



Bail Orders: No Contact Orders

It is a criminal offence to do anything that is forbidden by a **bail order**.

A bail order is an order of the court that tells you what you may or may not do while your charges are outstanding. Disobeying a bail order is a criminal offence. If you do this, you may be arrested and kept in jail. The bail order may be made by a Judge, a Justice of the Peace, or a Police Officer.

If the bail order states you are to have no contact with a person or persons, directly or indirectly (called a *no contact order*), then:

- You cannot contact them in person (you cannot see them, gesture to them, talk to them, or phone them).
- You cannot write them a letter or send them a message.
- You cannot ask another person to contact them for you or give them a message.
- You cannot contact them in any other way.

Sometimes the Judge or Justice of the Peace will make an order that allows some contact under certain conditions. If this happens, make sure that you understand what you are allowed to do, and what you are not allowed to do. This is your responsibility.

Get legal advice if you can.

A **no contact order** is over when the charges it relates to have been dealt with.

In some circumstances, you may be able to apply to have a bail order changed. Only a Judge can do this. If you want to apply for a change in your bail order, get some legal advice.