

INTRODUCTION

Abusive relationships can be difficult to escape. At Munro & Noble we offer you confidential and sensitive advice to assist you through difficult times. Once you have made that first decision to seek help there are many sanctions available to you. You can apply to the Courts for various protective orders. The law can offer you refuge in your own home, by stopping your partner entering. It can afford you a barrier against your partner contacting you by any means. Legislation provides for a Power of Arrest to be applied should your former spouse or partner not abide by these rules.



Angela Knapp works within our Court Department and is often the first point of contact if you are seeking help or advice. Angela has worked at Munro & Noble as a Paralegal since 1979 and has extensive experience in all aspects of Family Law.

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Abuse takes many forms. It can be:

- Physical;
- Sexual;
- Psychological;
- Verbal;
- Emotional;
- Economic.

At Munro & Noble we have experience in this area of law. We understand the distress and pain this causes and will work closely with other organisations who can offer additional support and practical advice to you and your children. We will listen and provide support in total confidence.

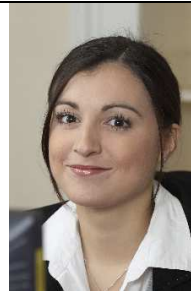
There are various protective measures available:

Matrimonial Interdicts

A Matrimonial Interdict is designed for your protection. This Court Order restrains or prohibits the conduct of one partner against the other. This has the effect of the better known “restraining order”, where you can define the terms and conditions with which your partner can come into contact with you, for instance by telephone, text message, email etc, or if at all. Matrimonial Interdicts are relatively common in certain circumstances.

Laura Wilson is a trainee Paralegal within our Court Department who specialises in Family Law. Laura started her traineeship in 2010 and has a wide range of experience dealing with different aspects of family dispute.

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Exclusion Orders

An Exclusion Order provides a very effective remedy against domestic violence. Even where your partner is the owner or tenant of your home, an Exclusion Order can seek to have them removed and disallowed from returning, this allows you and your family to remain in the matrimonial home ensuring your safety.



The Family Law team at Munro & Noble is headed by our Court Partner Mary Nimmo, who leads an experienced team of solicitors and paralegals. Mary is also a Bar Reporter for the Courts and a Highland Council Safeguarder.

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Power of Arrest

A Power of Arrest is available in circumstances where it is apparent that your spouse or former partner is unlikely to abide by the terms of an Interdict or Exclusion Order. The Family Law (Scotland) Act 2006 provides that a Power of Arrest will allow a Police Officer to arrest a spouse who is believed to be in breach of an interdict, meaning that if your spouse has an exclusion order against him from entering your property, and he forces his way into your

house, you can phone the police who have every right to arrest him without the requirement of a warrant. There are then criminal remedies which can be sought by you.

Court Orders and the Effect on your Children

It must not be forgotten that even though you do not want your spouse or former partner to enter your personal space, your children may not feel the same. After all, they may feel your spouse or former partner is still their parent, regardless of their behaviour. We can offer confidential and sensitive advice regarding the consequences of protective measures. We also work closely with other Agencies if you are concerned as to the effect of protective measures on your children.

**Munro & Noble
Here to Help**

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Munro & Noble

Munro & Noble are an established local firm dedicated to providing an excellent service as we assist clients through the difficulties associated with the breakdown of a relationship.

Protection from Abuse

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