



Western Australia Police Information Release Centre

Office of Information Management
Forensic, Legal and Legislation
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POLICE INFORMATION CERTIFICATE

Q1. What is the purpose of a Police Information Certificate (PIC)?

A. The purpose of a PIC is to assist the courts in determining whether or not to issue a Final Restraining Order.

Q2. What information is in a PIC?

A. The content provided is dependent on the type of Restraining Order which is determined by the court.

Sec. 10 - FVRO contains:

- Details of the respondent's criminal history (A certified History for Court Document).
- Police Orders made against the respondent.
- Details of Incident Reports (IR) relating to family violence, personal violence and exposure to children to such acts involving the respondent.

Sec. 12 - VRO contains:

- Details of the respondent's criminal history (A certified History for Court Document).
- An overview of IR's relating to violence and exposure to children to such acts involving the respondent.

Q3. Who can apply for a PIC?

A. People who are involved directly or indirectly in the court proceedings. This includes the courts, solicitors and barristers, applicants, respondents and police officers.

Q4. When applying for a PIC what details do I need to supply to the WA Police Force?

A. In order to produce a PIC the following details are required:

- Name of the court hearing the application.
- Court Reference Number (e.g. MC/CIV/RO/PER/9999999/2019).
- Date of Hearing.
- Applicant's full name and date of birth.
- Respondent's full name and date of birth (or estimated date of birth).

Q5. Does a PIC contain IR details of all offences involving the respondent?

A. Only IR's relating to violence, which includes a propensity towards violence and associated offences. For example threats, possess weapons, firearms, fighting/disorder are included in the PIC. (A full list can be found in the *Restraining Orders Act 1997 sections 5A, 6 and 6A*).

Q6. Does a PIC contain Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Reports?

A. No, IR's which are relevant to the *Restraining Orders Act 1997*. (Further relevant information can be located in the *Restraining Orders Act 1997*).

Q7. If I am the respondent can I request a PIC to be sent to court?

A. As per Q2 and Q3, if you, the respondent request a PIC it will include Criminal History, Police Orders, and IR's recorded against you as the respondent.

Q8. Does a PIC include details of incidents, Orders, convictions etc. from other states in Australia?

A No, only offences and incidents which occurred in Western Australia.

Q9. Can the PIC be used in a hearing in another state or country?

A. No, they are only for use in FVRO or VRO court proceedings in Western Australia.

Q10. What happens after I have submitted my request for a PIC?

A. The certified PIC document is sent to the presiding court. The person who requested the PIC will be informed the PIC has been sent to court, this is done generally by email.

Q11. Can I see the PIC content?

A. A PIC becomes a 'court' document and it is now the responsibility of the court to decide on the release of content as it contains private and confidential information. The court will decide on how the information will be released.

Q12. Can I get copies of the original IR's and victim or witness statements to be produced to the court?

A. The requested documents can only be provided under summons or Court Order. Applications cannot be made directly to the WA Police Force. Please refer to the courts website for further information.

Q13. If an incident occurs near to the final hearing date will WA Police Force supply the details to court e.g. IR's, statements etc.?

A. Only if the matter is closed. Documents for incidents still under investigation will not be released as part of this process. You should contact the court or your legal representative to discuss your options.

Q14. I want to make a Misconduct Restraining Order (MRO) Application to a court, will WA Police Force disclose the same information as they do for FVRO and VRO Hearings?

A. No, WA Police Force do not produce a PIC for MRO hearings.

Q15. I have questions in relation to court proceedings, how can I get further information?

A. Contact the presiding court for further information, support and assistance.

Q16. I am seeking advice regarding National Violence Restraining Orders (NVRO).

A. Contact the court for assistance or seek legal advice regarding NVRO issues.

See below for links to external websites for more information:

- WA Magistrates Court www.magistratescourt.wa.gov.au
- Legal Aid WA www.legalaid.wa.gov.au
- Restraining Order Act 1997 www.legislation.wa.gov.au