2d 871, 04–2943.

Applicable law allows electronic transmission of certain confidential case information among clerks of circuit court, county sheriff's offices, and the Department of Justice through electronic interfaces involving the Department of Administration's Office of Justice Assistance, specifically including electronic data messages regarding a domestic abuse protection order issued under this section in an action that the court has ordered sealed. OAG 2–10.

Construing this section to include a requirement of showing imminent danger, it is constitutional. Blazel v. Bradley, 698 F. Supp. 756 (1988).

Using Restraining Orders to Protect Elder Victims. Meuer. Wis. Law. Sept. 2000. Trouble Ahead: Wisconsin's New Domestic Abuse Laws. Birdsall. Wis. Law. Feb. 2004.

### **813.122 Child abuse restraining orders and injunctions.** (1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Abuse” has the meaning given in s. 48.02 (1) (a) and (b) to (gm) and, in addition, includes a threat to engage in any conduct under s. 48.02 (1), other than conduct under s. 48.02 (1) (am).

(b) “Child” means any person under 18 years of age.

(c) “Child victim” means the child who is the victim or the alleged victim of abuse.



(d) “Child victim advocate” means any person who counsels child victims, assists child victims in coping with the impact of the crime or otherwise acts in support of child victims.

(e) “Household pet” means a domestic animal that is not a farm animal, as defined in s. 951.01 (3), that is kept, owned, or cared for by a child victim or by a family member or a household member of a child victim.

(2) COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION AND RESPONSE. (a) No action under this section may be commenced by complaint and summons. An action under this section may be commenced only by a petition described under sub. (6) (a). The action commences with service of the petition upon the respondent if a copy of the petition is filed before service or promptly after service. Notwithstanding s. 803.01 (3) (a), the child victim or a parent, stepparent or legal guardian of the child victim may be a petitioner under this section. Section 813.06 does not apply to an action under this section. The respondent may respond to the petition either in writing before or at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction or orally at that hearing. The court shall inform the petitioner in writing that, if the petitioner chooses to have the documents in the action served by the sheriff, the petitioner should contact the sheriff to verify the proof of service of the petition.

(b) When the respondent is served with the petition under this subsection, the person who serves the respondent shall also provide the respondent with all of the following information:

1. Notice of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and notice of any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.

2. An explanation of s. 813.1285, including the procedures for surrendering a firearm and the circumstances listed under s. 813.1285 under which a respondent must appear at a hearing to surrender firearms.

3. A firearm possession form developed under s. 813.1285 (5) (a), with instructions for completing and returning the form.

(3) GENERAL PROCEDURE. (a) Procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First, if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order, the court or circuit court commissioner shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold a hearing under sub. (5) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief. If the court or circuit court commissioner issues a temporary restraining order, the order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court or circuit court commissioner does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for the hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.

(b) 1m. Except as provided in subd. 2m., the court or circuit court commissioner, on its or his or her own motion or the motion of any party, may order that a guardian ad litem be appointed for the child victim in accordance with s. 48.235.

2m. The court or circuit court commissioner shall appoint a guardian ad litem if the respondent is a parent of the child.

(bp) All persons, other than the parties, their attorneys, witnesses, child victim advocates, service representatives, as defined in s. 895.45 (1) (c), court personnel and any guardian ad litem, shall be excluded from any hearing under this section.

(bq) Any record of an action under this section is confidential and is available only to the parties, their attorneys, any guardian ad litem, court personnel, the child victim, law enforcement, and any applicable court upon appeal, except that a record may be available to any other person as required by law, as necessary to effect service, or upon a court order for good cause shown.

(c) An action under this section may pertain to more than one child victim.

(4) TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER. (a) A judge or circuit court commissioner shall issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to avoid the child victim’s residence or any premises temporarily occupied by the child victim or both, to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party’s attorney to contact the child victim unless the petitioner consents in writing and the judge or circuit court commissioner agrees that the contact is in the best interests of the child victim, to refrain from

removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or disposing of, a household pet, and to allow the petitioner or a family member or household member of the petitioner acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet, if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner submits to the judge or circuit court commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6) (a).

2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based on prior conduct of the child victim and the respondent may engage in, abuse of the child victim.

(b) Notice need not be given to the respondent before issuing a temporary restraining order under this subsection. A temporary restraining order may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is held on issuance of an injunction under sub. (5), except that the court may extend the temporary restraining order under s. 813.1285. A judge shall hold a hearing on issuance of an injunction within 14 days after the temporary restraining order is issued, unless the time is extended upon the written consent of the parties, extended under s. 801.58 (2m), or extended once for 14 days upon a finding that the respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order although the petitioner has exercised due diligence. A judge or court commissioner may not extend the temporary restraining order in lieu of ruling on the issuance of an injunction.

(5) INJUNCTION. (a) A judge may grant an injunction ordering the respondent to avoid the child victim’s residence or any premises temporarily occupied by the child victim or both, to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party’s attorney to contact the child victim unless the petitioner consents to that contact in writing and the judge agrees that the contact is in the best interests of the child victim, to refrain from removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or disposing of, a household pet, and to allow the petitioner or a family member or household member of the petitioner acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet, if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner files a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6) (a).

2. The petitioner serves upon the respondent a copy of the petition and notice of the time for hearing on the issuance of the injunction, or the respondent serves upon the petitioner notice of the time for hearing on the issuance of the injunction.

3. After hearing, the judge finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based upon prior conduct of the child victim and the respondent may engage in, abuse of the child victim.

(b) If the respondent is the parent of the child victim, the judge shall modify the order under par. (a) to provide the parent reasonable visitation rights, unless the judge finds that visitation would endanger the child’s physical, mental or emotional health. The judge may provide that any authorized visitation be supervised.

(c) The injunction may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(d) 1. An injunction under this subsection is effective according to its terms, but, except as provided in par. (dm), for not more than 2 years or until the child victim attains 18 years of age, whichever occurs first.

2. When an injunction expires, the court shall extend the injunction if the petitioner states that an extension is necessary to protect the child victim. This extension shall remain in effect until 6 months after the date the court first entered the injunction or until the child attains 18 years of age, whichever occurs first, except as provided in par. (dm).

3. If the petitioner states that an extension is necessary to protect the child victim, the court may extend the injunction for not more than 2 years or until the child attains 18 years of age, whichever occurs first, except as provided in par. (dm).

4. Notice need not be given to the respondent before extending an injunction under subd. 2. or 3. The clerk of courts shall notify the respondent after the court extends an injunction under subd. 2. or 3.

(dm) 1. A judge may, upon issuing an injunction or granting an extension of an injunction issued under this subsection, order that the injunction is in effect for not more than 5 years, if the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence stated on the record, that any of the following is true:

a. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit first-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.01, or 2nd-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.05, against the child victim.

b. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit sexual assault under s. 940.225 (1), (2), or (3), or under s. 948.02 (1) or (2), against the child victim.

1m. Upon request by the petitioner, a judge may order that the injunction is in effect permanently if the respondent has been convicted of a violation of s. 948.02 or 948.025 in which the child victim was the crime victim. An order based on a finding under this subdivision is subject to review and modification under s. 813.126 (1m).

2. This paragraph does not prohibit a petitioner from requesting a new temporary restraining order under sub. (4) or injunction under this subsection before or at the expiration of a previously entered order or injunction.

(e) An injunction under this section may direct the payment of child support using a method of calculation authorized under s. 767.511.

**(5c) ORDER; TELEPHONE SERVICES.** (a) Unless a condition described in par. (b) exists, a judge or circuit court commissioner who issues an injunction under sub. (5) may, upon request by the petitioner, order a wireless telephone service provider to transfer to the petitioner the right to continue to use a telephone number or numbers indicated by the petitioner and the financial responsibility associated with the number or numbers, as set forth in par. (c). The petitioner may request transfer of each telephone number he or she, or a minor child in his or her custody, uses. The order shall contain all of the following:

1. The name and billing telephone number of the account holder.

2. Each telephone number that will be transferred.

3. A statement that the provider transfers to the petitioner all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this subdivision, “financial responsibility” includes monthly service costs and costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(b) A wireless telephone service provider shall terminate the respondent’s use of, and shall transfer to the petitioner use of, the telephone number or numbers indicated in par. (a) unless it notifies the petitioner, within 72 hours after it receives the order, that one of the following applies:

1. The account holder named in the order has terminated the account.

2. A difference in network technology would prevent or impair the functionality of a device on a network if the transfer occurs.

3. The transfer would cause a geographic or other limitation on network or service provision to the petitioner.

4. Another technological or operational issue would prevent or impair the use of the telephone number if the transfer occurs.

(c) The petitioner assumes all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this paragraph, “financial responsibility” includes monthly service costs and costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(d) A wireless telephone service provider may apply to the petitioner its routine and customary requirements for establishing

an account or transferring a number, including requiring the petitioner to provide proof of identification, financial information, and customer preferences.

(e) A wireless telephone service provider is immune from civil liability for its actions taken in compliance with a court order issued under this subsection.

**(5g) CONFIDENTIALITY OF ADDRESSES.** The petition under sub. (6) and the court order under sub. (4), (5), or (5c) may not disclose the address of the petitioner or of the alleged child victim. The petitioner shall provide the clerk of circuit court with the address of the petitioner and of the alleged child victim when he or she files a petition under this section. The clerk shall maintain the addresses in a confidential manner.

**(5m) NOTICE OF RESTRICTION ON FIREARM POSSESSION; SURRENDER OF FIREARMS.** (a) An injunction issued under sub. (5) shall do all of the following:

1. Inform the respondent named in the petition of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.

2. Except as provided in par. (ag), require in writing the respondent to surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or circuit court commissioner, in accordance with s. 813.1285.

(ag) If the respondent is a peace officer, an injunction issued under sub. (5) may not require the respondent to surrender a firearm that he or she is required, as a condition of employment, to possess whether or not he or she is on duty.

**(6) PETITION.** (a) The petition shall allege facts sufficient to show the following:

1. The name of the petitioner and the child victim.

2. The name of the respondent.

3. That the respondent engaged in, or based on prior conduct of the respondent and the child victim may engage in, abuse of the child victim.

4. If the payment of child support is requested, that the payment of child support is reasonable or necessary based on criteria provided under s. 767.511.

5. If the petitioner knows of any other court proceeding in which the petitioner is a person affected by a court order or judgment that includes provisions regarding contact with the respondent, any of the following that are known by the petitioner:

a. The name or type of the court proceeding.

b. The date of the court proceeding.

c. The types of provisions regarding contact between the petitioner and respondent.

(b) Upon request, the clerk of circuit court shall provide, without cost, the simplified forms obtained under s. 48.47 (7) (d) to a petitioner.

**(7) CONTACT.** Any order under this section directing a person to avoid contact with a child victim prohibits the person from knowingly touching, meeting, communicating or being in visual or audio contact with the child victim, except as provided in any modifications of the order under sub. (5) (b).

**(9) ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.** (a) 1. The clerk of the circuit court shall forward to the sheriff any temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice that must be served on the respondent under this section and the sheriff shall assist the petitioner in executing or serving the temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice on the respondent. The petitioner may, at his or her expense, elect to use a private server to effect service.

2. If the petitioner elects service by the sheriff, the clerk of circuit court shall provide a form supplied by the sheriff to the petitioner that allows the petitioner to provide information about the respondent that may be useful to the sheriff in effecting service.



The clerk shall forward the completed form to the sheriff. The clerk shall maintain the form provided under this subdivision in a confidential manner.

(am) 1. If an injunction is issued or extended under sub. (5), the clerk of the circuit court shall notify the department of justice of the injunction and shall provide the department of justice with information concerning the period during which the injunction is in effect and information necessary to identify the respondent for purposes of responding to a request under s. 165.63 or for purposes of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

2. Except as provided in subd. 3., the department of justice may disclose information that it receives under subd. 1. only to respond to a request under s. 165.63 or as part of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

3. The department of justice shall disclose any information that it receives under subd. 1. to a law enforcement agency when the information is needed for law enforcement purposes.

(b) Within one business day after an order or injunction is issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section, the clerk of the circuit court shall send a copy of the order or injunction, or of the order extending, modifying or vacating an order or injunction, to the sheriff or to any other local law enforcement agency which is the central repository for orders and injunctions and which has jurisdiction over the child victim's premises.

(c) The sheriff or other appropriate local law enforcement agency under par. (b) shall enter the information received under par. (b) concerning an order or injunction issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section into the transaction information for management of enforcement system no later than 24 hours after receiving the information and shall make available to other law enforcement agencies, through a verification system, information on the existence and status of any order or injunction issued under this section. The information need not be maintained after the order or injunction is no longer in effect.

(d) A law enforcement agency and a clerk of circuit court may use electronic transmission to facilitate the exchange of documents under this section. Any person who uses electronic transmission shall ensure that the electronic transmission does not allow unauthorized disclosure of the documents transmitted.

**(10) ARREST.** (am) A law enforcement officer shall arrest and take a person into custody if all of the following occur:

1. A petitioner under sub. (6) (a) presents the law enforcement officer with a copy of an order issued under sub. (4) or (5), or the law enforcement officer determines that such an order exists through communication with appropriate authorities.

2. The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the person has violated the order issued under sub. (4) or (5).

(c) A respondent who does not appear at a hearing at which the court orders an injunction under sub. (5) but who has been served with a copy of the petition and notice of the time for hearing under sub. (5) (a) 2. has constructive knowledge of the existence of the injunction and shall be arrested for violation of the injunction regardless of whether he or she has been served with a copy of the injunction.

**(11) PENALTY.** Whoever knowingly violates a temporary restraining order or injunction issued under this section shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both.

**(12) NOTICE OF FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.** An order or injunction issued under sub. (4) or (5) shall include a statement that the order or injunction may be accorded full faith and credit in every civil or criminal court of the United States, civil or criminal courts of any other state and Indian tribal courts to the extent that such courts may have personal jurisdiction over nontribal members.

**History:** 1985 a. 234; 1987 a. 332 s. 64; Sup. Ct. Order, 151 Wis. 2d xxv (1989); 1991 a. 276; 1993 a. 227, 318; 1995 a. 71, 275, 306, 456; 1997 a. 292; 2001 a. 61;

2005 a. 155, 272; 2005 a. 443 s. 265; 2007 a. 20, 124; 2009 a. 262; 2011 a. 35; 2013 a. 223, 311, 321, 322; 2015 a. 109, 195, 253, 349, 353; 2021 a. 256.

This section implicitly envisions a change of placement and custody if the trial court issues a child abuse injunction against a parent who has custody or placement of a child under a divorce order or judgment. *Scott M.H. v. Kathleen M.H.*, 218 Wis. 2d 605, 581 N.W.2d 564 (Ct. App. 1998), 97–0814.

Construing this section and s. 48.02 (1) (gm) as allowing a trial court to consider evidence of the treatment a respondent obtained or steps a respondent took to ameliorate a child's symptoms of emotional damage after the filing of the petition but prior to the injunction hearing would undercut the purpose of the injunction, which is to protect a child from an abusive situation. In light of Wisconsin's strong and long-standing interest in the protection and well-being of its minors, interpreting these statutes in a manner that would allow a respondent to undercut the purpose of the statute would be unreasonable. *S.O. v. T.R.*, 2016 WI App 24, 367 Wis. 2d 669, 877 N.W.2d 408, 15–0548.

Evidence of the treatment obtained or steps taken by a parent, guardian, or legal custodian to address and remedy his or her actions can benefit the child within the meaning of this section and s. 48.02 (1) (gm). However, when evidence of such actions is introduced to establish that the parent, guardian, or legal custodian has not "neglected, refused or been unable ... to obtain the necessary treatment or to take steps to ameliorate the symptoms," there must also be testimony or other evidence showing an actual benefit to the child in terms of treating the child and ameliorating the child's symptoms of emotional abuse. *S.O. v. T.R.*, 2016 WI App 24, 367 Wis. 2d 669, 877 N.W.2d 408, 15–0548.

Applicable law allows electronic transmission of certain confidential case information among clerks of circuit court, county sheriff's offices, and the Department of Justice through electronic interfaces involving the Department of Administration's Office of Justice Assistance, specifically including electronic data messages regarding child abuse protection orders and individual at risk protection orders in actions in which the court has ordered, under sub. (3) (b) 3. [now sub. (3) (bq)] and s. 813.23 (3) (c) 2., respectively, that access to any record of the case be available only to the individual at risk, parties, their attorneys, any guardian or guardian ad litem, court personnel, and any applicable appellate court. *OAG 2–10*.

*Family Court or Not? Raising Child Abuse Allegations Against a Parent.* Kornblum & Pollack. Wis. Law. Mar. 2020.

### 813.123 Restraining orders and injunctions for individuals at risk. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

- (a) "Abuse" has the meaning given in s. 46.90 (1) (a).
- (ae) "Adult at risk" has the meaning given in s. 55.01 (1e).
- (am) "Adult-at-risk agency" has the meaning given in s. 55.01 (1f).
- (b) "Bodily harm" has the meaning given in s. 46.90 (1) (aj).
- (br) "Caregiver" has the meaning given in s. 46.90 (1) (an).
- (cg) "Elder adult at risk" has the meaning given in s. 46.90 (1) (br).
- (d) "False representation" includes a promise that is made with the intent not to fulfill the promise.
- (dm) "Financial exploitation" has the meaning given in s. 46.90 (1) (ed).
- (e) "Great bodily harm" has the meaning given in s. 939.22 (14).
- (eg) "Harassment" has the meaning given in s. 813.125 (1) (am) 4.
- (ek) "Household pet" means a domestic animal that is not a farm animal, as defined in s. 951.01 (3), that is kept, owned, or cared for by an individual at risk or an elder adult at risk or by a family member or a household member of an individual at risk or an elder adult at risk.
- (ep) "Individual at risk" means an elder adult at risk or an adult at risk.
- (fm) "Mistreatment of an animal" means cruel treatment of any animal owned by or in service to an individual at risk.
- (g) "Neglect" has the meaning given in s. 46.90 (1) (f).
- (gr) "Self-neglect" has the meaning given in s. 46.90 (1) (g).
- (gs) "Stalking" means engaging in a course of conduct, as defined in s. 940.32 (1) (a).

**(2) COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION AND RESPONSE.** (a) No action under this section may be commenced by complaint and summons. An action under this section may be commenced only by a petition described under sub. (6). The action commences with service of the petition upon the respondent if a copy of the petition is filed before service or promptly after service. The individual at risk, any person acting on behalf of an individual at risk, an elder-adult-at-risk agency, or an adult-at-risk agency may be a petitioner under this section. If the petition is filed by a person other than the individual at risk, the petitioner shall serve a copy of the

petition on the individual at risk. Section 813.06 does not apply to an action under this section. The respondent may respond to the petition either in writing before or at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction or orally at that hearing. The court shall inform the petitioner in writing that, if the petitioner chooses to have the documents in the action served by the sheriff, the petitioner should contact the sheriff to verify the proof of service of the petition.

(b) The court may go forward with a petition filed under sub. (6) if the individual at risk has been adjudicated incompetent under ch. 880, 2003 stats., or ch. 54, notwithstanding an objection by an individual at risk who is the subject of the petition, or an objection by the guardian of the individual at risk.

(3) GENERAL PROCEDURE. (a) Procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First, if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order, the court or circuit court commissioner shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold a hearing under sub. (5) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief. If the court or circuit court commissioner issues a temporary restraining order, the order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court or circuit court commissioner does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for the hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.

(b) The court or circuit court commissioner, on its or his or her own motion or the motion of any party, shall order that a guardian ad litem be appointed for the individual at risk, if the petition under sub. (6) was filed by a person other than the individual at risk, and may order that a guardian ad litem be appointed in other instances when justice so requires.

(c) The court or circuit court commissioner, on its or his or her own motion or the motion of any party, may order any of the following:

1. That all persons, other than the individual at risk, the parties, their attorneys, a representative of the adult-at-risk agency or elder-adult-at-risk agency, witnesses, court personnel, and any guardian or any guardian ad litem, be excluded from any hearing under this section.

2. That access to any record of an action under this section be available only to the individual at risk, the parties, their attorneys, any guardian or any guardian ad litem, the adult-at-risk agency or elder-adult-at-risk agency, court personnel, and, upon appeal, any applicable court.

(4) TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER. (a) Unless the individual at risk, guardian, or guardian ad litem consents in writing and the judge or circuit court commissioner agrees that the contact is in the best interests of the individual at risk, a judge or circuit court commissioner shall issue a temporary restraining order, as specified in par. (ar), if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner submits to the judge or circuit court commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6).

2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe any of the following:

- a. That the respondent has interfered with or, based on prior conduct of the respondent, may interfere with an investigation of the individual at risk, the delivery of protective services to or a protective placement of the individual at risk under ch. 55, or the delivery of services to an elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 (5m); and that the interference complained of, if continued, would make it difficult to determine whether abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, or self-neglect has occurred, is occurring, or may recur.

- b. That the respondent engaged in or threatened to engage in the abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, harassment, or stalking of an individual at risk or the mistreatment of an animal.

(ar) A temporary restraining order issued under par. (a) shall order the respondent to do one or more of the following:

1. Avoid interference with an investigation of the elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 or the adult at risk under s. 55.043, the delivery of protective services to or a protective placement of the individual at risk under ch. 55, or the delivery of services to the elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 (5m).

2. Cease engaging in or threatening to engage in the abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, harassment, or stalking of an individual at risk or mistreatment of an animal.

- 2m. Refrain from removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or disposing of, a household pet and allow the individual at risk or a guardian, guardian ad litem, family member, or household member of the individual at risk acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet.

3. Avoid the residence of the individual at risk or any other location temporarily occupied by the individual at risk, or both.

4. Avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney or a law enforcement officer to contact the individual at risk.

5. Engage in any other appropriate remedy not inconsistent with the remedies requested in the petition.

(b) Notice need not be given to the respondent before issuing a temporary restraining order under this subsection. A temporary restraining order may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is held on issuance of an injunction under sub. (5), except that the court may extend the temporary restraining order under s. 813.1285. A judge shall hold a hearing on issuance of an injunction within 14 days after the temporary restraining order is issued, unless the time is extended upon the written consent of the parties, extended under s. 801.58 (2m), or extended once for 14 days upon a finding that the respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order although the petitioner has exercised due diligence. A judge or court commissioner may not extend the temporary restraining order in lieu of ruling on the issuance of an injunction.

(5) INJUNCTION. (a) Unless the individual at risk, guardian, or guardian ad litem consents in writing to a contact and the judge agrees that the contact is in the best interests of the individual at risk, a judge may grant an injunction ordering the respondent as specified in par. (ar), if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner files a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6).

2. The petitioner serves upon the respondent a copy of the petition and notice of the time for hearing on the issuance of the injunction, or the respondent serves upon the petitioner notice of the time for hearing on the issuance of the injunction. The notice served under this subdivision shall inform the respondent that, if the judge or circuit court commissioner issues an injunction, the judge or circuit court commissioner may also order the respondent not to possess a firearm while the injunction is in effect. The person who serves the respondent with the notice shall also provide the respondent with all of the following information:

- a. Notice of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and notice of any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.

- b. An explanation of s. 813.1285, including the procedures for surrendering a firearm and the circumstances listed under s. 813.1285 under which a respondent must appear at a hearing to surrender firearms.

- c. A firearm possession form developed under s. 813.1285 (5) (a), with instructions for completing and returning the form.

3. After hearing, the judge finds reasonable cause to believe any of the following:

- a. That the respondent has interfered with or, based upon prior conduct of the respondent, may interfere with an investigation of the elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 or the adult at risk under s. 55.043 and that the interference complained of, if continued, would make it difficult to determine if abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, harassment, or stalking of an individual at risk or mistreatment of an animal is occurring or may recur.

- b. That the respondent has interfered with the delivery of protective services to or a protective placement of the individual at risk under ch. 55 after the offer of protective services or protective

placement has been made and the individual at risk or his or her guardian, if any, has consented to receipt of the protective services or protective placement; or that the respondent has interfered with the delivery of services to an elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 (5m).

c. That the respondent has engaged in or threatened to engage in the abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, harassment, or stalking of an individual at risk or the mistreatment of an animal.

(ar) An injunction granted under par. (a) shall order the respondent to do one or more of the following:

1. Avoid interference with an investigation of the elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 or the adult at risk under s. 55.043, the delivery of protective services to or a protective placement of the individual at risk under ch. 55, or the delivery of services to the elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 (5m).

2. Cease engaging in or threatening to engage in the abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, harassment, or stalking of an individual at risk or the mistreatment of an animal.

2m. Refrain from removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or disposing of, a household pet and allow the individual at risk or a guardian, guardian ad litem, family member, or household member of the individual at risk acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet.

3. Avoid the residence of the individual at risk or any other location temporarily occupied by the individual at risk, or both.

4. Avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney or a law enforcement officer to contact the individual at risk.

5. Any other appropriate remedy not inconsistent with the remedies requested in the petition.

(b) The injunction may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(c) 1. An injunction under this subsection is effective according to its terms, but for not more than 4 years, except as provided in par. (d).

2. When an injunction expires, the court shall extend the injunction if the petitioner states that an extension is necessary to protect the individual at risk. This extension shall remain in effect until 6 months after the date on which the court first entered the injunction, except as provided in par. (d).

3. If the petitioner states that an extension is necessary to protect the individual at risk, the court may extend the injunction for not more than 2 years, except as provided in par. (d).

4. Notice need not be given to the respondent before extending an injunction under subd. 2. or 3. The clerk of courts shall notify the respondent after the court extends an injunction under subd. 2. or 3.

(d) 1. A judge may, upon issuing an injunction or granting an extension of an injunction issued under this subsection, order that the injunction is in effect for not more than 10 years, if the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence stated on the record, that any of the following is true:

a. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit first-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.01, or 2nd-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.05, against the person at risk.

b. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit sexual assault under s. 940.225 (1), (2), or (3), or under s. 948.02 (1) or (2), against the person at risk.

1m. Upon request by the petitioner, a judge may order that the injunction is in effect permanently if the respondent has been convicted of a violation of s. 940.225 (1) to (3) in which the individual at risk was the crime victim. An order based on a finding under this subdivision is subject to review and modification under s. 813.126 (1m).

2. This paragraph does not prohibit a petitioner from requesting a new temporary restraining order under sub. (4) or injunction

under this subsection before or at the expiration of a previously entered order or injunction.

**(5c) ORDER; TELEPHONE SERVICES.** (a) Unless a condition described in par. (b) exists, a judge or circuit court commissioner who issues an injunction under sub. (5) may, upon request by the petitioner, order a wireless telephone service provider to transfer to the petitioner the right to continue to use a telephone number or numbers indicated by the petitioner and the financial responsibility associated with the number or numbers, as set forth in par. (c). The petitioner may request transfer of each telephone number he or she, or a minor child in his or her custody, uses. The order shall contain all of the following:

1. The name and billing telephone number of the account holder.

2. Each telephone number that will be transferred.

3. A statement that the provider transfers to the petitioner all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this subdivision, "financial responsibility" includes monthly service costs and costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(b) A wireless telephone service provider shall terminate the respondent's use of, and shall transfer to the petitioner use of, the telephone number or numbers indicated in par. (a) unless it notifies the petitioner, within 72 hours after it receives the order, that one of the following applies:

1. The account holder named in the order has terminated the account.

2. A difference in network technology would prevent or impair the functionality of a device on a network if the transfer occurs.

3. The transfer would cause a geographic or other limitation on network or service provision to the petitioner.

4. Another technological or operational issue would prevent or impair the use of the telephone number if the transfer occurs.

(c) The petitioner assumes all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this paragraph, "financial responsibility" includes monthly service costs and costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(d) A wireless telephone service provider may apply to the petitioner its routine and customary requirements for establishing an account or transferring a number, including requiring the petitioner to provide proof of identification, financial information, and customer preferences.

(e) A wireless telephone service provider is immune from civil liability for its actions taken in compliance with a court order issued under this subsection.

**(5g) CONFIDENTIALITY OF ADDRESSES.** The petition under sub. (6) and the court order under sub. (4), (5), or (5c) may not disclose the address of the petitioner or of the individual at risk. The petitioner shall provide the clerk of circuit court with the address of the petitioner and of the individual at risk when he or she files a petition under this section. The clerk shall maintain the addresses in a confidential manner.

**(5m) RESTRICTION ON FIREARM POSSESSION; SURRENDER OF FIREARMS.** (a) If a judge or circuit court commissioner issues an injunction under sub. (5) and the judge or circuit court commissioner determines, based on clear and convincing evidence presented at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction, that the respondent may use a firearm to cause physical harm to another or to endanger public safety, the judge or circuit court commissioner may prohibit the respondent from possessing a firearm.

(b) An order prohibiting a respondent from possessing a firearm issued under par. (a) remains in effect until the expiration of the injunction issued under sub. (5).



(c) An order issued under par. (a) that prohibits a respondent from possessing a firearm shall do all of the following:

1. Inform the respondent named in the petition of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.

2. Except as provided in par. (d), require in writing the respondent to surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides, or to another person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or circuit court commissioner, in accordance with s. 813.1285.

(d) If the respondent is a peace officer, an order issued under par. (a) may not require the respondent to surrender a firearm that he or she is required, as a condition of employment, to possess whether or not he or she is on duty.

**(6) PETITION.** The petition shall allege facts sufficient to show the following:

(a) The name of the petitioner and the individual at risk.

(b) The name of the respondent and that the respondent is an adult.

(c) That the respondent interfered with or, based on prior conduct of the respondent, may interfere with an investigation of the elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 (5), an investigation of the adult at risk under s. 55.043, the delivery of protective services to or a protective placement of the individual at risk under ch. 55, or the delivery of services to the elder adult at risk under s. 46.90 (5m); or that the respondent engaged in, or threatened to engage in, the abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, stalking, or harassment of an individual at risk or mistreatment of an animal.

(d) If the petitioner knows of any other court proceeding in which the petitioner is a person affected by a court order or judgment that includes provisions regarding contact with the respondent, any of the following that are known by the petitioner:

1. The name or type of the court proceeding.

2. The date of the court proceeding.

3. The type of provisions regarding contact between the petitioner and respondent.

**(6g) ELDER ADULT-AT-RISK PETITIONER.** If the petitioner is an elder adult at risk, the court shall permit the petitioner to participate in hearings under this section by telephone or live audiovisual means.

**(7) INTERFERENCE ORDER.** Any order under sub. (4) (ar) 1. or 2. or (5) (ar) 1. or 2. also shall prohibit the respondent from intentionally preventing a representative or employee of the county protective services agency from meeting, communicating, or being in visual or audio contact with the adult at risk, except as provided in the order.

**(8) ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.** (a) 1. The clerk of the circuit court shall forward to the sheriff any temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice that must be served on the respondent under this section and the sheriff shall assist the petitioner in executing or serving the temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice on the respondent. The petitioner may, at his or her expense, elect to use a private server to effect service.

2. If the petitioner elects service by the sheriff, the clerk of circuit court shall provide a form supplied by the sheriff to the petitioner that allows the petitioner to provide information about the respondent that may be useful to the sheriff in effecting service. The clerk shall forward the completed form to the sheriff. The clerk shall maintain the form provided under this subdivision in a confidential manner.

(b) Within one business day after an order or injunction is issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section, the clerk of circuit court shall send a copy of the order or injunction, or of the order extending, modifying or vacating an order or injunction, to the sheriff or to any other local law enforcement agency which

is the central repository for orders and injunctions and which has jurisdiction over the vulnerable adult's premises.

(c) The sheriff or other appropriate local law enforcement agency under par. (b) shall enter the information received under par. (b) concerning an order or injunction issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section into the transaction information for management of enforcement system no later than 24 hours after receiving the information and shall make available to other law enforcement agencies, through a verification system, information on the existence and status of any order or injunction issued under this section. The information need not be maintained after the order or injunction is no longer in effect.

(d) A law enforcement agency and a clerk of circuit court may use electronic transmission to facilitate the exchange of documents under this section. Any person who uses electronic transmission shall ensure that the electronic transmission does not allow unauthorized disclosure of the documents transmitted.

**(8m) NOTICE TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.** (a) If an order prohibiting a respondent from possessing a firearm is issued under sub. (5m), the clerk of the circuit court shall notify the department of justice of the existence of the order prohibiting a respondent from possessing a firearm and shall provide the department of justice with information concerning the period during which the order is in effect and information necessary to identify the respondent for purposes of responding to a request under s. 165.63 or for purposes of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

(b) Except as provided in par. (c), the department of justice may disclose information that it receives under par. (a) only to respond to a request under s. 165.63 or as part of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

(c) The department of justice shall disclose any information that it receives under par. (a) to a law enforcement agency when the information is needed for law enforcement purposes.

**(9) ARREST.** (am) A law enforcement officer shall arrest and take a person into custody if all of the following occur:

1. A petitioner presents the law enforcement officer with a copy of an order issued under sub. (4) or an injunction issued under sub. (5), or the law enforcement officer determines that such an order exists through communication with appropriate authorities.

2. The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the person has violated the order issued under sub. (4) or the injunction issued under sub. (5).

(c) A respondent who does not appear at a hearing at which the court orders an injunction under sub. (5) but who has been served with a copy of the petition and notice of the time for hearing under sub. (5) (a) 2. that includes the information required under sub. (5) (a) 2. a., b., and c. has constructive knowledge of the existence of the injunction and may be arrested for violation of the injunction regardless of whether he or she has been served with a copy of the injunction.

**(10) PENALTY.** Whoever intentionally violates a temporary restraining order or injunction issued under this section shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both.

**(12) NOTICE OF FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.** An order or injunction issued under sub. (4) or (5) shall include a statement that the order or injunction may be accorded full faith and credit in every civil or criminal court of the United States, civil or criminal courts of any other state and Indian tribal courts to the extent that such courts may have personal jurisdiction over nontribal members.

**History:** 1993 a. 445; 1995 a. 71, 306; 1997 a. 27; 2001 a. 61; 2005 a. 264, 387, 388; 2007 a. 45, 96, 124; 2009 a. 262; 2013 a. 223, 311, 321, 322; 2015 a. 109, 195, 253, 349, 353; 2017 a. 365 s. 111; 2021 a. 76, 256.

The First 30 Months: Wisconsin's Individual-at-Risk Restraining Order. Abramson, Mansfield, & Raymond. Wis. Law. Nov. 2010.

**813.125 Harassment restraining orders and injunctions. (1) DEFINITIONS.** (am) In this section:

3. “Elder person” means any individual who is 60 years of age or older.

4. “Harassment” means any of the following:

a. Striking, shoving, kicking or otherwise subjecting another person to physical contact; engaging in an act that would constitute abuse under s. 48.02 (1), sexual assault under s. 940.225, or stalking under s. 940.32; or attempting or threatening to do the same.

b. Engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts which harass or intimidate another person and which serve no legitimate purpose.

(bm) In subs. (3) and (4), “household pet” means a domestic animal that is not a farm animal, as defined in s. 951.01 (3), that is kept, owned, or cared for by the petitioner or by a family member or a household member of the petitioner.

(2) COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION. (a) An action under this section may be commenced by filing a petition described under sub. (5) (a). No action under this section may be commenced by service of summons. The action commences with service of the petition upon the respondent if a copy of the petition is filed before service or promptly after service. If the judge or a circuit court commissioner extends the time for a hearing under sub. (3) (c) and the petitioner files an affidavit with the court stating that personal service by the sheriff or a private server under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b) was unsuccessful because the respondent is avoiding service by concealment or otherwise, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall inform the petitioner that he or she may serve the respondent by publication of a summary of the petition as a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, and by mailing or sending a facsimile if the respondent’s post–office address or facsimile number is known or can with due diligence be ascertained. The mailing or sending of a facsimile may be omitted if the post–office address or facsimile number cannot be ascertained with due diligence. A summary of the petition published as a class 1 notice shall include the name of the respondent and of the petitioner, notice of the temporary restraining order, and notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing regarding the injunction. The court shall inform the petitioner in writing that, if the petitioner chooses to have the documents in the action served by the sheriff, the petitioner should contact the sheriff to verify the proof of service of the petition. Section 813.06 does not apply to an action under this section.

(b) Notwithstanding s. 803.01 (3) (a), a child, as defined in s. 813.122 (1) (b), or a parent, stepparent, or legal guardian of a child may be a petitioner under this section.

(2g) APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM. The court or circuit court commissioner, on its or his or her own motion, or on the motion of any party, may appoint a guardian ad litem for a child who is a party under this section when justice so requires.

(2m) TWO-PART PROCEDURE. If the fee under s. 814.61 (1) for filing a petition under this section is waived under s. 814.61 (1) (e), the procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First, if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order the court shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold a hearing under sub. (4) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief. If the court issues a temporary restraining order, the order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for the hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.

(3) TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER. (a) A judge or circuit court commissioner may issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party’s attorney or a law enforcement officer to contact the petitioner without the petitioner’s written consent; to cease or avoid the harassment of another person; to avoid the petitioner’s residence, except as provided in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both; to refrain from removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or dispos-

ing of, a household pet; to allow the petitioner or a family member or household member of the petitioner acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet; or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner files a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (5) (a).

2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in harassment with intent to harass or intimidate the petitioner.

(am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, and the respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides, and the petitioner has no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the petitioner’s residence under par. (a) the judge or circuit court commissioner may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the duration of the order.

(b) Notice need not be given to the respondent before issuing a temporary restraining order under this subsection. A temporary restraining order may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is held on issuance of an injunction under sub. (4), except that the court may extend the temporary restraining order under s. 813.1285. A judge or circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing on issuance of an injunction within 14 days after the temporary restraining order is issued, unless the time is extended upon the written consent of the parties, extended under s. 801.58 (2m), or extended once for 14 days upon a finding that the respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order although the petitioner has exercised due diligence. A judge or court commissioner may not extend the temporary restraining order in lieu of ruling on the issuance of an injunction.

(d) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall advise the petitioner of the right to serve the respondent the petition by published notice if with due diligence the respondent cannot be served as provided under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b). The clerk of circuit court shall assist the petitioner with the preparation of the notice and filing of the affidavit of printing.

(e) The judge or circuit court commissioner may not dismiss or deny granting a temporary restraining order because of the existence of a pending action or of any other court order that bars contact between the parties, nor due to the necessity of verifying the terms of an existing court order.

(4) INJUNCTION. (a) A judge or circuit court commissioner may grant an injunction ordering the respondent to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party’s attorney or a law enforcement officer to contact the petitioner without the petitioner’s written consent; to cease or avoid the harassment of another person; to avoid the petitioner’s residence, except as provided in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both; to refrain from removing, hiding, damaging, harming, or mistreating, or disposing of, a household pet; to allow the petitioner or a family member or household member of the petitioner acting on his or her behalf to retrieve a household pet; or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

1. The petitioner has filed a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (5) (a).

2. The petitioner serves upon the respondent a copy of a restraining order obtained under sub. (3) and notice of the time for the hearing on the issuance of the injunction under sub. (3) (c). The restraining order or notice of hearing served under this subdivision shall inform the respondent that, if the judge or circuit court commissioner issues an injunction, the judge or circuit court commissioner may also order the respondent not to possess a firearm while the injunction is in effect. The person who serves the respondent with the order or notice shall also provide the respondent with all of the following information:

**813.125 INJUNCTIONS, NE EXEAT AND RECEIVERS**

Updated 21–22 Wis. Stats. 14

a. Notice of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and notice of any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.

b. An explanation of s. 813.1285, including the procedures for surrendering a firearm and the circumstances listed under s. 813.1285 under which a respondent must appear at a hearing to surrender firearms.

c. A firearm possession form developed under s. 813.1285 (5) (a), with instructions for completing and returning the form.

3. After hearing, the judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in harassment with intent to harass or intimidate the petitioner.

(aj) The judge or circuit court commissioner may not dismiss or deny granting an injunction because of the existence of a pending action or of any other court order that bars contact between the parties, nor due to the necessity of verifying the terms of an existing court order.

(am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, and the respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides, and the petitioner has no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the petitioner's residence under par. (a) the judge or circuit court commissioner may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the duration of the order.

(b) The injunction may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(c) An injunction under this subsection is effective according to its terms, but for not more than 4 years, except as provided in par. (d).

(d) 1. A judge or circuit court commissioner may, upon issuing an injunction or granting an extension of an injunction issued under this subsection, order that the injunction is in effect for not more than 10 years, if the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence stated on the record, that any of the following is true:

a. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit first-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.01, or 2nd-degree intentional homicide under s. 940.05, against the petitioner.

b. There is a substantial risk that the respondent may commit sexual assault under s. 940.225 (1), (2), or (3), or under s. 948.02 (1) or (2), against the petitioner.

1m. Upon request by the petitioner, a judge or circuit court commissioner may order that the injunction is in effect permanently if the respondent has been convicted of a violation of s. 940.225 (1) to (3) in which the petitioner was the crime victim. An order based on a finding under this subdivision is subject to review and modification under s. 813.126 (1m).

2. This paragraph does not prohibit a petitioner from requesting a new temporary restraining order under sub. (3) or injunction under this subsection before or at the expiration of a previously entered order or injunction.

**(4g) ORDER; TELEPHONE SERVICES.** (a) Unless a condition described in par. (b) exists, a judge or circuit court commissioner who issues an injunction under sub. (4) may, upon request by the petitioner, order a wireless telephone service provider to transfer to the petitioner the right to continue to use a telephone number or numbers indicated by the petitioner and the financial responsibility associated with the number or numbers, as set forth in par. (c). The petitioner may request transfer of each telephone number he or she, or a minor child in his or her custody, uses. The order shall contain all of the following:

1. The name and billing telephone number of the account holder.

2. Each telephone number that will be transferred.

3. A statement that the provider transfers to the petitioner all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this subdivision, "financial responsibility" includes monthly service costs and

costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(b) A wireless telephone service provider shall terminate the respondent's use of, and shall transfer to the petitioner use of, the telephone number or numbers indicated in par. (a) unless it notifies the petitioner, within 72 hours after it receives the order, that one of the following applies:

1. The account holder named in the order has terminated the account.

2. A difference in network technology would prevent or impair the functionality of a device on a network if the transfer occurs.

3. The transfer would cause a geographic or other limitation on network or service provision to the petitioner.

4. Another technological or operational issue would prevent or impair the use of the telephone number if the transfer occurs.

(c) The petitioner assumes all financial responsibility for and right to the use of any telephone number transferred under this subsection. In this paragraph, "financial responsibility" includes monthly service costs and costs associated with any mobile device associated with the number.

(d) A wireless telephone service provider may apply to the petitioner its routine and customary requirements for establishing an account or transferring a number, including requiring the petitioner to provide proof of identification, financial information, and customer preferences.

(e) A wireless telephone service provider is immune from civil liability for its actions taken in compliance with a court order issued under this subsection.

**(4m) RESTRICTION ON FIREARM POSSESSION; SURRENDER OF FIREARMS.** (a) If a judge or circuit court commissioner issues an injunction under sub. (4) and the judge or circuit court commissioner determines, based on clear and convincing evidence presented at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction, that the respondent may use a firearm to cause physical harm to another or to endanger public safety, the judge or circuit court commissioner may prohibit the respondent from possessing a firearm.

(b) An order prohibiting a respondent from possessing a firearm issued under par. (a) remains in effect until the expiration of the injunction issued under sub. (4).

(c) An order issued under par. (a) that prohibits a respondent from possessing a firearm shall do all of the following:

1. Inform the respondent named in the petition of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 and any similar applicable federal laws and penalties.

2. Except as provided in par. (cg), require in writing the respondent to surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or circuit court commissioner, in accordance with s. 813.1285.

(cg) If the respondent is a peace officer, an order issued under par. (a) may not require the respondent to surrender a firearm that he or she is required, as a condition of employment, to possess whether or not he or she is on duty.

**(5) PETITION.** (a) The petition shall allege facts sufficient to show the following:

1. The name of the person who is the alleged victim.

2. The name of the respondent.

3. That the respondent has engaged in harassment with intent to harass or intimidate the petitioner.

4. If the petitioner knows of any other court proceeding in which the petitioner is a person affected by a court order or judgment that includes provisions regarding contact with the respondent, any of the following that are known by the petitioner:

a. The name or type of the court proceeding.



- b. The date of the court proceeding.
- c. The type of provisions regarding contact between the petitioner and respondent.

(am) The petition shall inform the respondent that, if the judge or circuit court commissioner issues an injunction, the judge or circuit court commissioner may also order the respondent not to possess a firearm while the injunction is in effect.

- (b) The clerk of circuit court shall provide simplified forms.

**(5b) ELDER PERSON PETITIONER.** If the petitioner is an elder person, the court shall permit the petitioner to participate in hearings under this section by telephone or live audiovisual means.

**(5g) ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.** (a) Within one business day after an order or injunction is issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section, the clerk of the circuit court shall send a copy of the order or injunction, or of the order extending, modifying or vacating an order or injunction, to the sheriff or to any local law enforcement agency which is the central repository for orders and injunctions and which has jurisdiction over the petitioner's premises.

(b) The sheriff or other appropriate local law enforcement agency under par. (a) shall enter the information received under par. (a) concerning an order or injunction issued, extended, modified or vacated under this section into the transaction information for management of enforcement system no later than 24 hours after receiving the information and shall make available to other law enforcement agencies, through a verification system, information on the existence and status of any order or injunction issued under this section. The information need not be maintained after the order or injunction is no longer in effect.

(c) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the petitioner the court or circuit court commissioner shall order the sheriff to accompany the petitioner and assist in placing him or her in physical possession of his or her residence.

(cm) 1. The clerk of the circuit court shall forward to the sheriff any temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice that must be served on the respondent under this section and the sheriff shall assist the petitioner in executing or serving the temporary restraining order, injunction, or other document or notice on the respondent. The petitioner may, at his or her expense, elect to use a private server to effect service.

2. If the petitioner elects service by the sheriff, the clerk of circuit court shall provide a form supplied by the sheriff to the petitioner that allows the petitioner to provide information about the respondent that may be useful to the sheriff in effecting service. The clerk shall forward the completed form to the sheriff. The clerk shall maintain the form provided under this subdivision in a confidential manner. If a service fee is required by the sheriff under s. 814.70 (1), the petitioner shall pay the fee directly to the sheriff.

(d) The issuance of an order or injunction under sub. (3) or (4) is enforceable despite the existence of any other criminal or civil order restricting or prohibiting contact.

(e) A law enforcement agency and a clerk of circuit court may use electronic transmission to facilitate the exchange of documents under this section. Any person who uses electronic transmission shall ensure that the electronic transmission does not allow unauthorized disclosure of the documents transmitted.

**(5m) CONFIDENTIALITY OF VICTIM'S ADDRESS.** The petition under sub. (5) and the court order under sub. (3), (4), or (4g) may not disclose the address of the alleged victim. The petitioner shall provide the clerk of circuit court with the petitioner's address when he or she files a petition under this section. The clerk shall maintain the petitioner's address in a confidential manner.

**(5r) NOTICE TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.** (a) If an order prohibiting a respondent from possessing a firearm is issued under sub. (4m), the clerk of the circuit court shall notify the department of justice of the existence of the order prohibiting a respondent from possessing a firearm and shall provide the department of jus-

tice with information concerning the period during which the order is in effect and information necessary to identify the respondent for purposes of responding to a request under s. 165.63 or for purposes of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

(b) Except as provided in par. (c), the department of justice may disclose information that it receives under par. (a) only to respond to a request under s. 165.63 or as part of a firearms restrictions record search under s. 175.35 (2g) (c) or a background check under s. 175.60 (9g) (a).

(c) The department of justice shall disclose any information that it receives under par. (a) to a law enforcement agency when the information is needed for law enforcement purposes.

**(6) ARREST.** (am) A law enforcement officer shall arrest and take a person into custody if all of the following occur:

1. A person named in a petition under sub. (5) presents the law enforcement officer with a copy of a court order issued under sub. (3) or (4), or the law enforcement officer determines that such an order exists through communication with appropriate authorities.

2. The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the person has violated the court order issued under sub. (3) or (4).

(c) A respondent who does not appear at a hearing at which the court orders an injunction under sub. (4) but who has been served with a copy of the petition and notice of the time for hearing under sub. (4) (a) 2. that includes the information required under sub. (4) (a) 2. a., b., and c. has constructive knowledge of the existence of the injunction and shall be arrested for violation of the injunction regardless of whether he or she has been served with a copy of the injunction.

**(7) PENALTY.** Whoever violates a temporary restraining order or injunction issued under this section shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than 9 months or both.

**(8) NOTICE OF FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.** An order or injunction issued under sub. (3) or (4) shall include a statement that the order or injunction may be accorded full faith and credit in every civil or criminal court of the United States, civil or criminal courts of any other state and Indian tribal courts to the extent that such courts may have personal jurisdiction over nontribal members.

**History:** 1983 a. 336; 1991 a. 39, 194; 1995 a. 71, 306; 2001 a. 16, 61, 105; 2003 a. 321; 2005 a. 272; 2007 a. 124; 2009 a. 262; 2011 a. 35, 266; 2013 a. 20, 223, 311, 321, 322; 2015 a. 109; 2015 a. 195, 253, 349, 353; 2021 a. 76, 256.

This section is constitutional. *Bachowski v. Salamone*, 139 Wis. 2d 397, 407 N.W.2d 533 (1987).

A person convicted of violating a harassment injunction may not collaterally attack the validity of the injunction in a criminal prosecution to enforce the injunction. *State v. Bouzek*, 168 Wis. 2d 642, 484 N.W.2d 362 (Ct. App. 1992).

A hearing on issuing an injunction initially held within seven days of the issuance of the temporary restraining order, then continued for seven months at the defendant's request, did not result in the court losing competency to proceed. *W.W.W. v. M.C.S.*, 185 Wis. 2d 468, 518 N.W.2d 285 (Ct. App. 1994).

Discussing proof of intent. *W.W.W. v. M.C.S.*, 185 Wis. 2d 468, 518 N.W.2d 285 (Ct. App. 1994).

A municipal corporation is a "person" that may bring an action for an injunction under this section. *Village of Tigerton v. Minniecheske*, 211 Wis. 2d 777, 565 N.W.2d 586 (Ct. App. 1997), 96–1933.

Violating an injunction under this section is a crime and is not a lesser-included offense of harassment under s. 947.013 (1r). A defendant may be convicted for violating this section and s. 947.013 without violating the prohibition against double jeopardy. Convictions for violating this section may be counted for purposes of determining whether the defendant may be sentenced as a repeat offender under s. 939.62. *State v. Sveum*, 2002 WI App 105, 254 Wis. 2d 868, 648 N.W.2d 496, 01–0230.

Banishment from a particular place is not a per se violation of the right to travel. There is no exact formula for determining whether a geographic restriction is narrowly tailored. Each case must be analyzed on its own facts, circumstances, and total atmosphere to determine whether the geographic restriction is narrowly drawn. *Predick v. O'Connor*, 2003 WI App 46, 260 Wis. 2d 323, 660 N.W.2d 1, 02–0503.

A violation of this section may not rest on conduct that serves a legitimate purpose, which is a determination that must of necessity be left to the fact finder, taking into account all the facts and circumstances. The legitimate purpose determination is such that the fact finder must determine if any legitimate purpose was intended at the time of the conduct. *Welytok v. Ziolkowski*, 2008 WI App 67, 312 Wis. 2d 435, 752 N.W.2d 359, 07–0347.

This section can extend injunctive protection to institutions as well as natural persons. Although sub. (1) (b) [now sub. (1) (am) 4.] describes harassment as "committing acts which harass or intimidate another person," s. 990.01 (26) defines a "person" as including "all partnerships, associations and bodies politic or corporate." Board of Regents — *UW System v. Decker*, 2014 WI 68, 355 Wis. 2d 800, 850 N.W.2d 112, 11–2902.

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Conduct or repetitive acts that are intended to harass or intimidate do not serve a legitimate purpose. A person cannot shield the person's harassing conduct from regulation by labeling it "protest." If the person's purpose was even in part to harass, the conduct may be enjoined. The person's constitutional right to protest can be restricted when the person engages in harassment with the intent to harass or intimidate. Board of Regents — UW System v. Decker, 2014 WI 68, 355 Wis. 2d 800, 850 N.W.2d 112, 11–2902.

Sub. (3) (c) explicitly says that a temporary restraining order can be extended "once for 14 days upon a finding that the respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order." It is not enough that the circuit court finally held the injunction hearing within the 14-day extension period permitted by the statute. To permit the circuit court to extend the temporary restraining order twice would be to ignore the statute's plain words. Hill v. D.C., 2014 WI App 99, 357 Wis. 2d 463, 855 N.W.2d 880, 13–1844.

Applicable law allows electronic transmission of certain confidential case information among clerks of circuit court, county sheriff's offices, and the Department of Justice through electronic interfaces involving the Department of Administration's Office of Justice Assistance, specifically including electronic data messages regarding a harassment protection order issued under this section in an action that the court has ordered sealed. OAG 2–10.

For an activity to violate an injunction issued under this section, it must be intentional and devoid of any legitimate purpose. Deputies did not have probable cause to arrest the subject of an injunction when they knew that the subject had entered a town hall to attend a meeting at which the subject had a personal interest in an agenda item prior to the persons protected by the injunction, that the persons protected by the injunction wished to attend the meeting, and that they possessed harassment injunctions commanding the subject of the injunction to avoid any premises temporarily occupied by the persons protected. Wagner v. Washington County, 493 F.3d 833 (2007).

**813.126 New hearing or petition for review. (1) TIME LIMITS FOR DE NOVO HEARING.** If a party seeks to have the judge conduct a hearing de novo under s. 757.69 (8) of a determination, order, or ruling entered by a court commissioner in an action under s. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123, or 813.125, including a denial of a request for a temporary restraining order, the motion requesting the hearing must be filed with the court within 30 days after the circuit court commissioner issued the determination, order, or ruling. The court shall hold the de novo hearing within 30 days after the motion requesting the hearing is filed with the court unless the court finds good cause for an extension. Any determination, order, or ruling entered by a court commissioner in an action under s. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123, or 813.125 remains in effect until the judge in the de novo hearing issues his or her final determination, order, or ruling.

**(1m) HEARING TO REVIEW A PERMANENT INJUNCTION.** If a respondent's criminal conviction that formed the basis for a permanent injunction in an action under s. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123, or 813.125 has been vacated, the respondent may file a motion requesting a hearing to review the injunction. The court shall hold the review hearing within 30 days after the motion requesting the hearing is filed with the court unless the court finds good cause for an extension. At the hearing, if the judge finds that the conviction that formed the basis for the permanent injunction has been vacated, the judge shall modify the duration of the injunction or vacate the injunction. In so modifying or vacating the injunction, the judge shall consider all relevant factors, including the risk to the petitioner and the time that has passed since the injunction was ordered. No modified injunction ordered under this subsection may be in effect for a longer period than the maximum period that would have been possible when the injunction was first ordered if the injunction had not been permanent. If the maximum possible period from the time the injunction was first ordered has elapsed, the judge shall vacate the injunction.

**(2) NOTICE.** The clerk of circuit court shall provide notice of a motion under sub. (1) or (1m) to the nonmoving party. This subsection does not apply to a motion to review a denial of a temporary restraining order.

**History:** 2009 a. 262; 2013 a. 322; 2015 a. 349; 2021 a. 256.

**813.127 Combined actions; domestic abuse, child abuse and harassment.** A petitioner may combine in one action 2 or more petitions under one or more of the provisions in ss. 813.12, 813.122 and 813.125 if the respondent is the same person in each petition. In any such action, there is only one fee applicable under s. 814.61 (1) (a). In any such action, the hearings for

different types of temporary restraining orders or injunctions may be combined.

**History:** 1985 a. 234.

**813.128 Uniform interstate enforcement of domestic violence protection orders act. (1g) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Bodily harm" has the meaning given in s. 939.22 (4).

(b) "Foreign mutual protection order" means a foreign protection order that includes provisions in favor of both the individual seeking enforcement of the order and the respondent.

(c) "Foreign protection order" means a protection order issued by a tribunal other than a tribunal of this state.

(d) "Protected individual" means an individual protected by a protection order.

(e) "Protection order" means any temporary or permanent injunction or order issued by a tribunal to prevent an individual from engaging in abuse, bodily harm, communication, contact, harassment, physical proximity, threatening acts or violence to another person, other than support or custody orders. This term includes an injunction or order issued under the antistalking laws of the issuing state.

(f) "Respondent" means the individual against whom enforcement of a protection order is sought.

(g) "Tribunal" means a court, agency, or other entity of a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, an American Indian tribe or band, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, authorized by law to issue or modify a protection order.

**(2g) STATUS OF A FOREIGN PROTECTION ORDER.** (a) A foreign protection order shall be accorded full faith and credit by the tribunals in this state and shall be enforced as if the order were an order of a tribunal of this state if the order meets all of the following conditions:

1. The foreign protection order was obtained after providing the respondent a reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard sufficient to protect his or her right to due process. If the foreign protection order is an ex parte injunction or order, the respondent shall have been given notice and an opportunity to be heard within a reasonable time after the order was issued sufficient to protect his or her right to due process.

2. The tribunal that issued the order had jurisdiction over the parties and over the subject matter.

3. The order identifies the protected individual and the respondent.

4. The order is currently in effect.

(b) A foreign protection order or modification of the foreign protection order that meets the requirements under this section has the same effect as an order issued under s. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123 or 813.125, except that the foreign protection order or modification shall be enforced according to its own terms.

(c) A foreign protection order issued against the person who filed a written pleading with a tribunal for a protection order is not entitled to full faith and credit under this subsection if any of the following occurred:

1. No written pleading was filed seeking the foreign protection order against the person who filed a written pleading with a tribunal for a protection order.

2. A cross or counter petition was filed but the tribunal did not make a specific finding that each party was entitled to a foreign protection order.

**(3g) FILING AND ENFORCEMENT OF A FOREIGN PROTECTION ORDER.** (a) 1. A copy of any foreign protection order, or of a modification of a foreign protection order that is on file with the circuit court, that is authenticated in accordance with an act of congress,

an Indian tribal legislative body or the statutes of another state may be filed in the office of the clerk of circuit court of any county of this state. The clerk may not charge a fee for the filing of a foreign protection order. The clerk shall treat any foreign protection order or modification so filed in the same manner as a judgment of the circuit court.

2. Within one business day after a foreign protection order or a modification of a foreign protection order is filed under this subsection, the clerk of circuit court shall send a copy of the foreign protection order or modification of the order to the sheriff in that circuit or to the local law enforcement agency that is the central repository for orders and injunctions in that circuit.

3. The sheriff or law enforcement agency that receives a copy of a foreign protection order or of a modification of an order from the clerk under subd. 2. shall enter the information received concerning the order or modification of an order into the transaction information for management of enforcement system no later than 24 hours after receiving the information. The sheriff or law enforcement agency shall make available to other law enforcement agencies, through a verification system, information on the existence and status of any order or modification of an order filed under this subsection. The information need not be maintained after the order or modification is no longer in effect.

(b) A law enforcement officer shall arrest and take the subject of a foreign protection order into custody if all of the following occur:

1. A person protected under a foreign protection order presents the law enforcement officer with a copy of a foreign protection order issued against the subject, or the law enforcement officer determines that a valid foreign protection order exists against the subject through communication with appropriate authorities. If a law enforcement officer examines a copy of a foreign protection order, the order, with any modification, is presumed to be valid if the order or modification appears to be valid on its face and circumstances suggest that the order and any modification are in effect.

2. The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the person has violated the terms of the foreign protection order or modification of the order.

3. For the purposes of this paragraph, the protection order may be inscribed on a tangible medium or may have been stored in an electronic or other medium if it is retrievable in perceivable form. Presentation of a certified copy of a protection order is not required for enforcement.

(c) If a foreign protection order is not presented, a law enforcement officer of this state may consider other information in determining whether there is probable cause to believe that a valid foreign protection order exists.

(d) If a law enforcement officer of this state determines that an otherwise valid foreign protection order cannot be enforced because the respondent has not been notified or served with the order, the officer shall inform the respondent of the order, make a reasonable effort to serve the order upon the respondent, and allow the respondent a reasonable opportunity to comply with the order before enforcing the order.

(e) A tribunal of this state shall enforce the provisions of a valid foreign protection order that govern custody, physical placement, and visitation, if the order was issued in accordance with the jurisdictional requirements governing the issuance of custody, physical placement, and visitation orders in the issuing state.

(f) A foreign protection order that is valid on its face is prima facie evidence of its validity.

(g) Absence of any of the criteria for validity of a foreign protection order is an affirmative defense in an action seeking enforcement of the order.

(h) A tribunal of this state may enforce provisions of a foreign mutual protection order that favor a respondent only if the respondent filed a written pleading seeking a protection order from the

tribunal of the issuing state and the tribunal of the issuing state made specific findings in favor of the respondent.

(i) A tribunal of this state may not enforce a foreign protection order issued by a tribunal of a state that does not recognize the standing of a protected individual to seek enforcement of the order.

(4) **PENALTY.** A person who knowingly violates a condition of a foreign protection order or modification of a foreign protection order that is entitled to full faith and credit under this section shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both. If a foreign protection order and any modification of that order that is entitled to full faith and credit under this section remains current and in effect at the time that a court convicts a person for a violation of that order or modification of that order, but that order or modification has not been filed under this section, the court shall direct the clerk of circuit court to file the order and any modification of the order.

(5) **IMMUNITY.** A law enforcement officer, law enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney, state, local, or Indian tribe or band governmental official, or clerk of circuit court is immune from civil and criminal liability for his or her acts or omissions arising out of a decision related to the filing of a foreign protection order or modification or to the detention or arrest of an alleged violator of a foreign protection order or modification if the act or omission is done in a good faith effort to comply with this section and s. 806.247, 2013 stats.

(6) **OTHER REMEDIES.** A protected individual who pursues remedies under this section is not precluded from pursuing other legal or equitable remedies against the respondent.

(7) **APPLICABILITY.** This section applies to all of the following:

(a) A request made on or after April 13, 2016, for enforcement of a foreign protection order for a violation of the order, regardless of when the order was issued or when the violation occurred.

(b) A continuing action for enforcement of a foreign protection order, regardless of when the order was issued or when the action was commenced.

**History:** 1995 a. 306; 2015 a. 352 ss. 5 to 14, 16 to 32; 2021 a. 240 s. 30.

### 813.1283 Uniform Recognition and Enforcement of Canadian Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

(1) **SHORT TITLE.** This section may be cited as the Uniform Recognition and Enforcement of Canadian Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

(2) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Canadian domestic violence protection order” means a judgment or part of a judgment or order issued in a civil proceeding by a court of Canada under law of the issuing jurisdiction which relates to domestic violence and prohibits a respondent from doing any of the following:

1. Being in physical proximity to a protected individual or following a protected individual.
2. Directly or indirectly contacting or communicating with a protected individual or other individual described in the order.
3. Being within a certain distance of a specified place or location associated with a protected individual.
4. Molesting, annoying, harassing, or engaging in threatening conduct directed at a protected individual.

(b) “Domestic protection order” means an injunction or other order issued by a tribunal which relates to domestic or family violence laws to prevent an individual from engaging in violent or threatening acts against, harassment of, direct or indirect contact or communication with, or being in physical proximity to another individual.

(c) “Issuing court” means the court that issues a Canadian domestic violence protection order.

(d) “Law enforcement officer” means an individual authorized by law of this state other than this section to enforce a domestic protection order.



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(e) “Person” means an individual, estate, business or nonprofit entity, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or other legal entity.

(f) “Protected individual” means an individual protected by a Canadian domestic violence protection order.

(g) “Record” means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(h) “Respondent” means an individual against whom a Canadian domestic violence protection order is issued.

(i) “State” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(j) “Tribunal” means a court, agency, or other entity authorized by law of this state other than this section to establish, enforce, or modify a domestic protection order.

**(3) ENFORCEMENT BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.** (a) If a law enforcement officer determines under par. (b) or (c) that there is probable cause to believe a valid Canadian domestic violence protection order exists and the order has been violated, the officer shall enforce the terms of the Canadian domestic violence protection order as if the terms were in an order of a tribunal. Presentation to a law enforcement officer of a certified copy of a Canadian domestic violence protection order is not required for enforcement.

(b) Presentation to a law enforcement officer of a record of a Canadian domestic violence protection order that identifies both a protected individual and a respondent and on its face is in effect constitutes probable cause to believe that a valid order exists.

(c) If a record of a Canadian domestic violence protection order is not presented as provided in par. (b), a law enforcement officer may consider other information in determining whether there is probable cause to believe that a valid Canadian domestic violence protection order exists.

(d) If a law enforcement officer determines that an otherwise valid Canadian domestic violence protection order cannot be enforced because the respondent has not been notified of or served with the order, the officer shall notify the protected individual that the officer will make reasonable efforts to contact the respondent, consistent with the safety of the protected individual. After notice to the protected individual and consistent with the safety of the individual, the officer shall make a reasonable effort to inform the respondent of the order, notify the respondent of the terms of the order, provide a record of the order, if available, to the respondent, and allow the respondent a reasonable opportunity to comply with the order before the officer enforces the order.

(e) If a law enforcement officer determines that an individual is a protected individual, the officer shall inform the individual of available local victim services.

**(4) ENFORCEMENT BY A TRIBUNAL.** (a) A tribunal may issue an order enforcing or refusing to enforce a Canadian domestic violence protection order on application by any of the following:

1. A person authorized by law of this state other than this section to seek enforcement of a domestic protection order.

2. A respondent.

(b) In a proceeding under par. (a), the tribunal shall follow the procedures of this state for enforcement of a domestic protection order under s. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123, or 813.125. An order entered under this subsection is limited to the enforcement of the terms of the Canadian domestic violence protection order as described in sub. (2) (a).

(c) A Canadian domestic violence protection order is enforceable under this subsection if all of the following are true:

1. The order identifies a protected individual and a respondent.

2. The order is valid and in effect.

3. The issuing court had jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter under law applicable in the issuing court.

4. The order was issued after any of the following:

a. The respondent was given reasonable notice and had an opportunity to be heard before the court issued the order.

b. In the case of an ex parte order, the respondent was given a reasonable notice and had or will have an opportunity to be heard within a reasonable time after the order was issued, in a manner consistent with the right of the respondent to due process.

(d) A Canadian domestic violence protection order valid on its face is prima facie evidence of its enforceability under this subsection.

(e) A claim that a Canadian domestic violence protection order does not comply with par. (c) is an affirmative defense in a proceeding seeking enforcement of the order. If the tribunal determines that the order is not enforceable, the tribunal shall issue an order that the Canadian domestic violence protection order is not enforceable under this subsection and sub. (3) and may not be registered under sub. (5).

(f) This subsection applies to enforcement of a provision of a Canadian domestic violence protection order against a party to the order in which each party is a protected individual and respondent only if the party seeking enforcement of the order filed a pleading requesting the order from the issuing court and the court made specific findings that entitled the party to the enforcement sought.

**(5) FILING.** (a) A certified copy of any Canadian domestic violence protection order, or of a modification of a Canadian domestic violence protection order that is on file with the circuit court may be filed in the office of the clerk of circuit court of any county of this state. The clerk may not charge a fee for the filing of a Canadian domestic violence protection order. The clerk shall treat any Canadian domestic violence protection order or modification so filed in the same manner as a judgment of the circuit court. Filing of a Canadian domestic violence protection order under the laws of this state is not required for its enforcement under this section.

(b) Within one business day after a Canadian domestic violence protection order or a modification of a foreign protection order is filed under this subsection, the clerk of circuit court shall send a copy of the Canadian domestic violence protection order or modification of the order to the sheriff in that circuit or to the local law enforcement agency that is the central repository for orders and injunctions in that circuit.

(c) The sheriff or law enforcement agency that receives a copy of a Canadian domestic violence protection order or of a modification of an order from the clerk under par. (b) shall enter the information received concerning the order or modification of an order into the transaction information for management of enforcement system no later than 24 hours after receiving the information. The sheriff or law enforcement agency shall make available to other law enforcement agencies, through a verification system, information on the existence and status of any order or modification of an order filed under this subsection. The information need not be maintained after the order or modification is no longer in effect.

**(6) IMMUNITY.** A state, state agency, local governmental agency, law enforcement officer, prosecuting attorney, clerk of court, and state or local governmental official acting in an official capacity are immune from civil and criminal liability for an act or omission arising out of the filing or enforcement of a Canadian domestic violence protection order or the detention or arrest of an alleged violator of a Canadian domestic violence protection order if the act or omission was a good faith effort to comply with this section.

**(7) OTHER REMEDIES.** An individual who seeks a remedy under this section may seek other legal or equitable remedies.

**(8) UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION.** In applying and construing this section, consideration must be given to the

need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

**(9) RELATION TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT.** This section modifies, limits, and supersedes the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, [15 USC 7001](#) to [7031](#), but does not modify, limit, or supersede section 101 (c) of that act, [15 USC 7001](#) (c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in section 103 (b) of that act, [15 USC 7003](#) (b).

**(10) APPLICABILITY.** This section applies to a Canadian domestic violence protection order issued before, on, or after March 30, 2018, and to a continuing action for enforcement of a Canadian domestic violence protection order commenced before, on, or after March 30, 2018. A request for enforcement of a Canadian domestic violence protection order made on or after March 30, 2018, for a violation of the order occurring before, on, or after March 30, 2018, is governed by this section.

**(11m) PENALTY.** A person who knowingly violates a condition of a Canadian domestic violence protection order or modification of a Canadian domestic violence protection order that is enforceable under this section shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both. If a Canadian domestic violence protection order and any modification of that order that is enforceable under this section remains current and in effect at the time that a court convicts a person for a violation of that order or modification of that order, but that order or modification has not been filed under this section, the court shall direct the clerk of circuit court to file the order and any modification of the order.

History: 2017 a. 181.

### 813.1285 Notice and process for firearm surrender.

**(1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Firearm possession form” means the form developed under sub. (5) (a).

(am) “Injunction” means an injunction issued under s. [813.12](#) (4) or [813.122](#) (5); an injunction issued under s. [813.123](#) if the court has required the individual to surrender his or her firearms under s. [813.123](#) (5m); or an injunction issued under s. [813.125](#) if the court has required the individual to surrender his or her firearms under s. [813.125](#) (4m). “Injunction” includes an injunction that has been stayed under this section.

(b) “Petitioner” means an individual who is applying for, or for whom a court has granted, an injunction.

(c) “Petition for the return of firearms” means a petition developed under sub. (5) (b).

(d) “Respondent” means the individual who is the subject of an injunction.

(e) “Surrender and extend order” means an order under sub. (1g).

**(1g) SURRENDER AND EXTEND ORDER.** If the court issues a surrender and extend order, the court shall do all of the following:

(a) Order the respondent to surrender, within a period that is no longer than 48 hours, any firearm that he or she owns or possesses to the sheriff or, in the court’s discretion, to another person.

(b) Order that the respondent may possess or transport a firearm only for the purpose of complying with par. (a).

(c) If the court stays an injunction, order the respondent subject to a temporary restraining order during the stay of the injunction and extend the temporary restraining order for a period of 48 hours for the purpose of firearm surrender.

(d) Inform the respondent when the injunction will take effect and the penalty for possessing a firearm while the injunction is in effect.

(e) Instruct the respondent how to surrender any firearm.

(f) If appropriate, order the respondent to attend a hearing to surrender firearms.

**(1m) TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDERS.** If the court is required to extend a temporary restraining order under this section, and a temporary restraining order was not previously granted, the court shall, on its own motion, reconsider and grant the temporary restraining order.

**(2) FIREARM POSSESSION DETERMINATION.** (a) If the respondent is present at the injunction hearing, the court shall stay the injunction for a period not to exceed 48 hours and shall extend the temporary restraining order for 48 hours for the purpose of firearm surrender. The respondent shall provide the court a completed firearm possession form. The court shall verify the information on the firearm possession form and shall make an inquiry on the record as to the contents of the firearm possession form.

(b) If the respondent is not present at the injunction hearing, the court shall provide the petitioner with an opportunity to inform the court orally or in writing whether he or she believes that the respondent possesses a firearm. If the petitioner informs the court that the respondent possesses a firearm, the court shall request the petitioner to inform the court orally or in writing how many firearms he or she believes the respondent possesses, the make and model of any firearm he or she believes the respondent possesses, and the location of any firearm he or she believes the respondent possesses.

(c) 1. If the firearm possession form submitted to the court under par. (a) or (b) indicates the respondent does not possess a firearm, and the court, after an inquiry, is satisfied that the respondent does not possess a firearm, the court shall file the firearm possession form, lift the stay of the injunction, and dismiss the temporary restraining order extended under par. (a).

2. If, under par. (a), the firearm possession form submitted to the court indicates the respondent possesses a firearm, and the respondent has not surrendered his or her firearm as described under sub. (3) (a), the court shall continue to stay the injunction as provided under par. (a) for a period not to exceed 48 hours, issue a surrender and extend order, and schedule a hearing to surrender firearms to occur within one week of the injunction hearing.

3. If, under par. (b), the petitioner indicates that the respondent possesses a firearm or if the court is not satisfied under subd. 1. that the respondent does not possess a firearm, the court shall schedule a hearing to surrender firearms to occur within one week of the injunction hearing. The court shall do one of the following:

a. Continue the stay under par. (a) of the injunction and issue a surrender and extend order.

b. Lift the stay of the injunction.

4. The court may schedule a hearing to surrender firearms for any reason relevant to the surrender of firearms.

**(3) SURRENDER OF FIREARMS.** (a) Unless the court has noted another reason that is relevant to the surrender of firearms that would require the hearing to surrender firearms to occur, the court shall dismiss the hearing to surrender firearms scheduled under sub. (2) (c) 2. or 3. if the respondent surrenders his or her firearm in one of the following manners:

1. The respondent surrenders his or her firearm to another person and all of the following apply:

a. The respondent and the person to whom the respondent is surrendering his or her firearm appear at the injunction hearing.

b. At the injunction hearing, the person testifies under oath that the person has received the firearms listed on the respondent’s firearm possession form.

c. At the injunction hearing, the court determines that the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm.

d. The court informs the person to whom the firearm is surrendered of the requirements and penalties under s. [941.2905](#).

e. The court, after considering all relevant factors and any input from the petitioner, approves the surrender of the firearm.

f. The court does not use the process under subd. 3.

2. The respondent surrenders his or her firearm to a sheriff no later than 48 hours after the injunction hearing ordering the respondent to surrender his or her firearm and provides a copy of the receipt to the clerk of courts as provided in sub. (6) (b).

3. The respondent surrenders his or her firearm to a sheriff as provided under subd. 2., and a person who appeared at the injunction hearing takes possession of the firearm from the sheriff, if all of the following apply:

a. Subdivision 1. d. and e. apply.

b. The sheriff determines that the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm.

(b) If the court approves the surrender under par. (a) 1., and if the court has issued a surrender and extend order and has stayed the injunction, the court shall lift the stay and dismiss the temporary restraining order.

(4) HEARING TO SURRENDER FIREARMS. (a) Unless the court dismisses the hearing to surrender firearms, a respondent for whom a hearing to surrender firearms has been scheduled must attend the hearing. If the respondent fails to attend the hearing to surrender firearms, the court shall issue an arrest warrant for the respondent.

(b) At the hearing to surrender firearms, the court shall stay the injunction for a period not to exceed 48 hours, shall extend the temporary restraining order for 48 hours, shall ensure that the respondent has completed a firearm possession form and verify the information provided on the firearm possession form if the information was not already verified under sub. (2) (a), shall make an inquiry on the record as to the contents of the firearm possession form, and shall do one of the following:

1. If the respondent wants to surrender his or her firearms to a person who is not the sheriff and who appears at the hearing to surrender firearms, and if the court, after considering all relevant factors and input from the petitioner, approves the surrender and informs the person to whom the firearms are surrendered of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.2905, order the respondent to surrender his or her firearms in one of the following ways:

a. To the person, after the person testifies under oath that he or she has received the firearms listed on the respondent's firearm possession form and after the court determines that the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm.

b. To the sheriff, who shall transfer the firearms to the person after determining that the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm.

1m. If the respondent claims to have surrendered his or her firearms to the sheriff in accordance with sub. (6), verify that the respondent has surrendered all such firearms, lift the stay of the injunction, and dismiss the temporary restraining order.

2. Order the respondent to surrender any firearm that the court finds the respondent owns or possesses to a sheriff in accordance with sub. (6). If the respondent has not provided to the court, within 48 hours of the hearing to surrender firearms, a receipt as specified in sub. (6) (b) that shows surrender of all of the firearms that were subject to the order, the court shall presume the respondent is violating the order and the injunction and may do any of the following:

a. Notify the sheriff of the violation for investigation and appropriate action.

b. Schedule another hearing to surrender firearms.

c. Issue a warrant to the sheriff ordering that the respondent be brought before the court to show cause why the respondent should not be held in contempt.

3. a. If, under subd. 1. b. or 2., the court orders the respondent to surrender his or her firearms to the sheriff, the court shall issue a surrender and extend order.

b. If, under subd. 1. a., the court orders the respondent to surrender his or her firearms to a person who is not the sheriff, the court shall lift any stay of the injunction and dismiss the temporary restraining order.

4. If the firearm possession form indicates that the respondent does not possess a firearm, and the court, after an inquiry, is satisfied that the respondent does not possess a firearm, the court shall file the firearm possession form, lift any stay of the injunction, and dismiss the temporary restraining order.

(5) FIREARM POSSESSION FORM AND PETITION FOR THE RETURN OF FIREARMS. (a) The director of state courts shall develop a firearm possession form. Any false information provided on the form by the respondent may be subject to a penalty of false swearing under s. 946.32. The director of state courts shall ensure that the firearm possession form does all of the following:

1. Requires the respondent to list his or her name and address.

2. Includes space for the respondent's signature and date signed.

3. Requires the respondent to indicate whether he or she owns or possesses any firearm or has owned or possessed any firearm in the 6 months immediately preceding the issuance of the injunction, and, if the answer is yes, to list the quantity and the make and model of each firearm and to note whether the firearm was sold or surrendered and whether he or she has a receipt for the firearm sale or surrender.

4. Gives notice of the penalty for false swearing under s. 946.32.

(b) The director of state courts shall develop a petition for the return of firearms in substantially the following form:

STATE OF WISCONSIN

IN CIRCUIT COURT FOR .... COUNTY

Petition to Return Firearm(s)

In re the Return of Firearms to (name of person required to surrender firearms in an injunction action)

Requesting person's information: date of birth, sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, address, and phone number.

Under oath I state that:

1. The court issued an injunction against me on (date of injunction). The injunction was issued based on a:

Domestic Abuse petition.

Child Abuse petition.

Harassment petition.

Adult-at-risk petition.

2. The court ordered me to surrender any firearms I owned or had in my possession to:

the sheriff of this county.

the sheriff of the county in which I resided, which is (name of county).

to the following person (whether directly or indirectly through a sheriff):

name:

address:

3. I surrendered the following firearms as provided in item 2 and have attached a receipt from the sheriff or from the 3rd person (if the person did not provide a receipt, attach a description of the firearm(s)):

4. The injunction has (been vacated) (expired and has not been extended).

5. I (have) (have not) been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

6. I (have) (have not) been convicted of a felony.

7. I am not prohibited from possessing a firearm under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other than an order from which a judge or family court commissioner is competent to grant relief.

I request that the court enter an order directing that the person named under item 2 return to me those firearms that were surrendered under the order of the court.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on (date)

(Signature of person requesting return of firearms)



(Signature of notary public, state of Wisconsin)

My commission expires on (date)

Dated this .... day of ....., .... (year)

Distribution:

1. Court – original 2. Petitioner in injunction action 3. Person to whom firearm(s) were surrendered

**(5m) NOTIFICATION TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.** (a) Within one business day after the court issues an order, extends or modifies a temporary restraining order, or stays or lifts a stay on an injunction under this section, the clerk of the circuit court shall send a copy of the order, the extension or modification, or the stay or lift to the sheriff or to any other local law enforcement agency that is the repository for such actions and that has jurisdiction over the premises of the petitioner.

(b) No later than 24 hours after receiving the information under par. (a), the sheriff or other local law enforcement agency under par. (a) shall enter the information concerning the order issued, the extension or modification, or the stay or lift of the injunction under par. (a) into the transaction information for management of enforcement system. The sheriff or other local law enforcement agency shall also make available to other law enforcement agencies, through a verification system, the information received and entered under this paragraph. The information need not be maintained after the order or injunction is no longer in effect.

**(6) SURRENDER OF FIREARM TO SHERIFF.** (a) When a respondent surrenders a firearm under sub. (3) (a) 2. or (4) (b) 2. to a sheriff, the sheriff who is receiving the firearm shall prepare a receipt for each firearm surrendered to him or her. The receipt shall include the date on which the firearm was surrendered and the manufacturer, model, and serial number of the firearm surrendered to the sheriff and shall be signed by the respondent and by the sheriff to whom the firearm is surrendered.

(b) The sheriff shall keep the original of a receipt prepared under par. (a) and shall provide 2 copies of the receipt to the respondent. The respondent shall provide one copy of the receipt to the clerk of courts within 48 hours of the order to surrender firearms. When the firearm covered by the receipt is returned to the respondent under sub. (7), the sheriff shall surrender to the respondent the original receipt and all of his or her copies of the receipt.

(c) A receipt prepared under par. (a) is conclusive proof that the respondent owns the firearm for purposes of returning the firearm covered by the receipt to the respondent under sub. (7).

(d) The sheriff may not enter any information contained on a receipt prepared under par. (a) into any computerized or direct electronic data transfer system in order to store the information or, except as provided in par. (b), disseminate or provide access to the information.

(e) 1. A sheriff may store a firearm surrendered to him or her under sub. (3) (a) 2. or (4) (b) 2. in a warehouse that is operated by a public warehouse keeper licensed under ch. 99. If a sheriff stores a firearm at a warehouse under this subdivision, the respondent shall pay the costs charged by the warehouse for storing that firearm.

2. If an injunction expires and is not extended, or an injunction is vacated, a sheriff may charge the respondent for any costs incurred 30 days after the injunction expires for storage of the firearm surrendered to the sheriff due to that injunction. A sheriff may dispose of a firearm surrendered to the sheriff due to that injunction 12 months after the injunction expires or is vacated and, if the sheriff disposes of the firearm, the sheriff may charge the respondent for the costs of disposal.

**(7) RETURN OF FIREARM.** (a) A firearm surrendered under this section may not be returned to the respondent until the respondent completes a petition for the return of firearms and a judge or circuit court commissioner determines all of the following:

1. That the injunction has been vacated or has expired and not been extended.

2. That the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other than an order from which the judge or circuit court commissioner is competent to grant relief. The court or commissioner shall use the information provided under s. 165.63 to aid in making the determination under this subdivision.

(b) If a respondent surrenders a firearm under this section that is owned by a person other than the respondent, the person who owns the firearm may apply for its return to the circuit court for the county in which the person to whom the firearm was surrendered is located. The court shall order such notice as it considers adequate to be given to all persons who have or may have an interest in the firearm and shall hold a hearing to hear all claims to its true ownership. If the right to possession is proved to the court's satisfaction, it shall order the firearm returned. If the court returns a firearm under this paragraph, the court shall inform the person to whom the firearm is returned of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.2905.

**(8) PENALTIES.** A respondent who violates an order described under sub. (1g) (a) or (b) is subject to a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 9 months or both in addition to any other penalty to which he or she is subject.

**History:** 2013 a. 321 ss. 7 to 10, 28; 2017 a. 145.

**813.129 Global positioning system tracking.** (1) If a person knowingly violates a temporary restraining order or injunction issued under s. 813.12 or 813.125, in addition to other penalties provided in those sections, the court may report the violation to the department of corrections immediately upon the person's conviction and may order the person to submit to global positioning system tracking under s. 301.49.

(2) Before issuing an order under sub. (1), the court must find that the person is more likely than not to cause serious bodily harm to the person who petitioned for the restraining order or injunction, weighing the following factors:

(a) Whether the person has allegedly caused physical injury, intentionally abused pets or damaged property, or committed sexual assault, an act of strangulation or forcible entry to gain access to the petitioner.

(b) Whether the person has threatened any individual, including the petitioner, with harm.

(c) Whether the person has a history of improperly using or threatening to use a firearm or other dangerous weapon.

(d) Whether the person has expressed suicidal ideation.

(e) Whether the person has exhibited obsessive or controlling behavior toward the petitioner or any member of the petitioner's family, including stalking, surveillance, or isolation of the petitioner or any member of the petitioner's family.

(f) The person's mental health history.

(g) Whether the person has a history of abusing alcohol or a controlled substance.

(3) The court may request the department of corrections to provide a validated risk assessment of the person in order to make the findings required in sub. (2).

(4) If a court enters an order under sub. (1), the court shall provide the person who petitioned for the restraining order or injunction with a referral to a domestic violence or sexual assault victim service provider.

(5) If, after weighing the factors set forth under sub. (2), the court determines that a person is more likely than not to cause serious bodily harm to the person who petitioned for the restraining order or injunction, and the court determines that another alternative, including imprisonment, is more likely to protect the person who petitioned for the restraining order or injunction, the court may not enter an order under sub. (1).

**History:** 2011 a. 266; 2013 a. 20.

**813.13 Writ of ne exeat.** The court or a judge may grant the writ of ne exeat to prevent any defendant from going out of the state until the defendant shall give security. It may be granted at any time before judgment.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.13; 1993 a. 486.

**813.14 Same; when granted.** No writ of ne exeat shall be granted unless it appears to the court or judge by the complaint or an affidavit that grounds exist therefor; and the court or judge granting such writ shall direct to be endorsed thereon the penalty of the bond and security to be given by the defendant.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.14.

**813.15 Same; discharge of.** If the defendant shall satisfy the court or judge granting such writ that there is no reason for the defendant's restraint or shall give security for the performance of the judgment in the action, the writ shall be discharged.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.15; 1993 a. 486.

**813.16 Receivers.** A receiver may be appointed:

(1) On the application of either party, when the applying party establishes an apparent right to or interest in property which is the subject of the action and which is in the possession of an adverse party, and the property or its rents and profits are in danger of being lost or materially impaired.

(2) By the judgment, or after judgment, to carry it into effect or to dispose of the property according to the judgment.

(3) To preserve the property during the pendency of an appeal; or when an execution has been returned unsatisfied and the judgment debtor refuses to apply the judgment debtor's property in satisfaction of the judgment or in an action by a creditor under ch. 816.

(4) When a corporation has been dissolved or is insolvent or in imminent danger of insolvency, or has forfeited its corporate rights.

(5) In accordance with the practice which obtained when the code of 1856 took effect except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(6) The receiver shall give to and file with the clerk of the court a bond, conditioned in the usual manner, with sureties to be approved by the judge making the appointment sufficient to cover all property likely to come into the receiver's hands.

(7) If the person seeking the appointment of a receiver under sub. (1) is a savings and loan association or savings bank supervised by the division of banking or a corporation supervised by the federal deposit insurance corporation, the court, unless the opposing party objects, shall appoint an officer of such corporation as receiver to act without compensation and to give such bond as the court requires.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 779 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.16; 1991 a. 221; 1993 a. 486; 1995 a. 27; 1999 a. 9; 2003 a. 33; 2021 a. 241.

A court could appoint a receiver to accept mortgage payments after a foreclosure action was started when the plaintiff refused to accept them on the ground that it would be a waiver and the defendant claimed the right to make them on the ground that the defendant had no right to accelerate the note. *American Medical Services, Inc. v. Mutual Federal Savings & Loan Ass'n*, 52 Wis. 2d 198, 188 N.W.2d 529 (1971).

A receiver has a duty to a corporation subject to receivership and its creditors not to deal with receivership property to benefit itself. A consulting contract that was offered to the insolvent corporation's president was a corporate opportunity that the receiver improperly appropriated to itself when it took control of the corporation. *Community National Bank v. Medical Benefit Administrators, LLC*, 2001 WI App 98, 242 Wis. 2d 626, 626 N.W.2d 340, 99–3026.

**813.17 Receiver; payment of employees' wages.** Whenever a receiver shall be appointed to manage or close up any business, the receiver shall immediately report to the court the amount due the employees in such business; and said court shall order the receiver to pay out of the first receipts of said business, after the payment of costs, debts due the United States or this state, taxes and assessments and the current expenses of carrying on or closing said business, the wages, including pension, welfare and vacation benefits, of such employees earned during the last 3

months of employment and within one year prior to the receiver's appointment.

**History:** 1971 c. 63; Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.17; 1993 a. 486.

**813.22 Uniform absence as evidence of death and absentee's property act; insurance policy provisions invalid.** (1) No provision concerning the effect to be given to evidence of absence or of death in any policy of life or accident insurance or in the charter or bylaws of any mutual or fraternal insurance association hereafter executed or adopted, shall be valid.

(2) When any such policy, charter or bylaws hereafter executed or adopted contains a provision requiring a beneficiary to bring suit upon a claim of death within one year or other period after the death of the insured, and the fact of the absence of the insured is relied upon by the beneficiary as evidence of the death, the action may be begun, notwithstanding such provision in the policy or charter or bylaws, at any time within the statutory period of limitation for actions on contracts in writing dating from the date of the giving of written notice of such absence to the insurer, which notice shall be given within one year from the date when the beneficiary last heard of the absent insured. If such notice is not given then the statutory period runs from the time when the absent person was last heard of by the beneficiary.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.22; 1979 c. 89.

**813.23 Receiver may be appointed when.** (1) (a) When a person domiciled in this state and having an interest in any form of property disappears and is absent from the person's place of residence without being heard of after diligent inquiry, upon application for a finding of such disappearance and absence and of the necessity for the appointment of a receiver to the circuit court of the county of the absentee's domicile by any person who would have an interest in said property were said absentee deceased or by an insurer or surety or creditor of such absentee, after notice as provided in s. 813.24, and upon good cause being shown, the court may find that the absentee was last heard of as of a date certain and may appoint a receiver to take charge of the absentee's estate. The absentee shall be made a party to said proceeding; and any other person who would have an interest in said property were said absentee deceased, upon direction by the court, may be made a party to said proceeding.

(b) When a person is a member of the armed forces of the United States without this state, or is serving as a merchant seaman outside of the limits of the United States included within the 50 states and the District of Columbia, or is outside such limits by permission, assignment or direction of any department or official of the United States government in connection with any activity pertaining to the prosecution of any war in which the United States is then engaged, and has an interest in any form of property in this state and no adequate power of attorney on his or her behalf has been recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county of his or her domicile or of the county where such property is situated, upon application for findings establishing the foregoing and the necessity for appointment of a receiver, to the circuit court of the county of such person's domicile or of the county where such property is situated, by any person who would have an interest in said property were such person deceased, or by an insurer or surety or creditor of such person, or by any other person or on the court's own motion, after notice as provided in s. 813.24, and upon good cause being shown, the court may, on making such findings, appoint a receiver to take charge of such person's estate. Such person should be made a party to such proceedings; and any other person who would have an interest in said property were said person deceased, upon direction by the court, may be made a party to said proceedings. Such person shall be deemed an "absentee" within the meaning of ss. 813.23 to 813.34.

(2) (a) The receiver, upon giving bond to be fixed in amount and with surety to be approved by the court and upon such conditions as will insure the conservation of such property, shall under

the direction of said court administer said property as an equity receivership with power:

1. To take possession of all property of the absentee wherever situated.
2. To collect all debts due the absentee.
3. To bring and defend suits.
4. To pay insurance premiums.
5. With the approval of the court in each case, to pay all debts due by the absentee.
6. To pay over the proceeds of such part or all of said property, or the income thereof as may be necessary for the maintenance and support of the absentee's dependents.

(b) If the personal property of the absentee is not sufficient to pay all of the absentee's debts, and to provide for the maintenance and support of the absentee's dependents, the receiver may apply to the court for an order to sell or mortgage so much of the real estate as may be necessary therefor; said sale or mortgage to be reported to, approved and confirmed by the court and said receiver to be ordered to make deed conveying or mortgaging said real property to the purchaser or lender upon the purchaser's or lender's complying with the terms of sale or mortgage.

(3) Upon the filing of the application referred to in sub. (1), the court may for cause shown appoint a temporary receiver to take charge of the property of the absentee and conserve it pending hearing upon the application. Such temporary receiver shall qualify by giving bond in an amount and with surety to be approved by the court and shall exercise only the powers named by the court. Should a permanent receiver be appointed, the temporary receiver shall turn over all property in the temporary receiver's possession, less such as may be necessary to cover the temporary receiver's expenses and compensation as allowed by the court, to the permanent receiver, shall file the temporary receiver's final account and upon its approval be discharged. Should the application for permanent receiver be denied, the temporary receiver shall restore to those from whom it may have been obtained, all property in the temporary receiver's possession, less such only as may be necessary to cover the temporary receiver's expenses and compensation as allowed by the court, shall file the temporary receiver's final account and be discharged. Where the application is denied, the expenses of the temporary receivership and the compensation of the temporary receiver may in the discretion of the court be taxed as costs of the proceeding to be paid by the applicant and shall be enforceable by the temporary receiver against the applicant.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 779 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.23; 1993 a. 486.

**813.24 Notice.** All notices required under ss. 813.22 to 813.34 shall be served upon all parties ordered by the court to be served as prescribed by statutes or rules, except that in addition thereto service on the absentee shall be by a class 3 notice, under ch. 985, in the county of the absentee's domicile, the last insertion to be not less than 10 nor more than 20 days prior to the time set for any hearing. The original notice prescribed in s. 813.23 (1) shall require each person claiming an interest in the property of the absentee to file in court within a time fixed by the court a statement of the nature and extent of such interest. In relation to a person in military service similar notice shall be given; except that where it appears to the court that such person was not domiciled in this state immediately prior to such service, publication of the notice may be made in the county where property of such person is situated.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 779 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.24.

**813.25 Search for absentee.** (1) The court, upon application, may direct the receiver to make search for the absentee in any manner which the court may deem advisable, including any or all of the following methods:

- (a) By inserting in one or more suitable periodicals a notice requesting information from any person having knowledge of the absentee's whereabouts;

- (b) By notifying officers of justice and public welfare agencies in appropriate locations of the absentee's disappearance;
- (c) By engaging the services of an investigation agency.

(2) The expenses of such search and of the notices provided for in s. 813.24 shall be taxed as costs and paid out of property of the absentee.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 779 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.25.

**813.26 Final hearing and finding.** (1) At any time, during the proceedings, upon application to the court and presentation of satisfactory evidence of the absentee's death, the court may make a final finding and decree that the absentee is dead; in which event the decree and a transcript of all of the receivership proceedings shall be certified to the proper court for any administration required by law upon the estate of a decedent, and the receivership court shall proceed no further except for the purposes set forth in s. 813.28 (1) and (3).

(2) After the lapse of 5 years from the date of the finding provided for in s. 813.23 (1), if the absentee has not appeared, the court may proceed to take further evidence and thereafter make a final finding and enter a decree declaring that all interest of the absentee in the absentee's property has ceased and devolved upon others by reason of the absentee's failure to appear and make claim.

(3) At any time, upon proof to the court that a power of attorney has been recorded as provided by s. 813.23 (1) (b), the court shall direct termination of the receivership proceedings and transfer of property held thereunder to the person in military service or to the attorney named in such power of attorney upon payment of reasonable expenses and compensation of the receiver in the discretion of the court.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 779 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.26; 1993 a. 486.

**813.27 Claim of absentee barred.** No action shall be brought by an absentee to recover any portion of this property after the final finding and judgment provided for in s. 813.26.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 779 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.27.

**813.28 Termination of receivership and disposition of property of absentee.** Upon the entry of any final finding and decree as provided in s. 813.26, the court shall proceed to wind up the receivership and terminate the proceedings:

- (1) In the case of a finding under s. 813.26 (1) that the absentee is dead:

- (a) By satisfying all outstanding debts and charges of the receivership; and

- (b) By then certifying the proceedings to the proper court; or

- (2) In the case of a finding under s. 813.26 (2):

- (a) By satisfying all outstanding debts and charges;

- (b) By then deducting for the insurance fund provided in s. 813.31 a sum equal to 5 percent of the total value of the property remaining, including amounts paid to the receivership estate from policies of insurance on the absentee's life;

- (c) By distributing the remaining property as provided in s. 813.29; and

(3) In both cases by requiring the receiver's account and upon its approval discharging the receiver and the receiver's bondsmen and entering a final decree terminating the receivership.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 780 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.28; 1993 a. 486; 2009 a. 177.

**813.29 Distribution of property of absentee.** The property remaining for distribution in accordance with s. 813.28 (2) (c) shall be distributed among those persons who would be entitled thereto under the laws of descent and distribution of this state had the absentee died intestate as of the date determined by the court in its final finding and decree; or in case the absentee leaves a document which, had the absentee died, would under the laws of this state be entitled to probate as the absentee's will, the distribution shall be according to the terms of that document as of that date.



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The validity and effect of the distribution of said property shall be determined by the court administering the receivership and shall be final and binding upon all persons including the absentee.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 780 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.29; 1993 a. 486.

**813.30 Insurance policies.** (1) At the time of the distribution under s. 813.29, the court may direct the payment to the beneficiaries of any sums due and unpaid under any policies of insurance upon the life of the absentee, if the claim is uncontested by the insurer.

(2) If the claim is contested, the court shall take jurisdiction of the action and shall submit to a jury, if one be called for, the issue of death of the insured and any other issues arising under the policy.

(3) Where the survival of a named beneficiary is not established, ss. 813.22 to 813.34 shall apply as if the proceeds of the insurance were a part of the estate of the absentee.

(4) If in any proceeding under subs. (1) and (2) the absentee is not found to be deceased and the policy provides for a surrender value, the beneficiary may request the receiver, acting for the insured, to demand the payment of surrender value. The receiver's receipt for such payment shall be a release to the insurer of all claims under the policy. The receiver shall pay over to the beneficiary, if the beneficiary survives the insured, otherwise to the estate of the absentee, the sum thus received, reserving only an amount allowed by the court as costs of the proceedings under this section.

(5) Payment by an insurer hereunder shall be in full discharge of all contractual liability. No action shall be brought by an absentee to recover any portion of the proceeds, or any other benefits or values, arising out of contracts of life insurance issued upon the absentee's life, after any distribution of such property pursuant to this section.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 780 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.30; 1993 a. 486.

**813.31 Absentee insurance fund.** (1) In each case of termination of receivership as provided in s. 813.28, the court, except in cases where the proceedings have been certified to the proper court under s. 813.26 (1), shall set aside the sum there named and direct its payment by the receiver, to the secretary of administration.

(2) The secretary of administration shall retain or invest the funds thus paid in.

(3) If at any time thereafter an absentee whose estate has been distributed under a final finding and judgment made as herein provided shall appear and make claim for reimbursement, the court may in a proceeding by the claimant against the secretary of administration order payment to the claimant as in its opinion may be fair and adequate under the circumstances.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 780 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.31; 2003 a. 33.

**813.32 Uniformity of interpretation.** Sections 813.22 to 813.34 shall be so construed as to make uniform the law of those states which enact it.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 780 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.32.

**813.33 Name of act.** Sections 813.22 to 813.34 may be cited as the "Uniform Absence as Evidence of Death and Absentee's Property Act."

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 780 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.33.

**813.34 Time of taking effect and not retroactive.** The provisions of ss. 813.22 to 813.34 shall not be retroactive and they shall take effect on July 1, 1942.

**History:** Sup. Ct. Order, 67 Wis. 2d 585, 760, 780 (1975); Stats. 1975 s. 813.34.

**813.40 Injunctive relief in prison condition cases.**

(1) (a) In this section:

1. "Prisoner" has the meaning given in s. 801.02 (7) (a) 2.

2. "Prison or jail conditions" has the meaning given in s. 801.02 (7) (a) 3.

(b) If a court determines that an injunction may be granted to a prisoner in any action or special proceeding with respect to prison or jail conditions, any injunction issued shall meet all of the following criteria:

1. Require only what is necessary to correct the harm.

2. Is the least intrusive means necessary to correct that harm.

3. Does not require or permit a government official, employee or agent to exceed his or her authority or to violate a state law or local ordinance unless all of the following apply:

a. Federal law permits that relief.

b. The relief is necessary to correct the violation of a federal right.

c. No other relief will correct the violation of a federal right.

(c) If an injunction is issued that does not meet the requirements in par. (b), a defendant or intervenor is entitled to immediate termination of any prospective relief or to a revision of the injunction to meet those requirements. Prospective relief need not be terminated if the court makes written findings based on the record that the requirements under par. (b) are met.

(d) A court may not enter into or approve a consent decree in an action for injunctive relief under this section if that consent decree does not meet the requirements in par. (b). This paragraph does not prevent the parties from entering into a private settlement agreement that does not comply with the requirements in par. (b) if the terms of that settlement agreement are not subject to court enforcement other than the dismissal of the action or special proceeding based on the settlement agreement.

(2) When determining the extent of any injunction issued under this section, the court shall give substantial weight to any adverse impact on public safety or on the operation of the criminal justice system caused by the injunction.

(3) Any interested party may, 2 years after the date the court issued an injunction under this section, or one year after the court has denied a request under this subsection for modification or termination of the injunction, request that the court modify or terminate an injunction issued under this section. Any interested party may, 2 years after September 1, 1998, request that the court modify or terminate an injunction related to prison or jail conditions that was issued before September 1, 1998. Any prospective relief issued under this section shall be stayed by the filing of a motion for modification or termination of the injunction for the period beginning on the 90th day after the motion is filed with the court and ending on the day the court enters a final order on the motion.

(4) This section does not prevent the parties from agreeing to terminate or modify an injunction issued under this section.

(5) This section does not authorize a court to order the construction of prisons, jails or other places of incarceration or to order the raising of taxes and does not expand the powers of a court under this chapter.

(6) Except for writs of habeas corpus or as otherwise required by the state or federal constitution, this section does not authorize the court to issue a prisoner release order. In this subsection, "prisoner release order" means any order that has the purpose or effect of reducing or limiting the prison or jail population, or that directs the release or nonadmission of prisoners to a prison or jail.

**History:** 1997 a. 133.