

Document: A.C.A. § 9-15-201

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Current through all legislation of the 2020 First Extraordinary Session and the 2020 Fiscal Session (through all legislation enacted and approved in 2020)

[AR - Arkansas Code Annotated](#) [Title 9 Family Law](#) [Subtitle 2. Domestic Relations](#) [Chapter 15 Domestic Abuse Act](#) [Subchapter 2 – Judicial Proceedings](#)

9-15-201. **Petition** — Requirements generally.

- (a) All **petitions** under this chapter shall be verified.
- (b) The **petition** shall be filed in the county where the petitioner resides, where the alleged incident of abuse occurred, or where the respondent may be served.
- (c)
 - (1) A **petition** for relief under this chapter may be filed in the circuit court.
 - (2) A **petition** for relief under this chapter may be filed in a pilot district court if the jurisdiction is established by the Supreme Court under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 80, § 7 and if the cases are assigned to the pilot district court through the administrative plan under Supreme Court Administrative **Order** No. 14.
- (d) A **petition** may be filed by:

- (1) Any adult family or household member on behalf of himself or herself;
 - (2) Any adult family or household member on behalf of another family or household member who is a minor, including a married minor;
 - (3) Any adult family or household member on behalf of another family or household member who has been adjudicated an incompetent; or
 - (4) An employee or volunteer of a domestic-violence shelter or program on behalf of a minor, including a married minor.
- (e)
- (1) A **petition** for relief shall:
 - (A) Allege the existence of domestic abuse;
 - (B) Disclose the existence of any pending litigation between the parties; and
 - (C) Disclose any prior filings of a **petition** for an **order of protection** under this chapter.
 - (2) The **petition** shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath that states the specific facts and circumstances of the domestic abuse and the specific relief sought.
 - (f) The **petition** may be filed regardless of whether there is any pending litigation between the parties.
 - (g) A person's right to file a **petition**, or obtain relief hereunder shall not be affected by his or her leaving the residence or household to avoid abuse.

History

Acts 1991, No. 266, §§ 3, 8; 2003, No. 1221, § 1; 2007, No. 314, § 1; 2009, No. 698, § 2.

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