

# A closer look at statewide PFA filings

## What is a PFA?

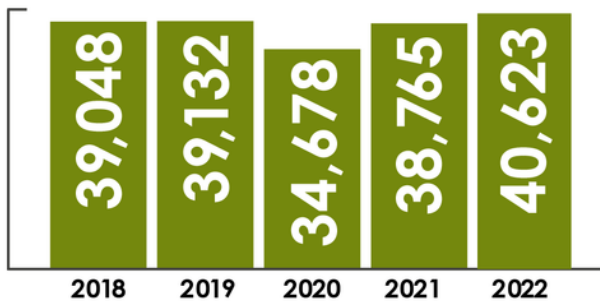
A protection from abuse (PFA) order is a civil court order that helps protect victims of domestic violence, providing relief from abuse by an intimate partner, family or household member.

## In 2022:

**40,623** new petitions requesting relief under the PFA Act (Title 23, Chp. 61) were filed

**88%** of temporary PFAs filed (valid until a final hearing) were granted

In 2022, the number of PFA's filed increased by 5% from 2021.



## A PFA can order an abuser to:

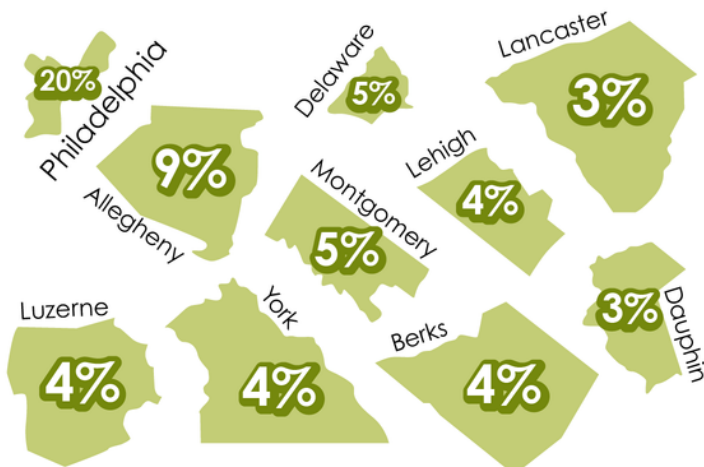


- Have **no** contact with the victim or victim's children including: no texting, no calling, no communication via social media



- Relinquish any weapons
- Leave the home where the victim lives

## Top 10 counties with highest number of new PFA cases in 2022:



Percentages given reflect the percent of total state filings.

## PFA case outcomes:

	processed cases	% of total
<b>Plaintiff did not appear in court</b>	<b>10,626</b>	<b>(26%)</b>
Withdrawn by plaintiff	8,494	(21%)
Final order granted	7,355	(18%)
Agreement reached between parties	6,855	(17%)
Temporary order dismissed/denied	5,202	(13%)
Final order denied	1,864	(5%)
Case transferred/other dispositions	219	(1%)

Total # of PFA cases disposed in 2022: **40,615**

# Protection From Abuse (PFA) Caseload

## Bucks County PFAs 2022

Statewide

County

Class of County

Glossary

Select County  
Bucks

Select Year  
2022

[Click here for info on County Classes](#)

### 2022 PFA Cases Filed and Processed

#### Bucks

Cases Pending at the Beginning of the Year	5
New Cases Filed	771
Subtotal Cases Available for Processing	776
Cases Processed	768
Cases Pending at the End of the Year	8

#### Bucks (2A Class)

As of 12/31/2022:

2022 Population Estimate: 645,054

No. Common Pleas Court Judges: 15

% of Statewide Filings for 2022: 2%



### 2022 PFA Temporary Orders

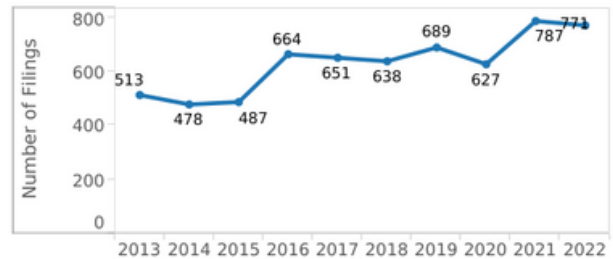
#### Bucks

##### Requested

743

<b>Granted</b>	580	78.1%
<b>Denied</b>	163	21.9%

### Bucks PFA Filings 2013 - 2022

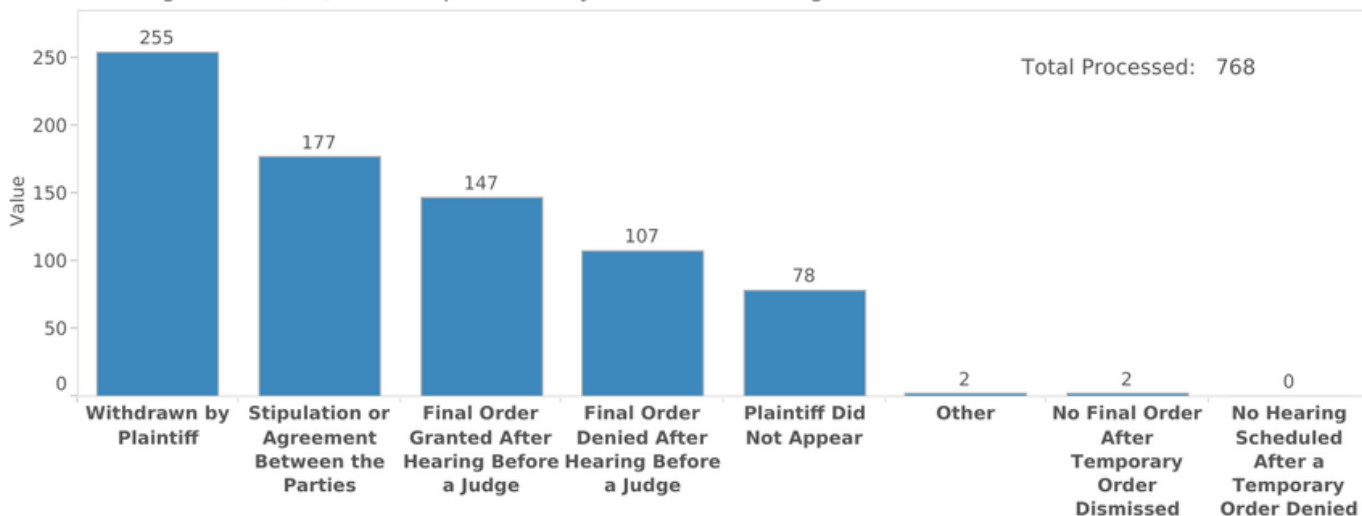


### 2022 PFA Processed

#### Bucks

[Hover over bar for definition.](#)

After a hearing is scheduled, a case is processed by one of the following outcomes:



**Note:** The disposition outcomes include practices adopted by local courts.

Statewide

County

Class of County

Glossary

Select County  
Chester

Select Year  
2022

[Click here for info on County Classes](#)

## 2022 PFA Cases Filed and Processed

### Chester

Cases Pending at the Beginning of the Year	511
New Cases Filed	707
Subtotal Cases Available for Processing	1,218
Cases Processed	589
Cases Pending at the End of the Year	629

### Chester (3rd Class)

As of 12/31/2022:

2022 Population Estimate: 545,823

No. Common Pleas Court Judges: 14

% of Statewide Filings for 2022: 2%

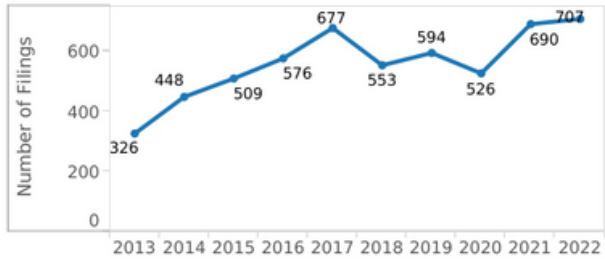


## 2022 PFA Temporary Orders

### Chester

Requested	707	
Granted	683	96.6%
Denied	24	3.4%

## Chester PFA Filings 2013 - 2022

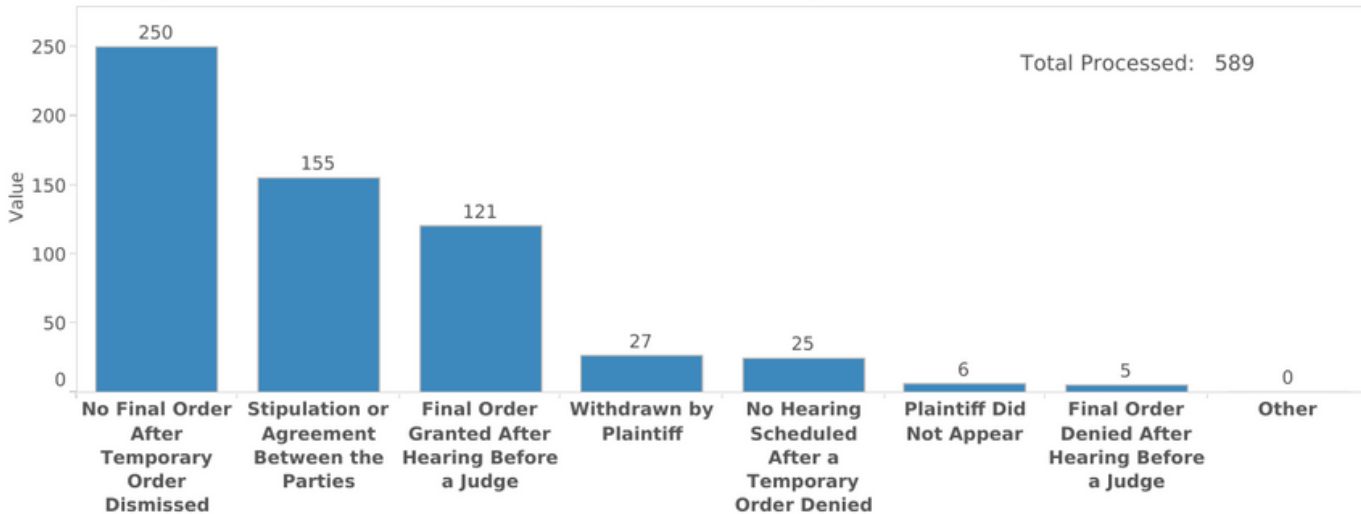


## 2022 PFA Processed

### Chester

[Hover over bar for definition.](#)

After a hearing is scheduled, a case is processed by one of the following outcomes:



**Note:** The disposition outcomes include practices adopted by local courts.

# Protection From Abuse (PFA) Caseload

## Delaware County PFAs

### 2022

Statewide

County

Class of County

Glossary

Select County

Delaware

Select Year

2022

[Click here for info on County Classes](#)

### Delaware (2A Class)

As of 12/31/2022:

2022 Population Estimate: 575,182

No. Common Pleas Court Judges: 21

% of Statewide Filings for 2022: 5%

### 2022 PFA Cases Filed and Processed

#### Delaware

Cases Pending at the Beginning of the Year	1,136
New Cases Filed	2,115
Subtotal Cases Available for Processing	3,251
Cases Processed	2,214
Cases Pending at the End of the Year	1,037



### 2022 PFA Temporary Orders

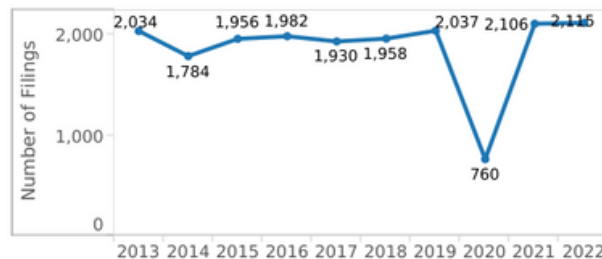
#### Delaware

#### Requested

2,115

<b>Granted</b>	1,667	78.8%
<b>Denied</b>	448	21.2%

### Delaware PFA Filings 2013 - 2022

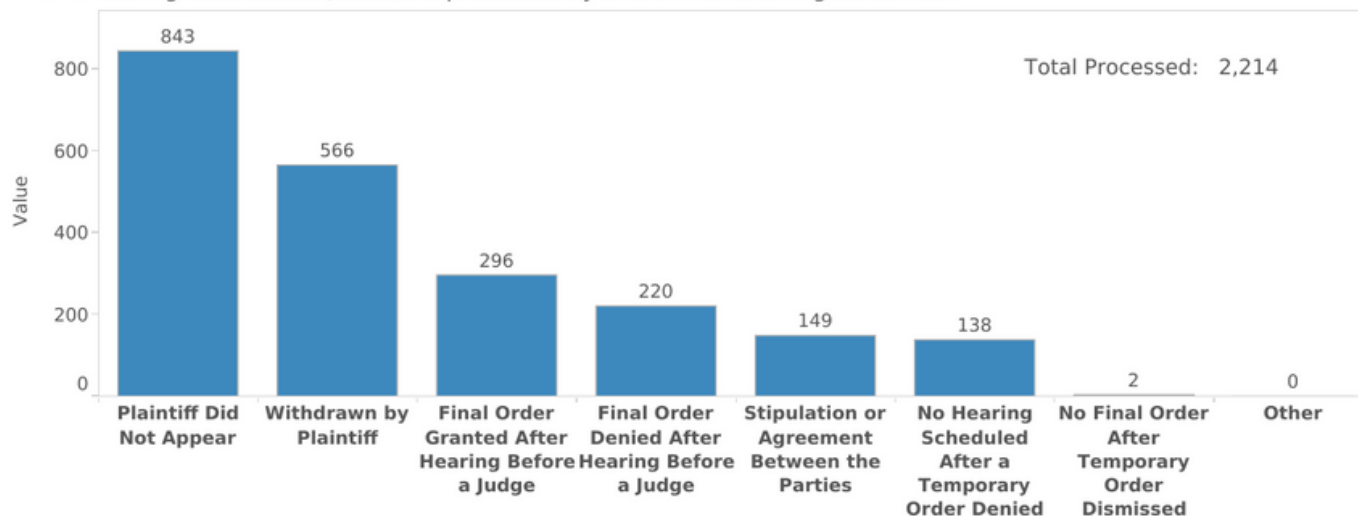


### 2022 PFA Processed

#### Delaware

[Hover over bar for definition.](#)

After a hearing is scheduled, a case is processed by one of the following outcomes:



**Note:** The disposition outcomes include practices adopted by local courts.

Statewide

County

Class of County

Glossary

Select County  
Montgomery

Select Year  
2022

[Click here for info on County Classes](#)

### Montgomery (2A Class)

As of 12/31/2022:

2022 Population Estimate: 864,683

No. Common Pleas Court Judges: 24

% of Statewide Filings for 2022: 5%

### 2022 PFA Cases Filed and Processed

#### Montgomery

Cases Pending at the Beginning of the Year	485
New Cases Filed	1,830
Subtotal Cases Available for Processing	2,315
Cases Processed	1,757
Cases Pending at the End of the Year	558



### 2022 PFA Temporary Orders

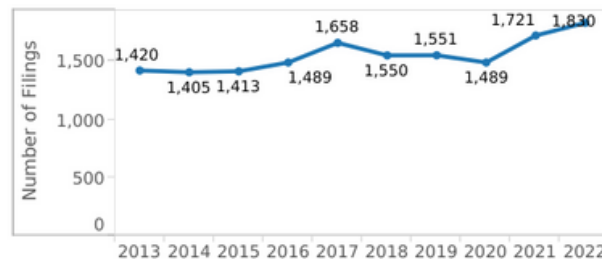
#### Montgomery

##### Requested

1,830

<b>Granted</b>	1,693	92.5%
<b>Denied</b>	137	7.5%

### Montgomery PFA Filings 2013 - 2022

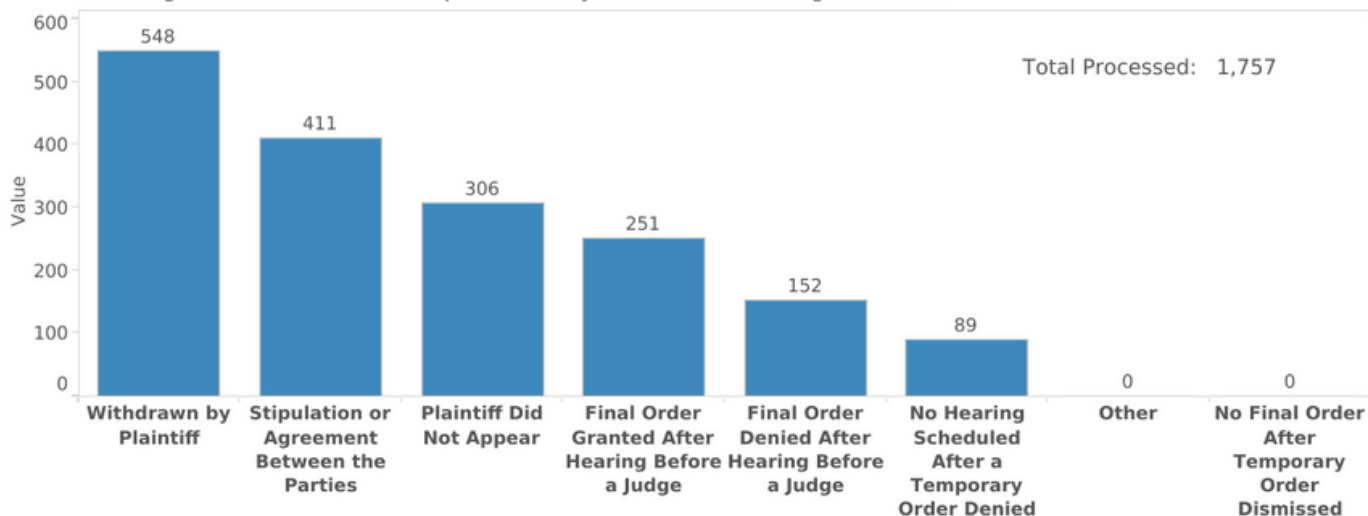


### 2022 PFA Processed

#### Montgomery

[Hover over bar for definition.](#)

After a hearing is scheduled, a case is processed by one of the following outcomes:



**Note:** The disposition outcomes include practices adopted by local courts.