

## Leaving

**If you decide to leave, even for a very short period of time, take your children with you if it's at all possible and you can do so without exposing them to harm or risk of harm, or violating a custody order.**

If you decide to leave, take these things with you, if possible, because it may be difficult to get them later:

- Order of protection
- Custody orders, paternity documents
- Identification for yourself
- Birth Certificates- yours and your children's
- Social Security Cards – yours & your children's
- Marriage, separation or divorce papers
- School & Vaccination records
- Money
- Checkbooks, Saving Account Passbooks, Automatic Teller Machine Card, Pin Numbers
- Credit Cards & account numbers
- Keys – house, car, office, post office box, safety deposit box
- Drivers License, car registration & title
- Medications & prescriptions
- Health insurance & Medicaid cards
- Welfare identification
- Passport, green card, work permit and any other immigration documents
- Several changes of clothes
- Children's favorite toys, security blanket
- Lease / Rental agreement, house deed
- Mortgage Payment Book, current unpaid bills
- Insurance papers

- Address Book
- Pictures, jewelry, items of sentimental value
- Pictures of injuries you may have gotten from your partners abuse
- Any evidence that might help police investigate your case, for example, threatening letters, neighbor or family member you trust.

**Make copies of important documents and keys and find a safe place to keep them in case you decide to leave. A safe place can include a hiding place in your home or with a friend, neighbor, or family member that you trust.**