

# WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §33-10-4A

## **§33-10-4a. Commencement of formal delinquency proceeding.**

- (a) Any formal delinquency proceeding against a person shall be commenced by filing a petition in the name of the commissioner.
- (b) The petition shall state the grounds upon which the proceeding is based and the relief requested, and may include a prayer for restraining orders and injunctive relief as described in section four of this article.
- (c) Any petition that prays for a temporary restraining order must be verified by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, but need not plead or prove irreparable harm or inadequate remedy by law. The commissioner shall provide only such notice as the court may require.
- (d) If any temporary restraining order is prayed for:
- (1) The court may issue an initial order containing the relief requested;
  - (2) The order shall state the time and date of its issuance;
  - (3) The court shall set a time and date for the return of summons, not more than ten days from the time and date of the issuance of the initial order, at which time the person proceeded against may appear before the court for a summary hearing;
  - (4) The order shall not continue in effect beyond the time and date set for the return of summons, unless the court shall expressly enter one or more orders extending the restraining order; and
  - (5) The verified petition shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court and maintained as confidential, except for good cause shown, until service of the petition and summons is effected.
- (e) If no temporary restraining order is requested, the court shall cause a summons to be issued. The summons shall specify a return date not more than thirty days after issuance and that an answer to the petition must be filed at or before the return date.
- (f) Service of process required pursuant to this article shall be upon the person named in the petition in accordance with the West Virginia rules of civil procedure.