## **1998 SESSION**

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## **HOUSE BILL NO. 583**

FLOOR AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by Senator Stolle on March 10, 1998) (Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Watts)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 16.1-253.1, 16.1-253.4, as it is currently effective and as it may

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become effective, 16.1-279.1, 18.2-119, 19.2-81, 19.2-152.8, 19.2-152.9 and 19.2-152.10 of the Code of Virginia, relating to protective orders; family abuse; stalking.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

10 1. That §§ 16.1-253.1, 16.1-253.4, as it is currently effective and as it may become effective, 16.1-279.1, 18.2-119, 19.2-81, 19.2-152.8, 19.2-152.9 and 19.2-152.10 of the Code of Virginia are 11 amended and reenacted as follows: 12

§ 16.1-253.1. Preliminary protective orders in cases of family abuse; confidentiality.

14 A. Upon the filing of a petition alleging that the petitioner is or has been, within a reasonable period of time, subjected to family abuse, the court may issue a preliminary protective order against an 15 allegedly abusing person in order to protect the health and safety of the petitioner or any family or 16 17 household member of the petitioner. The order may be issued in an ex parte proceeding upon good cause shown when the petition is supported by an affidavit or sworn testimony before the judge or 18 intake officer. Immediate and present danger of family abuse or evidence sufficient to establish probable 19 20 cause that family abuse has recently occurred shall constitute good cause.

21 A preliminary protective order may include any one or more of the following conditions to be 22 imposed on the allegedly abusing person: 23

1. Prohibiting acts of family abuse.

2. Prohibiting such other contacts between the parties as the court deems appropriate.

25 3. Prohibiting such other contacts with the allegedly abused family or household member as the court 26 deems necessary to protect the safety of such persons.

27 4. Granting the petitioner possession of the premises occupied by the parties to the exclusion of the 28 allegedly abusing person; however, no such grant of possession shall affect title to any real or personal 29 property.

30 5. Granting the petitioner temporary possession or use of a motor vehicle jointly owned by the parties to the exclusion of the allegedly abusing person; however, no such grant of possession or use 31 32 shall affect title to the vehicle.

33 6. Requiring that the allegedly abusing person provide suitable alternative housing for the petitioner 34 and any other family or household member, where appropriate.

35 B. As soon as practicable after receipt of the order by a local law-enforcement agency for service, 36 the agency shall enter the name of the person subject to the order and other appropriate information 37 required by the Department of State Police into the Virginia erime criminal information network system 38 established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52.

39 Where feasible and practical, the court may transfer information electronically to the Virginia criminal 40 information network system. A copy of a preliminary protective order shall be served as soon as possible 41 on the allegedly abusing person in person as provided in § 16.1-264, and upon service, the agency 42 making service shall enter the date and time of service into the Virginia crime information network system. The preliminary order shall specify a date for the full hearing. The hearing shall be held within 43 fifteen days of the issuance of the preliminary order. Upon request after the order is issued, the clerk 44 shall provide the petitioner with a copy of the order and information regarding the date and time of 45 service. The order shall further specify that the person served either party may at any time file a motion 46 47 with the court requesting a hearing to dissolve or modify the order. The hearing on the motion shall be given precedence on the docket of the court. **48** 

49 Upon receipt of the return of service or other proof of service pursuant to subsection C of § 16.1-264, the clerk shall forward forthwith an attested copy of the preliminary protective order to the 50 local police department or sheriff's office which shall, on the date of receipt, enter into the Virginia 51 erime criminal information network system any other information required by the State Police which 52 53 was not previously entered. If the order is later dissolved or modified, a copy of the dissolution or 54 modification order shall also be attested, forwarded and entered in the Virginia erime criminal 55 information network system as described above.

56 C. The preliminary order is effective upon personal service on the allegedly abusing person. Except 57 as otherwise provided in § 16.1-253.2, a violation of the order shall constitute contempt of court.

D. At a full hearing on the petition, the court may issue a protective order pursuant to § 16.1-279.1 if 58 59 the court finds that the petitioner has proven the allegation of family abuse by a preponderance of the

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60 evidence.

61 E. As used in this section, "copy" includes a facsimile copy.

62 § 16.1-253.4. Emergency protective orders authorized in cases of family abuse; confidentiality.

63 A. Any judge of a circuit court, general district court, juvenile and domestic relations district court or 64 magistrate may issue a written or oral ex parte emergency protective order pursuant to this section in 65 order to protect the health or safety of any person.

66 B. When a law-enforcement officer or an allegedly abused person asserts under oath to a judge or magistrate, and on that assertion or other evidence the judge or magistrate finds that (i) a warrant for a 67 68 violation of § 18.2-57.2 has been issued and there is probable danger of further acts of family abuse 69 against a family or household member by the respondent or (ii) reasonable grounds exist to believe that the respondent has committed family abuse and there is probable danger of a further such offense 70 71 against a family or household member by the respondent, the judge or magistrate shall issue an ex parte 72 emergency protective order imposing one or more of the following conditions on the respondent:

1. Prohibiting acts of family abuse;

74 2. Prohibiting such contacts by the respondent with family or household members of the respondent 75 as the judge or magistrate deems necessary to protect the safety of such persons; and

76 3. Granting the family or household member possession of the premises occupied by the parties to 77 the exclusion of the respondent; however, no such grant of possession shall affect title to any real or 78 personal property.

79 C. An emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall expire at 5 p.m. on the next 80 business day that the juvenile and domestic relations court is in session or seventy-two hours after issuance, whichever is later. If the expiration of the seventy-two-hour period occurs at a time that the 81 court is not in session, the emergency protective order shall be extended until 5 p.m. of the next 82 83 business day that the juvenile and domestic relations district court is in session. The respondent may at 84 any time file a motion with the court requesting a hearing to dissolve or modify the order. The hearing on the motion shall be given precedence on the docket of the court. 85

86 D. A law-enforcement officer may request an emergency protective order pursuant to this section 87 orally, in person or by electronic means, and the judge of a circuit court, general district court, or 88 juvenile and domestic relations district court or a magistrate may issue an oral emergency protective 89 order. An oral emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall be reduced to writing, by 90 the law-enforcement officer requesting the order or the magistrate on a preprinted form approved and 91 provided by the Supreme Court of Virginia. The completed form shall include a statement of the 92 grounds for the order asserted by the officer or the allegedly abused person.

93 E. As soon as practicable after receipt of the order by a local law-enforcement agency for service, the agency shall enter the name of the person subject to the order and other appropriate information 94 required by the Department of State Police into the Virginia crime criminal information network system 95 96 established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. A 97 copy of an emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall be served upon the 98 respondent as soon as possible, and upon service, the agency making service shall enter the date and 99 time of service into the Virginia crime criminal information network system. One copy of the order shall 100 be given to the allegedly abused person when it is issued, and one copy shall be filed with the written report required by § 19.2-81.3 C. The original copy shall be forwarded for verification to verified by the 101 102 judge or magistrate who issued the order and then filed with the clerk of the juvenile and domestic relations district court within five business days of the issuance of the order. If the order is later 103 104 dissolved or modified, a copy of the dissolution or modification order shall also be attested, forwarded and entered in the system as described above. Upon request, the clerk shall provide the allegedly abused 105 106 person with information regarding the date and time of service.

F. The availability of an emergency protective order shall not be affected by the fact that the family 107 108 or household member left the premises to avoid the danger of family abuse by the respondent.

109 G. The issuance of an emergency protective order shall not be considered evidence of any 110 wrongdoing by the respondent.

111 H. As used in this section, a "law-enforcement officer" means any (i) full-time or part-time employee 112 of a police department or sheriff's office which is part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof and who is responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and the 113 114 enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway laws of the Commonwealth and (ii) member of an auxiliary police force established pursuant to subsection B of § 15.2-1731. Part-time employees are compensated 115 officers who are not full-time employees as defined by the employing police department or sheriff's 116 117 office. 118

I. As used in this section, "copy" includes a facsimile copy.

119 § 16.1-253.4. (Delayed effective date) Emergency protective orders authorized in certain cases; 120 penalty.

A. Any judge of a circuit court, general district court, family court or magistrate may issue a written 121

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122 or oral ex parte emergency protective order pursuant to this section in order to protect the health or 123 safety of any person.

124 B. When a law-enforcement officer or an allegedly abused person asserts under oath to a judge or 125 magistrate, and on that assertion or other evidence the judge or magistrate finds that (i) a warrant for a 126 violation of § 18.2-57.2 has been issued and there is probable danger of further acts of family abuse 127 against a family or household member by the respondent or (ii) reasonable grounds exist to believe that 128 the respondent has committed family abuse and there is probable danger of a further such offense 129 against a family or household member by the respondent, the judge or magistrate may issue an ex parte 130 emergency protective order imposing one or more of the following conditions on the respondent:

131 1. Prohibiting acts of family abuse;

132 2. Prohibiting such contacts by the respondent with family or household members as the judge or 133 magistrate deems necessary to protect the safety of such persons; and

134 3. Granting the family or household member possession of the premises occupied by the parties to 135 the exclusion of the respondent; however, no such grant of possession shall affect title to any real or 136 personal property.

137 C. An emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall expire at 5 p.m. on the next 138 business day that the family court sits in the jurisdiction or seventy-two hours after issuance, whichever 139 is later. If the expiration of the seventy-two-hour period occurs at a time that the court is not in session, 140 the emergency protective order shall be extended until 5 p.m. of the next business day that the family 141 *court is in session.* The respondent may at any time file a motion with the court requesting a hearing to 142 dissolve or modify the order. The hearing on the motion shall be given precedence on the docket of the 143 court.

144 D. A law-enforcement officer may request an emergency protective order pursuant to this section 145 orally, in person or by electronic means, and the judge of a circuit court, general district court, or family 146 court or a magistrate may issue an oral emergency protective order. An oral emergency protective order 147 issued pursuant to this section shall be reduced to writing, by the law-enforcement officer requesting the 148 order or by the magistrate, on a preprinted form approved and provided by the Supreme Court of 149 Virginia. The completed form shall include a statement of the grounds for the order asserted by the 150 officer or the allegedly abused person.

151 E. As soon as practicable after receipt of the order by a local law-enforcement agency for service, 152 the agency shall enter the name of the person subject to the order and other appropriate information 153 required by the Department of State Police into the Virginia crime criminal information network system established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. A 154 155 copy of an emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall be served upon the 156 respondent as soon as possible, and upon service, the agency making service shall enter the date and 157 time of service, into the Virginia erime criminal information network system. One copy of the order shall be given to the allegedly abused person when it is issued, and one copy shall be filed with the written report required by § 19.2-81.3 C. The original copy shall be forwarded for verification to verified 158 159 160 by the judge or magistrate who issued the order and then filed with the clerk of the family court within five business days of the issuance of the order. If the order is later dissolved or modified, a copy of the 161 162 dissolution or modification order shall also be attested, forwarded and entered in the system as described 163 above. Upon request, the clerk shall provide the allegedly abused person with information regarding the 164 date and time of service.

165 F. The availability of an emergency protective order shall not be affected by the fact that the family 166 or household member left the premises to avoid the danger of family abuse by the respondent.

G. The issuance of an emergency protective order shall not be considered evidence of any 167 168 wrongdoing by the respondent.

H. As used in this section, a "law-enforcement officer" means any (i) full-time or part-time employee 169 170 of a police department or sheriff's office which is part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any 171 political subdivision thereof and who is responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and the 172 enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway laws of the Commonwealth and (ii) member of an auxiliary 173 police force established pursuant to subsection B of § 15.2-1731. Part-time employees are compensated 174 officers who are not full-time employees as defined by the employing police department or sheriff's 175 office. 176

I. As used in this section, "copy" includes a facsimile copy.

§ 16.1-279.1. Protective order in cases of family abuse.

178 A. In cases of family abuse, the court may issue a protective order to protect the health and safety of 179 the petitioner and family or household members of the petitioner. A protective order issued under this 180 section may include any one or more of the following conditions to be imposed on the respondent:

181 1. Prohibiting acts of family abuse:

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182 2. Prohibiting such contacts by the respondent with the petitioner or family or household members of

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183 the petitioner as the court deems necessary for the health or safety of such persons;

184 3. Granting the petitioner possession of the residence occupied by the parties to the exclusion of the 185 respondent; however, no such grant of possession shall affect title to any real or personal property;

186 4. Granting the petitioner temporary possession or use of a motor vehicle jointly owned by the 187 parties to the exclusion of the respondent; however, no such grant of possession or use shall affect title 188 to the vehicle:

189 5. Requiring that the respondent provide suitable alternative housing for the petitioner and, if 190 appropriate, any other family or household member;

191 6. Ordering the respondent to participate in treatment, counseling or other programs as the court 192 deems appropriate; and

193 7. Any other relief necessary for the protection of the petitioner and family or household members of the petitioner, including a provision for temporary custody or visitation of a minor child. 194

195 B. The protective order may be issued for a specified period; however, unless otherwise authorized 196 by law, a protective order may not be issued under this section for a period longer than two years. A 197 copy of the protective order shall be served on the respondent and provided to the petitioner as soon as 198 *possible*. The clerk shall forward forthwith an attested copy of the order to the local police department 199 or sheriff's office which shall, on the date of receipt, enter the name of the person subject to the order and other appropriate information required by the Department of State Police into the Virginia erime 200 201 criminal information network system established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 202 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. Where feasible and practical, the court may transfer information 203 electronically to the Virginia erime criminal information network system. If the order is later dissolved 204 or modified, a copy of the dissolution or modification order shall also be attested, forwarded and entered 205 in the system as described above.

C. Except as otherwise provided in § 16.1-253.2, a violation of a protective order issued under this 206 207 section shall constitute contempt of court.

208 D. The court may assess costs and attorneys' fees against either party regardless of whether an order 209 of protection has been issued as a result of a full hearing.

210 E. Any judgment, order or decree, whether permanent or temporary, issued by a court of appropriate jurisdiction in another state, the United States or any of its territories, possessions or Commonwealths, 211 212 the District of Columbia or by any tribal court of appropriate jurisdiction for the purpose of preventing 213 violent or threatening acts or harassment against or contact or communication with or physical proximity 214 to another person, including any of the conditions specified in subsection A, shall be accorded full faith 215 and credit and enforced in the Commonwealth as if it were an order of the Commonwealth, provided reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard were given by the issuing jurisdiction to the person 216 217 against whom the order is sought to be enforced sufficient to protect such person's due process rights and consistent with federal law. A person entitled to protection under such a foreign order may file the 218 219 order in any juvenile and domestic relations district court or family court by filing with the court an 220 attested or exemplified copy of the order. Upon such a filing, the clerk shall forward forthwith an 221 attested copy of the order to the local police department or sheriff's office which shall, on the date of 222 receipt, enter the name of the person subject to the order and other appropriate information required by 223 the Department of State Police into the Virginia erime criminal information network system established 224 and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. Where feasible 225 and practical, the court may transfer information electronically to the Virginia criminal information 226 network system.

227 Upon inquiry by any law-enforcement agency of the Commonwealth, the clerk shall make a copy 228 available of any foreign order filed with that court. A law-enforcement officer may, in the performance 229 of his duties, rely upon a copy of a foreign protective order or other suitable evidence which has been 230 provided to him by any source and may also rely upon the statement of any person protected by the 231 order that the order remains in effect.

232 F. Either party may at any time file a written motion with the court requesting a hearing to dissolve 233 or modify the order. Proceedings to dissolve or modify a protective order shall be given precedence on 234 the docket of the court. 235

G. As used in this section, "copy" includes a facsimile copy.

§ 18.2-119. Trespass after having been forbidden to do so; penalties.

237 If any person without authority of law goes upon or remains upon the lands, buildings or premises of 238 another, or any portion or area thereof, after having been forbidden to do so, either orally or in writing, 239 by the owner, lessee, custodian or other person lawfully in charge thereof, or after having been forbidden to do so by a sign or signs posted by such persons or by the holder of any easement or other 240 241 right-of-way authorized by the instrument creating such interest to post such signs on such lands, structures, premises or portion or area thereof at a place or places where it or they may be reasonably 242 seen, or if any person, whether he is the owner, tenant or otherwise entitled to the use of such land, 243 244 building or premises, goes upon, or remains upon such land, building or premises after having been

prohibited from doing so by a court of competent jurisdiction by an order issued pursuant to 245 §§ 16.1-253, 16.1-253.1, 16.1-253.4, 16.1-278.2 through 16.1-278.6, 16.1-278.8, 16.1-278.14, 246

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16.1-278.15, or § 16.1-279.1, 19.2-152.8, 19.2-152.9 or § 19.2-152.10 or an ex parte order issued 248 pursuant to § 20-103, and after having been served with such order, he shall be guilty of a Class 1

249 misdemeanor. This section shall not be construed to affect in any way the provisions of §§ 18.2-132

250 through 18.2-136.

251 § 19.2-81. Arrest without warrant authorized in certain cases.

- 252 The following officers shall have the powers of arrest as provided in this section:
- 253 1. Members of the State Police force of the Commonwealth,
- 254 2. Sheriffs of the various counties and cities, and their deputies,

255 3. Members of any county police force or any duly constituted police force of any city or town of 256 the Commonwealth,

257 4. The Commissioner, members and employees of the Marine Resources Commission granted the 258 power of arrest pursuant to § 28.2-900,

259 5. Regular game wardens appointed pursuant to § 29.1-200,

260 6. United States Coast Guard and United States Coast Guard Reserve commissioned, warrant, and 261 petty officers authorized under § 29.1-205 to make arrests, and

262 7. The special policemen of the counties as provided by § 15.1-144, provided such officers are in 263 uniform, or displaying a badge of office.

264 Such officers may arrest, without a warrant, any person who commits any crime in the presence of 265 the officer and any person whom he has reasonable grounds or probable cause to suspect of having 266 committed a felony not in his presence.

267 Any such officer may arrest without a warrant any person whom the officer has probable cause to 268 suspect of operating a watercraft or motor boat (i) while intoxicated in violation of subsection B of 269 § 29.1-738 or (ii) in violation of an order issued pursuant to § 29.1-738.4, in his presence, and may 270 thereafter transfer custody of the person suspected of the violation to another officer, who may obtain a 271 warrant based upon statements made to him by the arresting officer.

272 Any such officer may, at the scene of any accident involving a motor vehicle, watercraft as defined 273 in § 29.1-712 or motorboat, or at any hospital or medical facility to which any person involved in such 274 accident has been transported, or in the apprehension of any person charged with the theft of any motor 275 vehicle, on any of the highways or waters of the Commonwealth, upon reasonable grounds to believe, 276 based upon personal investigation, including information obtained from eyewitnesses, that a crime has 277 been committed by any person then and there present, apprehend such person without a warrant of 278 arrest.

279 Such officers may arrest, without a warrant, persons duly charged with a crime in another jurisdiction 280 upon receipt of a photocopy of a warrant, telegram, computer printout, facsimile printout, a radio, 281 telephone or teletype message, in which photocopy of a warrant, telegram, computer printout, facsimile 282 printout, radio, telephone or teletype message shall be given the name or a reasonably accurate 283 description of such person wanted and the crime alleged.

284 Such officers may arrest, without a warrant, for an alleged misdemeanor not committed in his 285 presence when the officer receives a radio message from his department or other law-enforcement 286 agency within the Commonwealth that a warrant for such offense is on file.

287 Such officers may also arrest without a warrant for an alleged misdemeanor not committed in their 288 presence involving (i) shoplifting in violation of § 18.2-96 or § 18.2-103 or a similar local ordinance, (ii) 289 carrying a weapon on school property in violation of § 18.2-308.1, (iii) assault and battery, or (iv) 290 brandishing a firearm in violation of § 18.2-282 or (v) destruction of property in violation of § 18.2-137, 291 when such property is located on premises used for business or commercial purposes, or a similar local 292 ordinance, when any such arrest is based on probable cause upon reasonable complaint of the person 293 who observed the alleged offense. The arresting officer may issue a summons to any person arrested 294 under this section for a misdemeanor violation involving shoplifting. 295

§ 19.2-152.8. Emergency protective orders authorized in cases of stalking.

296 A. Any judge of a circuit court, general district court, juvenile and domestic relations district court or 297 magistrate may issue a written or oral ex parte emergency protective order pursuant to this section in 298 order to protect the health or safety of any person.

299 B. When a law-enforcement officer or an allegedly stalked person asserts under oath to a judge or 300 magistrate that such person is being or has been subjected to stalking and on that assertion or other 301 evidence the judge or magistrate finds that (i) there is probable danger of a further such offense being committed by the respondent against the petitioner allegedly stalked person, and (ii) a warrant for the 302 303 arrest of the respondent has been issued, the judge or magistrate shall issue an ex parte emergency 304 protective order imposing one or more of the following conditions on the respondent:

305 1. Prohibiting acts of stalking in violation of § 18.2-60.3;

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306 2. Prohibiting such contacts by the respondent with the petitioner allegedly stalked person or the 307 petitioner's such person's family or household members as the judge or magistrate deems necessary to 308 protect the safety of such persons; and

309 3. Such other conditions as the judge or magistrate deems necessary to prevent further acts of 310 stalking, communication or other contact by the respondent.

311 C. An emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall expire at 5 p.m. on the next 312 business day that the court is in session or seventy-two hours after issuance, whichever is later. If the expiration of the seventy-two-hour period occurs at a time that the court is not in session, the 313 emergency protective order shall be extended until 5 p.m. of the next business day that the court which 314 315 issued the order is in session. The respondent may at any time file a motion with the court requesting a 316 hearing to dissolve or modify the order. The hearing on the motion shall be given precedence on the 317 docket of the court.

318 D. A law-enforcement officer may request an emergency protective order pursuant to this section 319 orally, in person or by electronic means, and the judge of a circuit court, general district court, or 320 juvenile and domestic relations district court or a magistrate may issue an oral emergency protective 321 order. An oral emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall be reduced to writing, by 322 the law-enforcement officer requesting the order or the magistrate, on a preprinted form approved and 323 provided by the Supreme Court of Virginia. The completed form shall include a statement of the 324 grounds for the order asserted by the officer or the allegedly stalked person.

325 E. As soon as practicable after receipt of the order by a local law-enforcement agency for service, 326 the agency shall enter the name of the person subject to the order and other appropriate information 327 required by the Department of State Police into the Virginia erime criminal information network system established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. A 328 329 copy of an emergency protective order issued pursuant to this section shall be served upon the 330 respondent as soon as possible, and upon service, the agency making service shall enter the date and time of service into the Virginia erime criminalinformation network system. One copy of the order shall 331 332 be given to the allegedly stalked person when it is issued. The original copy shall be forwarded for 333 verification to verified by the judge or magistrate who issued the order and then filed with the clerk of 334 the general appropriate district court within five business days of the issuance of the order. If the order 335 is later dissolved or modified, a copy of the dissolution or modification order shall also be attested, 336 forwarded and entered in the system as described above. Upon request, the clerk shall provide the 337 allegedly stalked person with information regarding the date and time of service.

338  $\mathbf{F}$ . The issuance of an emergency protective order shall not be considered evidence of any 339 wrongdoing by the respondent.

G. As used in this section, a "law-enforcement officer" means any (i) person who is a full-time or 340 341 part-time employee of a police department or sheriff's office which is part of or administered by the 342 Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof and who is responsible for the prevention and 343 detection of crime and the enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway laws of the Commonwealth and 344 (ii) member of an auxiliary police force established pursuant to subsection B of § 15.2-1731. Part-time employees are compensated officers who are not full-time employees as defined by the employing police 345 346 department or sheriff's office.

H. As used in this section, "copy" includes a facsimile copy.

348 H. I. No fee shall be charged for filing or serving any petition pursuant to this section. 349

§ 19.2-152.9. Preliminary protective orders in cases of stalking.

350 A. Upon the filing of a petition alleging that (i) the petitioner is or has been, within a reasonable 351 period of time, subjected to stalking and (ii) a warrant has been issued for the arrest of the alleged 352 stalker, the court may issue a preliminary protective order against the alleged stalker in order to protect the health and safety of the petitioner or any family or household member of the petitioner. The order 353 354 may be issued in an ex parte proceeding upon good cause shown when the petition is supported by an 355 affidavit or sworn testimony before the judge or intake officer. Immediate and present danger of stalking 356 or evidence sufficient to establish probable cause that stalking has recently occurred shall constitute 357 good cause.

358 A preliminary protective order may include any one or more of the following conditions to be 359 imposed on the respondent: 360

1. Prohibiting acts of stalking in violation of § 18.2-60.3;

2. Prohibiting such other contacts by the respondent with the petitioner or the petitioner's family or 361 household members as the court deems necessary for the health and safety of such persons; and 362

3. Such other conditions as the court deems necessary to prevent further acts of stalking, 363 364 communication or other contact by the respondent.

B. As soon as practicable after receipt of the order by a local law-enforcement agency for service, 365 the agency shall enter the name of the person subject to the order and other appropriate information 366 367 required by the Department of State Police into the Virginia erime criminal information network system

established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. 368 369 Where feasible and practical, the court may transfer information electronically to the Virginia criminal 370 information network system. A copy of a preliminary protective order shall be served as soon as possible on the alleged stalker in person as provided in § 16.1-264, and upon service, the agency making service 371 372 shall enter the date and time of service into the Virginia *crime criminal* information network system. 373 The preliminary order shall specify a date for the full hearing. The hearing shall be held within fifteen 374 days of the issuance of the preliminary order. Upon request after the order is issued, the clerk shall 375 provide the petitioner with a copy of the order and information regarding the date and time of service. 376 The order shall further specify that the person served either party may at any time file a motion with 377 the court requesting a hearing to dissolve or modify the order. The hearing on the motion shall be given 378 precedence on the docket of the court.

379 Upon receipt of the return of service or other proof of service pursuant to subsection C of 380 § 16.1-264, the clerk shall forward forthwith an attested copy of the preliminary protective order to the 381 local police department or sheriff's office which shall, on the date of receipt, enter into the Virginia 382 erime criminal information network system any other information required by the State Police which 383 was not previously entered. If the order is later dissolved or modified, a copy of the dissolution or 384 modification order shall also be attested, forwarded and entered into the Virginia erime criminal 385 information network system as described above.

386 C. The preliminary order is effective upon personal service on the alleged stalker. Except as 387 otherwise provided in § 16.1-253.2, a violation of the order shall constitute contempt of court.

388 D. At a full hearing on the petition, the court may issue a protective order pursuant to § 19.2-152.10 389 if the court finds that the petitioner has proven the allegation of stalking by a preponderance of the 390 evidence.

391 E. No fees shall be charged for filing or serving petitions pursuant to this section.

392 F. As used in this section, "copy" includes a facsimile copy.

393 § 19.2-152.10. Protective order in cases of stalking.

394 A. The court may issue a protective order pursuant to this chapter to protect the health and safety of 395 the petitioner and family or household members of a petitioner upon (i) the issuance of a warrant for a 396 violation of § 18.2-60.3, (ii) a hearing held pursuant to subsection D of § 19.2-152.9, or (iii) a 397 conviction for a violation of § 18.2-60.3. A protective order issued under this section may include any 398 one or more of the following conditions to be imposed on the respondent: 399

1. Prohibiting further acts of stalking in violation of § 18.2-60.3;

400 2. Prohibiting such contacts by the respondent with the petitioner or family or household members of 401 the petitioner as the court deems necessary for the health or safety of such persons;

402 3. Any other relief necessary to prevent further acts of stalking, communication or other contact by 403 the respondent.

404 B. The protective order may be issued for a specified period; however, unless otherwise authorized 405 by law, a protective order may not be issued under this section for a period longer than two years. A 406 copy of the protective order shall be served on the respondent and provided to the petitioner as soon as 407 possible. The clerk shall forward forthwith an attested copy of the order to the local police department 408 or sheriff's office which shall, on the date of receipt, enter the name of the person subject to the order 409 and other appropriate information required by the Department of State Police into the Virginia erime 410 criminal information network system established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 411 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. Where feasible and practical, the court may transfer information 412 electronically to the Virginia criminal information network system. If the order is later dissolved or 413 modified, a copy of the dissolution or modification order shall also be attested, forwarded and entered 414 into the system as described above.

415 C. Except as otherwise provided, a violation of a protective order issued under this section shall 416 constitute contempt of court.

D. The court may assess costs and attorneys' fees against either party regardless of whether an order 417 418 of protection has been issued as a result of a full hearing.

419 E. Any judgment, order or decree, whether permanent or temporary, issued by a court of appropriate 420 jurisdiction in another state, the United States or any of its territories, possessions or Commonwealths, 421 the District of Columbia or by any tribal court of appropriate jurisdiction for the purpose of preventing 422 violent or threatening acts or harassment against or contact or communication with or physical proximity 423 to another person, including any of the conditions specified in subsection A, shall be accorded full faith 424 and credit and enforced in the Commonwealth as if it were an order of the Commonwealth, provided 425 reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard were given by the issuing jurisdiction to the person 426 against whom the order is sought to be enforced sufficient to protect such person's due process rights and consistent with federal law. A person entitled to protection under such a foreign order may file the 427 428 order in any appropriate district court by filing with the court, an attested or exemplified copy of the

429 order. Upon such a filing, the clerk shall forward forthwith an attested copy of the order to the local
430 police department or sheriff's office which shall, on the date of receipt, enter the name of the person
431 subject to the order and other appropriate information required by the Department of State Police into
432 the Virginia crime criminal information network system established and maintained by the Department

**433** pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52.

434 Upon inquiry by any law-enforcement agency of the Commonwealth, the clerk shall make a copy
435 available of any foreign order filed with that court. A law-enforcement officer may, in the performance
436 of his duties, rely upon a copy of a foreign protective order or other suitable evidence which has been
437 provided to him by any source and may also rely upon the statement of any person protected by the
438 order that the order remains in effect.

439 F. Either party may at any time file a written motion with the court requesting a hearing to dissolve
440 or modify the order. *Proceedings to modify or dissolve a protective order shall be given precedence on*441 *the docket of the court.*

442 G. No fees shall be charged for filing or serving petitions pursuant to this section.

443 H. As used in this section, "copy" includes a facsimile copy.