LEGAL REMEDIES FOR VICTIMS OF HARASSMENT

The Protection from Harassment Act provides criminal and civil remedies against various types of harassment such as threatening, abusive or insulting behaviour, doxxing and false statements. If you are a victim, these are the remedies you may take.

FOR VICTIMS OF HARASSMENT

Protection order (PO) / expedited protection order (EPO)

Requires the harasser to stop the harassment/stalking, and/or remove any publication that is the cause of harassment.

- An EPO may be granted in cases requiring urgent intervention.
- Where warranted, judges may refer cases to the Police for criminal investigation.
- Breaches of POs/EPOs are arrestable offences in prescribed scenarios (e.g. where there is continued harassment or hurt involved).
- In cases involving offending communications, a PO may require publication or access to the offending communication to be restricted.

Claim for damages

Financial compensation for the harassment suffered.

IMPORTANT

If there is imminent danger to life and safety, please call the Police at **999**, or SMS the Police at **71999** if it is not safe to call 999 or if you are unable to speak.

FOR VICTIMS OF FALSEHOODS

Various orders are available to stop the spread of the falsehoods or to correct them:

- **Stop publication order:** An individual or entity must not publish the statement or a substantially similar statement.
- **Correction order:** An individual or entity has to publish a correction of the statement.
- **Disabling order:** An internet intermediary has to disable access to material containing the statement.
- **Targeted correction order:** An internet intermediary has to distribute a correction of the statement to viewers of the statement on its platform.
- **General correction order:** A prescribed entity has to publish a correction of the statement, in a specified manner. Such orders may only be granted where there is serious reputational harm.

NOTE

Victims of online falsehoods and harassment can also consider first making a report to the platform(s) that published them, who may take them down in appropriate circumstances. For more details about how to tackle online harassment, please visit <u>www.go.gov.sg/online-harassment</u>

To obtain any of the civil remedies listed, file an application at the Protection from Harassment Court.

For more information, visit <u>www.go.gov.sg/POHA</u>





