

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court Unveils Domestic Violence Protection Order Wallet Card

Dayton, Ohio (October 7, 2014) – The Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court has unveiled a wallet-size Civil Protection Order card that provides police agencies with a practical way to verify and enforce such orders.

"It's a convenient method for domestic violence victims to provide evidence that they have a protection order," said Administrative Judge Denise Cross. "This card is another tool in an effort to protect victims of domestic violence."

The card, which resembles a credit card or driver's license, is more durable and convenient to carry than the 8 1/2-by-11-inch, multi-page court order itself. The cards are being issued to people with protection orders.





The card, which can be carried by a victim at all times, contains the protection order information including the name and identifying characteristics of the person ordered to stay away, names of protected people, and dates of issuance and expiration. There is no fee for the Civil Protection Order or the card issued by the court.

The Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court can grant a Civil Protection Order if the purported aggressor is a spouse, a former spouse, a household member or a bloodrelative who has lived with the victim at any time, or a natural parent of the victim's child. The Domestic Relations Court is the division of the Common Pleas Court of Montgomery County, Ohio empowered by statute to hear all divorce, dissolution, legal separation, and annulment cases as well as civil domestic violence cases for residents of Montgomery County. In addition, the court maintains jurisdiction over post-decree matters such as child custody, child support, parenting time issues, spousal support, and other related matters.

The court is led by Administrative Judge Denise L. Cross and Judge Timothy D. Wood. The Judges are assisted in performing the duties of the court by eight Magistrates, the Legal Services Department, the Court Operations Department, Bailiffs, Court Reporters, the Legal Secretary Department, the Assignment Office, the Compliance Office, the Family Relations Department, the Mediation Services Department, the Management of Information Systems Department, and the Parent Education Department.

The Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court is located in the Dayton/Montgomery County Courts Building, 301 W. Third Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

###

Contact: Robin Lehman
Director of Operations
Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court
(937) 225-6060 or LehmanR@mcohio.org