

# Recovery Orders

## Has someone taken your children?



If your child is in immediate danger:  
**Contact Police - 000**



If you are worried about your child's safety:  
**Contact Territory Families - 1800 700 250**



If you need legal help:  
**Contact a lawyer**

## What is a Recovery Order?



→ A Recovery Order from the Federal Circuit & Family Court of Australia (the Court) is a special and urgent order to recover a child who has been taken without agreement.



→ The Court will hear applications for a recovery order quickly. It is important to seek **urgent legal advice** before making an application to the Court for a Recovery Order.



- A Recovery Order can also stop a person from taking a child again.
- After an Order has been made, the police may be able to arrest a person if they take the child again.

## Who can apply for a Recovery Order?

You can apply for a recovery order if you are a:



- Parent, guardian or grandparent of the child.
- Person who the child lives with, spends time with, or communicates with.
- Person who has parental responsibility for the child in a parenting order.

Your chances of recovering the child will improve if you have information about where the child is likely to be.

You should collect as much information as possible to help authorities find and return the child.

## What if the child still isn't found?

In some situations, you can ask the Court to issue other orders to help locate the child along with a Recovery Order for when the child is found:



- **Location order** - requires a person to give the court information about the child's location.
- **Commonwealth Information Order** - requires a Commonwealth Government Department, like Centrelink, to give the Court information about the child's location.
- **Publication Order** - allows the media to publish details and photographs of the missing child and the person they are believed to be with.



Top End  
**Women's**  
Legal Service



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**Do you need legal advice  
or assistance?**

**You can contact TEWLS  
for a free appointment**

**Phone: 1800 234 441  
or (08) 8982 3000**

**Email: [admin@tewls.org.au](mailto:admin@tewls.org.au)**

**Website: [www.tewls.org.au](http://www.tewls.org.au)**

**Address: 17 Lindsay Street, Darwin**