

# Criminal Charges

**Criminal charges may be taken out in one of two ways:**

1. Call 911. The police may arrest an individual on a criminal warrant; *OR*
2. A person may go to the Magistrate's Office and ask for a criminal warrant to be issued. A law enforcement officer will then have the ability to arrest that person.

**Tip:** Once a criminal warrant has been issued, a victim may receive a call from **Gaston County Court Services (704-671-1028)**. This call is to gather information that will be provided to a judge when determining the arrested person's bond.



The Gaston County Sheriff's Office is linked to the Statewide Automated Victim Assistance and Notification system (SAVAN) to register to be notified when an offender is released from the Gaston County Jail.

You may call **1-877-627-2826** or register on-line at **www.ncsavan.org** or **download the FREE app to your cell phone.**



(The apps are available for both iPhone and Android devices)

## **EMERGENCY SHELTER:**

**The Shelter of Gaston County- 24-HR. CRISIS LINE 704-852-6000**  
(A Battered Women's Residence and Resource Center)

Family Promise .....704-854-9880  
The Salvation Army .....704-867-6145

## **GASTON CO. DEPT. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:**

### **Public Health**

Main Number .....704-853-5000  
Spanish Line .....704-853-5073  
Family Planning.....704-853-5009  
Maternity .....704-853-5008  
WIC .....704-853-5100  
Teen Wellness Ctr...704- 853-5009

### **Social Services**

Main Number.....704-862-7500  
Daycare .....704-862-6623  
Adult Abuse Hotline...704-862-7575  
Child Abuse Hotline ...704-862-7555  
Work First Services .....704-862-6624  
Child Support .....704-862-6623

**Gaston Family Health Services:** Primary Care .....704-853-5079  
**Gaston Family Health Services:** Dental Clinic .....704-853-5191

## **HOUSING:**

Belmont Housing Authority .....704-825-9376  
Catherine's House—Homeless /Transitional.....704-825-9599  
Gastonia Housing Authority .....704-864-6771

## **AGENCIES (FOOD, CLOTHING, BILL PAY ASSISTANCE, ETC.)**

Belmont Community Organization .....704-825-4526  
Bessemer City Crisis Center .....704-629-2147  
Cherryville Area Ministries .....704-435-3816  
Cramerton Ministerial Relief Association .....704-756-1531  
Crisis Assistance Ministries .....704-867-8901  
Dallas-High Shoals Christian Social Ministries .....704-922-1236  
Gaston Community Action.....704-866-8721  
Greater Gaston Baptist Association .....704-867-0905  
Mt. Holly Community Relief Organization .....704-827-0450  
NC Vocational Rehabilitation .....704-853-5358  
SOCKS, Inc. Springwood Area .....704-827-8780  
Stanley Emergency Relief Fund .....704-263-5649  
The Salvation Army (Countywide) .....704-867-6145  
United Way of Gaston County ..... Dial—211

## **COUNSELING FOR YOUNG CHILDREN:**

**Partners Behavioral Health Management**.....1-888-235-4673  
(Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities:  
Medicaid and State Funded)  
**Phoenix Counseling Center** .....704-842-6359  
(Individual , Art/Play, Group & Family Therapy) ; Insurance, Medicaid or Self Pay

## **COUNSELING FOR ADULT VICTIMS:**

**Partners Behavioral Health Management**.....1-888-235-4673  
(Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities:  
Medicaid and State Funded)  
**Phoenix Counseling Center** .....704-842-6359  
(Individual , Family & Survivor's Group Therapy) ; Insurance, Medicaid or Self Pay

## **COUNSELING FOR ABUSERS:**

**IMPACT**—NC Certified .....704-999-6130  
(26-52 weekly group counseling/educational sessions for male domestic violence offenders, Court or self referrals, Payable at \$40/session includes; case management and court services, one time intake fee is \$75)

# Domestic Violence Resource Guide for Gaston County



**The Shelter of Gaston County**  
**24-HOUR CRISIS LINE 704-852-6000**

**Gaston County Sheriff's Office**  
**Domestic Violence Court Advocates**  
**425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way**  
**Gastonia, NC 28052**  
**704-869-6836 or 704-862-6682**

For additional copies of this brochure contact:  
The Shelter of Gaston County 704-810-6492  
Revised 01-2017

**Gaston County Courthouse  
Civil Filing**  
325 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
8:30a-4:00p  
704-852-3100  
**Protective Order (50B) paperwork  
Available: no fee to file**

**Magistrate's Office**  
Located within the Sheriff's Office  
425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
**704-852-3192**  
No Assistance in filling out forms is  
provided at this office.

**SERVICE OF THE PROTECTIVE ORDER:**  
To contact the **Gaston County Sheriff's Office**  
about service of protective orders, call:  
**Civil Process** Mon-Fri. 8:00a-5:00p **704-869-6818**  
**Dispatch** (After hours & holidays)  
**704-869-6800** (select option 3)

**GETTING HELP ON WEEKDAYS:**

**Domestic Violence Court Advocates  
Gaston County Sheriff's Office**  
425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
**Rett Waggoner- 704-869-6836**  
**Melissa Sumner- 704-862-6682**  
8:00 am- 5:00 pm Mon-Fri

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR EVENINGS  
AND WEEKENDS:**

- Fill out required paperwork at the Magistrate's office
- When finished, the Magistrate will decide if you get a *temporary* Protective Order (Exparte)
- If granted, the Magistrate will give you a court date/time to go before a judge so you can tell why you need a longer order
- You will NOT have to re-fill out your forms
- If you fail to appear at the court date given by the Magistrate, your protective order will expire
- If a longer order is granted by the judge and you have questions about the next step ( the 10 Day Hearing ), please call a Domestic Violence Court Advocate

**VIOLATIONS OF THE PROTECTIVE ORDER:**  
**Call 911.** The Police may arrest the abuser  
OR  
You may be able to take out a warrant for violation of the domestic violence protective order. This may be done at **Magistrate's Office**  
**704-852-3192**

- Provide Protective Order (50B) forms
- Help with filling out protective order forms
- Accompany clients to court upon request
- Help with taking and printing photographs of domestic violence injuries
- Refer to Domestic Violence Legal Clinic for clients
- Refer to community agencies

*(no fees filed for this assistance)*

*(if you fail to appear, your protective order will expire)*  
**YOUR 10 DAY HEARING (Your Next Court Date)**  
You can represent yourself at the hearing or you can hire a lawyer. If you cannot afford to hire a lawyer, Legal Aid may be able to help you.  
**Legal Aid of NC, Inc.** (1508 S. York Street)  
**704-865-2357**

**Tip:** Ask for the Domestic Violence Court Advocate at the clerk of courts desk when picking up the filing paperwork. **ALWAYS inform the courts of any address or phone number changes.**



**Tip:** To check on your civil, 50B, or criminal case court date you may call the **Clerk's Office at 704-852-3190.** Notify the District Attorney's Office of any changes in your case.



**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

**If I am a victim in a case do I need an attorney?**

Every criminal case is assigned to **District Attorney's Office.** Their phone number is 704-852-3113. For 50B civil cases you either need to hire your own attorney, see Legal Aid or contact the Domestic Violence court advocate for dates of the FREE Domestic Violence Legal Clinic.

**What do I need to bring to court?**

Photos of any injuries or damage to property, witnesses of event or injuries, medical bills that result from the incident, and voicemail recordings, emails or text messages of abuse.