

## So you want a Peace Bond?

Ask yourself: Has another person threatened or is about commit a *specific* breach of the peace?

If you answered yes and are requesting a Peace Bond, you must file an affidavit charging that the defendant has threatened or is about to commit a specified violation of Louisiana law aka a crime. Louisiana crimes can be found on the Louisiana Legislature's website: <http://legis.la.gov/legis/LawSearch.aspx> starting at Revised Statute 14:1 et seq. **Neither the Justice of the Peace nor the clerk can provide the laws or fill out the affidavit for you.**

It will cost \$15.00 to file the affidavit.

After the affidavit is filed, the Justice of the Peace will determine if there is just cause to issue a summons for defendant to appear in court for a hearing on the matter.

If the Justice of the Peace determines that there is just cause, a **CONTRADICTORY HEARING** will be held and **BOTH** parties must be present. That means that **YOU** will have to face the person you are accusing and give testimony against them.

If the Peace Bond is issued, it may not be recognized by law enforcement agencies if violated.

It is NOT a restraining order.

Peace Bonds can only be issued for a maximum period of 6 months.

If a Peace Bond is issued, the defendant will have to put up a bond not to exceed \$1000.00. If the Peace Bond is violated, St. Tammany Parish receives the money, not YOU.

-If someone wants to hurt you or call you names or harass you, it may be worth a certain amount of money to that person to hurt you or call you names or harass you. You will not be compensated by the Peace Bond beyond \$15.00 court costs.

**This document serves to merely inform you about Peace Bonds; it does not constitute legal advice.** Unfortunately, many people have misunderstandings regarding Peace Bonds and/or are have been misinformed by other persons or entities as to a Peace Bond's effectiveness.