

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF POLICE THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM TRAINING BULLETIN 032

PROTECTIVE ORDER REGISTRY PORTAL May 14, 2021



I. Purpose

The purpose of this training bulletin is to inform and provide guidance to University of Texas System Police (UTSP) personnel on the use of the Protective Order Registry Portal, a new resource for law enforcement agencies regarding family violence and the protection of victims.

The registry web portal was created pursuant to SB 325, 86th Legislature, Regular Session (Texas Government Code 72.151-72.158). The dedicated website for law enforcement and prosecutory personnel is called the Protective Order Registry of Texas (PROTECT) and is located at https://protect.txcourts.gov/.

PROTECT allows criminal justice personnel to view more comprehensive protective order information (including images of signed orders), intended to improve enforcement, investigation, and safety planning for survivors of family violence and other violent crimes. Texas Courts have been entering applications, protective orders (POs), and magistrate's orders of emergency protection (MOEPs) into the registry since October 15, 2020. Courts are required to complete entry of the information into the registry within 24 hours of issuance.

II. Definitions

<u>Terminal Agency Coordinators (TACs)</u>- Person who is responsible for the TLETS terminal and all functions of security for that TLET terminal. This person is usually the dispatch supervisor.

Office of Court Administration (OCA)- Texas government office that will upload approved protective orders and magistrate's orders of emergency protection into the portal.

III. Operability

Terminal Agency Coordinators (TACs) at each institution police department should have been contacted and added to the registry. If your TAC does not yet have access, please contact OCA at OCA-legalsupport@txcourts.gov with the name and email address of the person within your agency that you have designated to manage users within your office. Once OCA enters his or her information into the registry as a restricted user, OCA will send instructions on how he or she can then add the personnel that you choose for access to the registry.

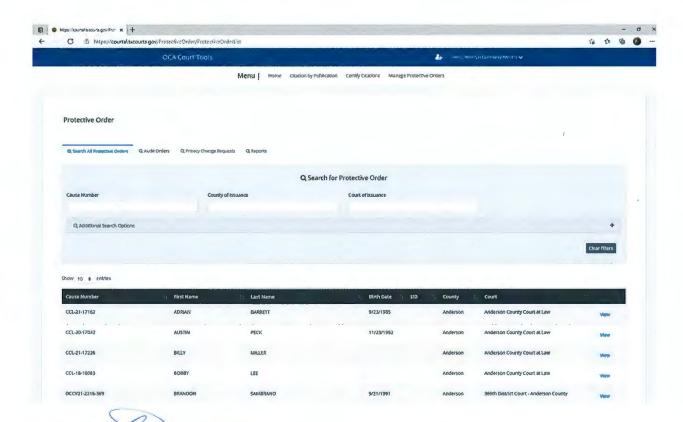
The institution Chief of Police will designate who will be given access to the portal within their respective police departments. The TAC will be required to enter the names of those designees into the registry as Restricted Users.

IV. Policy

As a matter of policy and to conform to the applicable statute, those designees given access to the Protective Order Registry of Texas will only log into the portal for law enforcement purposes and shall treat the information gained from the portal as law enforcement sensitive information.

V. Portal

An example of the portal screen has been attached for your reference:



Michael J. Heidingsfield Director of Police