**BARRING ORDER**

**What is a Barring Order?**

Under the Domestic Violence Act 1996, a Barring Order requires that an abusive person leave the family home. It also prohibits using or threatening to use violence against you and/or any dependent children. The court can direct the abusive person not to attend at or be in the vicinity of, or watch the place where you and your dependants live.

**Who can apply for a Barring Order?**

* Spouses and civil partners regardless of how long they have lived together
* Cohabiting couples if they have lived six out of the last nine months together and the abusive partner does not own all of or most of the house
* Parents against their own child if he/she is over 18 years of age but they must not own all of or most of the house

It is best to apply as soon as possible after an abusive incident.

**How do you apply for a Barring Order?**

If you live in Dublin, you must go to the Dublin District Family Law Office - Dolphin House, Essex Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2 (01) 888 6349.

You can also go to the Dublin District Court Office, Swords if this is near to where you live (01) 888 6625.

You do not need legal representation for an initial application, however, it is recommended that there is legal representation for the full court hearing. If you cannot afford a solicitor you can apply for [Free Legal Aid](http://www.flac.ie/help/centres/)

**What do I need to bring?**

* Proof of identity i.e. passport, drivers licence
* The abusive person’s address if they are not currently living with you
* If it is not your first application against this person, any reference numbers from previous cases

**Possible Outcomes**

* If the application is accepted, you will be given a date for a court hearing. An [interim barring order](http://www.domesticabuse.ie/legal/) may be put in place to protect you
* You will be given your summons for the court hearing. A summons will be sent to the abusive person by post
* If the order is granted it can last anything up to 3 years
* Barring Order takes effect from when abusive person is notified of it by the Court or Gardaí