

Amendments of Current Incident or Prior History:

At the Final Restraining Order hearing, you are only permitted to testify to alleged acts listed in your domestic violence complaint (the TRO). The defendant has the right to be put on notice of what you are accusing them of in order to prepare their defense. If you would like to add additional acts of domestic violence to your complaint, you can do so by submitting an amendment request with the Court.

If you amend your complaint, the defendant may have the option to adjourn the final hearing to prepare a defense. When amending your order, provide details about the domestic violence the defendant committed against you, along with the dates they occurred. Documents available in this packet can help you prepare your amendment; you may wish to review ***"History of Abuse"*** and the ***"Abuse Behavior Inventory."***

If your temporary restraining order has been violated, you should amend your TRO to include this violation. Reporting the violation to the police will result in enforcement action by the police but does not automatically generate an amendment to your TRO; you must submit a request to amend your complaint to include the violation (Contempt of a DV Order). By including the violation in the TRO, this will allow you to discuss the details of this violation at your Final Restraining Order hearing.

Submitting Your Amendment Request:

The best way to amend your complaint is to appear in person at The Court Users Resource Center located on the first floor of the County Administration Building at 10 Court Street, Morristown NJ. The Resource Center will provide you with an Amendment Form and Instructions and help you process your request.

If you are unable to submit your request in person, you may file your request electronically. Go to ***njcourts.gov/sites/default/files/forms/12600_amend_tro_cmplnt.pdf*** to obtain an Amendment Form and Instructions. If you do not have a lawyer and are representing yourself, you will need to set up a "JEDS" (Judiciary Electronic Document Submission) account to submit your request electronically. You can find a link and instructions on setting up a JEDS Account at: ***njcourts.gov/self-help/jeds***

Once your amendment request is processed, you will receive an amended temporary restraining order. Review the document to make sure you requested changes have been made. If you have not received an amended complaint, contact The Court (862-397-5700, Ext 75250) to inquire as to its status; do not wait until your hearing date to inquire about its status.

If you require assistance in submitting your request to the Court, contact the Legal Advocates, JBWS, at 973-267-7520, Ext. 259.