

Michelle Sparrow:

Assault on a female is a criminal charge. That occurs when police are called to the home and a female's assaulted. Related to that, the victim, alleged victim, can go and get a domestic violence protective order. And that order, if put in place, prevents the defendant from contacting the other party. And once it goes to hearing, that person can be prevented from contacting that person for a year. Bonds vary, depends on a person's ties to the community. If they're a resident of North Carolina, not a resident, resident of that county, not a resident. Depends on the person's prior record, if they've had assaultive behavior, depends on the type of injuries. So there's all kinds of different considerations that are taken into account when setting bonds. However, each county has a bond guideline. There's a low end and a high end on the bonds. And the magistrate can set the bond what they want, how they want to set it, depending on the facts. They listen to the facts and then they set the bond, usually within the parameters of the bond guidelines.