

THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
FAMILY LAW DIVISION

**ANSWER  
TO PETITION TO ESTABLISH  
PATERNITY AND OTHER RELIEF**

**(Packet #36)**

USE THIS PACKET IF:

- 1) THERE HAS NEVER BEEN AN ORDER ADDRESSING PATERNITY, PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY, PARENTING PLAN/TIMESHARING, CUSTODY, VISITATION, OR CHILD SUPPORT FOR THE CHILD(REN) IN THIS ACTION, and
- 2) YOU ARE THE CHILD'S MOTHER OR BIOLOGICAL FATHER, and
- 3) THE PARTIES ARE NOT MARRIED TO EACH OTHER, and
- 4) THE OTHER PARENT HAS SERVED YOU WITH PATERNITY PAPERS TO ANSWER.

**If you choose to represent yourself (*pro se*) in your case, you should be aware that you will be required to follow the same rules that are required in cases filed by persons represented by attorneys. The judge assigned to your case is not necessarily required to grant what you request in a form. If you do not like the outcome of your case, you may not be able to change it. If you have any questions or concerns about your case, you should consult with an attorney.**

All instructions and forms distributed by the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit are provided merely as a public service to persons seeking to represent themselves in court without the assistance of an attorney. These documents are meant to serve as a guide only, and to assist pro se (self-represented) litigants with their cases. The Thirteenth Judicial Circuit does not guarantee that either the instructions or the forms will achieve the result desired by the parties or ensure that any individual judge will follow the procedures exactly or accept each and every form as drafted. Any person using these instructions and/or forms does so at his or her own risk, and the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit shall not be responsible for any losses incurred by any person in reliance on the instructions and/or forms.

**In no event will the Florida Supreme Court, The Florida Bar, or anyone contributing to the production of these forms, commentary, instructions, and appendices be liable for any direct, indirect, or consequential damages from their use.**

## **PARENTING CLASS REQUIREMENT**

**In all cases involving minor children, both parties are required to attend a parenting class before the case can be scheduled for hearing.**

### **Parenting Course Providers**

can be found online at:

<https://myflfamilies.com/services/child-family/child-and-family-well-being/pefs/local-course-list>

→ click on “Hillsborough” or “13<sup>th</sup> Circuit”

Online parenting classes are accepted.

**(Printing Instructions: There are 2 options available. Option 1 - print entire packet as one document.  
Option 2 - choose which forms to print by selecting and opening each form separately.)**

| <b><u>FORMS CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET</u></b>  | <b><u>FORM #</u></b> |
|---|----------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>General Information for Self-Represented Litigants</u></a>                                   | Appendix C           |
| <a href="#"><u>12 Rules of Courtroom Civility</u></a>   | 12 Rules             |
| <a href="#"><u>Nonlawyer Disclosure</u></a>   | 12.900(a)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Answer to Petition to Determine Paternity and for Related Relief</u></a>                     | 12.983(b)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Answer to Petition and Counterpetition to Determine Paternity and for Related Relief</u></a> | 12.983(c)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Parenting Plan</u></a>   | 12.995 (a)           |
| <a href="#"><u>Supervised/Safety-Focused Parenting Plan</u></a>   | 12.995 (b)           |
| <a href="#"><u>Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act Affidavit (UCCJEA)</u></a>            | 12.902(d)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Financial Affidavit - Short Form</u></a>   | 12.902(b)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Financial Affidavit - Long Form</u></a>  | 12.902(c)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Notice of Social Security Number</u></a>   | 12.902(j)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Child Support Guidelines</u></a>   | 12.902(e)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure</u></a>                                  | 12.932               |
| <a href="#"><u>Motion to Deviate From Child Support Guidelines</u></a>                                      | 12.943               |
| <a href="#"><u>Motion for Scientific Paternity Testing</u></a>  | 12.983(e)            |
| <a href="#"><u>Fee Schedule for Family Law Cases</u></a>  | Fee                  |
| <a href="#"><u>Notice of Confidential Information Within Court Filing</u></a>                               | 2.40(d)(2)           |
| <a href="#"><u>Designation of Current Address and E-mail Address</u></a>                                    | 12.915               |

## FAMILY COURT RESOURCES

|                                  |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>LEGAL<br/>ADVICE</b>          | <b>Lawyer Referral Service</b>                | (get legal advice/consultation)<br>813-221-7780 / free referral / initial consultation is \$50 for the 1 <sup>st</sup> ½ hour   |
|                                  | <b>Bay Area Legal Services</b>                | (apply for free legal advice/consultation)<br><a href="http://www.bals.org">www.bals.org</a> / 800-625-2257 to apply  |
| <b>LEGAL<br/>INFORMATION</b>     | <b>Legal Information Center</b>               | Hillsborough County family law cases<br><a href="http://www.bals.org/LIC">www.bals.org/LIC</a> for in-person walk-in hours and online contact form  |
|                                  | <b>Legal Information Program (Plant City)</b> | Hillsborough County family law cases<br>813-276-2688 (pre-recorded message and in-person walk in hours)   |
| <b>GET FORMS</b>                 |   | <b>Individual Forms:</b> <a href="http://www.flcourts.gov">www.flcourts.gov</a> → “See All Family Law Forms”<br><b>Packets:</b>   |
|                                  | <b>Free Online to Print</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.fljud13.org">www.fljud13.org</a> → “Family Law Packets List”</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.hillsclerk.com/About-Us/Forms">www.hillsclerk.com/About-Us/Forms</a> → “Family Law”</li> </ul> |
|                                  | <b>Buy</b>                                    | Court Business Center, 800 E. Twiggs, Room 630 (6th floor) / \$.16/page   |
| <b>FILL OUT<br/>FORMS</b>        | <b>Family Forms Clinic</b>                    | Hillsborough County family law forms<br>813-864-2280, #2 (#3 for Spanish) / 800 E. Twiggs, Room 210 (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor)   |
| <b>CLERK</b>                     | <b>View Files</b>                             | HOVER: <a href="http://hover.hillsclerk.com/html/home.html">hover.hillsclerk.com/html/home.html</a>   |
|                                  | <b>File Documents</b>                         | IN-PERSON: <a href="http://www.hillsclerk.com/About-Us/Service-Options-and-Locations">www.hillsclerk.com/About-Us/Service-Options-and-Locations</a><br>E-FILING: <a href="http://www.myflcourtaccess.com/">www.myflcourtaccess.com/</a>                 |
| <b>CHILD<br/>SUPPORT</b>         | <b>DOR</b>                                    | Department of Revenue: 850-488-KIDS(5437)<br>6302 E. MLK Jr. Blvd., Tampa, FL 33619   |
|                                  | <b>SDU</b>                                    | Florida State Disbursement Unit: 877-769-0251<br>P.O. Box 8500, Tallahassee, Florida 32314-8500   |
| <b>COURT CASE<br/>MANAGEMENT</b> |   | (only for pre-judgment cases when neither party has a lawyer)<br>813-272-5173 / <a href="mailto:prose@fljud13.org">prose@fljud13.org</a>  |
| <b>COURT<br/>DIRECTORY</b>       | <b>Judges</b>                                 | <a href="http://www.fljud13.org/JudicialDirectory.aspx">www.fljud13.org/JudicialDirectory.aspx</a>  |
|                                  | <b>Magistrates</b>                            | <a href="http://www.fljud13.org/GeneralMagistrates.aspx">www.fljud13.org/GeneralMagistrates.aspx</a>  |
|                                  | <b>Hearing Officers</b>                       | <a href="http://www.fljud13.org/HearingOfficers.aspx">www.fljud13.org/HearingOfficers.aspx</a>  |
| <b>MEDIATION</b>                 |   | 813-272-5642 / 800 E. Twiggs, Room 208 (2nd floor)<br><a href="http://www.fljud13.org/CourtPrograms/MediationDiversionServices/ContactUs.aspx">www.fljud13.org/CourtPrograms/MediationDiversionServices/ContactUs.aspx</a>                              |
| <b>RESEARCH</b>                  | <b>Law Library</b>                            | 701 E. Twiggs Street / 813-272-5818<br><a href="https://hcplc.org/locations/james-j-lunsford-law">https://hcplc.org/locations/james-j-lunsford-law</a>  |
|                                  | <b>Legal Terms / Definitions</b>              | <a href="https://help.flcourts.org/Get-Started/Legal-Terms">https://help.flcourts.org/Get-Started/Legal-Terms</a>   |
|                                  | <b>Florida Rules of Court</b>                 | <a href="http://www.floridabar.org/rules/ctproc/">www.floridabar.org/rules/ctproc/</a><br>(incl. Family Law Rules)  |
|                                  | <b>Florida Statutes</b>                       | <a href="http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/">www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/</a>  |
|                                  | <b>Hillsborough Administrative Orders</b>     | <a href="http://www.fljud13.org/AdministrativeOrders.aspx">www.fljud13.org/AdministrativeOrders.aspx</a> → Family Law (left side menu)  |
| <b>SERVICE OF<br/>PROCESS</b>    | <b>Hillsborough Sheriff</b>                   | 700 E. Twiggs St., 3rd floor, Tampa / 813-242-5200  |
|                                  | <b>Private</b>                                | <a href="http://www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Forms/pdfs/process%20servers%20list.pdf">www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Forms/pdfs/process%20servers%20list.pdf</a>  |



# STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

## **STEP 1 - Complete the required forms and have them notarized**

- 1) **FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED IN BLACK INK AND MOST MUST BE NOTARIZED.** The clerk's office will notarize documents and charge a fee (see attached schedule). Please bring a valid ID.
- 2) **Names must be written the same way on all documents (no full names on one document and initials on another).**
- 3) **Your CASE NUMBER AND DIVISION must be written on all documents.**
- 4) **Within 20 calendar days from the date of service, complete the following forms and notarize the ones with a notary signature line:**
  - A) 12 Rules of Courtroom Civility - (does not need to be notarized)
  - B) Answer
    - Answer to Petition to Determine Paternity and for Related Relief, Form 12.983(b), if you want to file an answer but not a counterpetition
    - or**
    - Answer to Petition and Counterpetition to Determine Paternity and for Related Relief, Form 12.983(c), if you want to file a counterpetition asking for what you want the court to order
  - C) Parenting Plan
    - Regular form, Form 12.995(a), use this form if safety or supervised time-sharing IS NOT a concern
    - or**
    - Supervised/Safety-Focused Parenting Plan, Form 12.995(b), use this form if safety or supervised time-sharing IS a concern
    - or**
    - *Long-Distance Parenting Plan, Form 12.995(c) (NOT INCLUDED – see [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org)), consider using this form if you live more than 50 miles from the other parent*
  - D) Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit, Form 12.902(d)
  - E) Financial Affidavit
    - Short form, Form 12.902(b), if you make \$50,000/year or less
    - or**
    - Regular form, Form 12.902(c), if you make more than \$50,000/year
  - F) Notice of Social Security Number, Form 12.902(j)
  - G) Designation of Current Address and E-mail Address, Form 12.915
- 5) **Within 45 calendar days from the date of service, complete the following forms and notarize the ones with a notary signature line:**
  - A) Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, Form 12.902(e)
  - B) Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure, Form 12.932

## **STEP 2 – Make copies**

After you have completed the forms and have signed and notarized them, make at least 2 complete copies of everything you have signed. Copies can be obtained for a fee in the Court Business Center, on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the George Edgecomb Courthouse.

### **STEP 3 - Filing your forms**

Take the original set of completed and signed forms to the clerk at any of the Clerk's Office Customer Service Centers (<https://www.hillsclerk.com/About-Us/Service-Options-and-Locations>). Make sure the case number is written on all forms. There are no filing fees to file an answer (only to file a counterpetition). If you are indigent, receive Food Stamps, Medicaid, or Social Security Disability benefits, you can ask the Clerk for an application to waive filing fees and mediation fees. You will be required to swear under oath that everything in your application is complete and true. If you qualify, the fees will be waived. If you do not qualify, you must pay the filing and/or mediation fee.

### **STEP 4 – Notifying the other party**

Mail or hand-deliver 1 set of copies to the other party at the address on the Summons.

### **STEP 5 – Mandatory Disclosure**

You have 45 days from the date the other party was served to send the other party all of the financial records required by the Mandatory Disclosure Rule (Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285). You are required to send copies of these documents to the other party. **You are not required to file them with the clerk.** The documents you are required to give the other party are listed in Form 12.932 - Certificate of Compliance With Mandatory Disclosure.

- 1) Complete and sign the Certificate of Compliance With Mandatory Disclosure, Form 12.932, indicating which documents you are sending to the other party. Also indicate the date you are sending them and how you are delivering them (by mail, fax and mail, or hand-delivery).
- 2) Make 2 copies of the documents you will be sending to the other party and 2 copies of the completed and signed Certificate of Compliance. One copy is for your records.
- 3) Send 1 copy of the documents and 1 copy of the Certificate of Compliance to the other party.
- 4) File the original Certificate of Compliance with the clerk (do not file copies of the documents you are sending to the other party).

### **STEP 6 – Parenting Class**

Both parties must attend a parenting class before your final divorce hearing can be scheduled. For information about approved parenting classes in this circuit, contact and registration information is on page 2 of these instructions. After you have completed the course, write your case number on your certificate of completion and file it with the clerk.

### **STEP 7 – Mediation** (if you have filed an answer denying any allegations or filed a counterpetition)

If you filed an answer and dispute any of the allegations in the petition, you and the other party will need to go to mediation to see if the disputed issue(s) can be resolved. Call the Mediation and Diversion office at 813-272-5642 and ask them to schedule a mediation date. If the other party does not contact the mediation department or the issue(s) cannot be resolved in mediation, the final hearing will be set on the judge's contested docket.

### **STEP 8 – Preparing your case / gathering evidence** (if you and the other party do not agree and your case is contested)

If you are contesting issues in your case, you will need to be prepared to present evidence to the judge which supports your position(s). Gathering evidence is called "discovery." Discovery is governed by Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure 12.280 – 12.410 and Florida Rules of Civil Procedure 1.280 – 1.410.

Some discovery methods are:

1. Interrogatories – written questions you send to the other party. See Forms 12.930(a), Notice of Service of Standard Family Law Interrogatories, and 12.930(b), Standard Family Law Interrogatories for Original Proceedings, and their instructions.

2. Notice of Production from Non-Party/Subpoena – a request to someone who is not a party in the case (not the other party) to provide copies of documents to you or to produce documents to be copied by you. See Forms 12.931(a), Notice of Production from Non-Party, and 12.931(b), Subpoena for Production of Documents, and their instructions.
3. Depositions – taking someone’s testimony (a party or non-party) under oath before a court reporter.
4. Request for Production of Documents and Things – a written request that the other party provide specified documents or things for you to copy or examine. See Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.350.

Not all evidence can be considered by the judge. Evidence must conform to the Rules of Evidence in Chapter 90 of the Florida Statutes to be admissible in court. The duty of establishing the facts that you want to present to the court, or the burden of proof, is on YOU. You should provide the judge with admissible evidence to support the claims in your petition and your statements in court.

## **STEP 9 – Scheduling the final hearing**

You will be notified by mail when the final hearing is scheduled.

### **COURT REPORTER?**

If you want a court reporter for the hearing, you must arrange for this in advance and you must pay the court reporter’s fee. If there is no record of the hearing and the judge rules against you, you may not be able to appeal the decision.

## **STEP 10 – The final hearing**

Normally the final hearing is when the petition will be granted and all issues will be decided.

**HOW TO DRESS** - Dress appropriately. No shorts, tank tops, or sandals. Do not chew gum.

**WHAT TO BRING** - All evidence you want the court to consider in deciding your case, if your case is contested

### **WHAT TO EXPECT: In-Person hearings**

The hearing will take place in a hearing room or a courtroom. You will not be in front of a jury, just the general magistrate, hearing officer, or judge. Do not interrupt the magistrate, hearing officer, or judge when he or she speaks. When speaking to the magistrate or judge, address him or her as “Your Honor.”

Each court has at least one bailiff who is a deputy sheriff and is there to maintain order. When you arrive for your hearing, let the bailiff know that you are present and ready. He or she will announce your case when it is time for your hearing, and will tell you where to sit and where to place your belongings as you enter the hearing room. A bailiff will usually remain inside the room during your hearing. If witnesses are called, the bailiff will step out to bring the witness into the hearing room.

At your hearing, be prepared to discuss any issues covered in the motion, petition and/or counterpetition, and be able to provide proof of any disputed facts by presenting evidence. Evidence is proof presented at a hearing in the form of witnesses (people), exhibits (documents), and objects (things). Not all evidence can be considered by the court, however. Evidence must conform to the Rules of Evidence in Chapter 90 of the Florida Statutes to be admissible in court. Remember, the duty of establishing the facts that you want to present to the court is on YOU. You should provide the court with admissible evidence to support the claims in your petition and your statements in court. Telling your story may not be enough to win your case.

Once both sides have presented their evidence, the court will make a decision and an order will be prepared. The order will contain all the details of the court’s decision. You will receive a copy of the order in the mail. The original order will go to the clerk’s office to be filed in your court file.

### **WHAT TO EXPECT: Virtual hearings**

**The courts use the Zoom videoconference platform. You do not need an account to use Zoom and the service is free. You may use a cellphone, tablet, or computer. The court is able to swear in witnesses and parties over Zoom; please have a picture identification with you to show the Court. Please review the tips below for your video hearings.**

## COURT HEARING VIDEO CONFERENCING TIPS

- Dress and look like you are going to court. No hats please.
- Do your best to have a stable internet connection. Ask others in your house or office to avoid large data use (game streaming; video streaming; etc.) while on a videoconference call.
- Use your full real name. Avoid using nicknames or the device's default name setting.
- Be as still as possible while speaking and waiting to speak.
- Do your best to have a solid or non-distracting background, or utilize a virtual background.
- Have the camera face you straight on. Avoid leaning in or away from camera.
- Be aware of your microphone and audio set up. Mute your microphone unless you are speaking. (Wireless earbuds are less distracting than large headphones and exclude outside noise. Wired earbuds can be distracting and the built-in microphone often rubs on your clothes.)
- Speak slowly and clearly. Avoid speaking over others.
- Avoid typing, eating or drinking during the conference.
- Do your best to ensure privacy during the conference; everyone understands children, pets, and other members of the household might wander in.

## **YOU MAY FILE FORMS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

### Tampa - George Edgecomb Courthouse – Main Location

Clerk of the Circuit Court, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Room 101, Tampa, FL 33602

### Brandon – Brandon Regional Service Center

Clerk of the Circuit Court, 311 Pauls Drive, Suite 110, Brandon, FL 33511

### Plant City – Plant City Courthouse

Clerk of the Circuit Court, 301 N. Michigan, Room 1071, Plant City, FL 33563

# FAMILY LAW FORMS, COMMENTARY, AND INSTRUCTIONS

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS

### (02/18)

**You should read this General Information thoroughly before taking any other steps to file your case or represent yourself in court.** Most of this information is **not** repeated in the attached forms. This information should provide you with an overview of the court system, its participants, and its processes. It should be useful whether you want to represent yourself in a pending matter or have a better understanding of the way family court works. **This is not intended as a substitute for legal advice from an attorney. Each case has its own particular set of circumstances, and an attorney may advise you of what is best for you in your individual situation.**

These instructions are not the only place that you can get information about how a family case works. You may want to look at other books for more help. The Florida Statutes, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, and other legal information or books may be found at the public library or in a law library at your county courthouse or a law school in your area. If you are filing a petition for **Name Change** and/or **Adoption**, these instructions may not apply.

If the word(s) is printed in **bold**, this means that the word is being emphasized. Throughout these instructions, you will also find words printed in **bold** and **underlined**. This means that the definitions of these words may be found in the glossary of common family law terms at the end of this general information section.

### Commentary

**1995 Adoption.** To help the many people in family law court cases who do not have attorneys to represent them (pro se litigants), the Florida Supreme Court added these simplified forms and directions to the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure. The directions refer to the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure or the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. Many of the forms were adapted from the forms accompanying the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. Practitioners should refer to the committee notes for those forms for rule history.

The forms were adopted by the Court pursuant to *Family Law Rules of Procedure*, 667 So. 2d 202 (Fla. 1995); *In re Petition for Approval of Forms Pursuant to Rule 10-1.1(b) of the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar—Stepparent Adoption Forms*, 613 So. 2d 900 (Fla. 1992); *Rules Regulating the Florida Bar—Approval of Forms*, 581 So. 2d 902 (Fla. 1991).

Although the forms are part of these rules, they are not all inclusive and additional forms, as necessary, should be taken from the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure as provided in Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure. Also, the following notice has been included to strongly encourage individuals to seek the advice, when needed, of an attorney who is a member in good standing of the Florida Bar.

**1997 Amendment.** In 1997, the Florida Family Law Forms were completely revised to simplify and correct the forms. Additionally, the appendices were eliminated, the instructions contained in the appendices were incorporated into the forms, and the introduction following the Notice to Parties was created. Minor changes were also made to the Notice to Parties set forth below.

## **NOTICE TO PARTIES WHO ARE NOT REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY WHO IS A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF THE FLORIDA BAR**

If you have questions or concerns about these forms, instructions, commentary, the use of the forms, or your legal rights, it is strongly recommended that you talk to an attorney. If you do not know an attorney, you should call the lawyer referral service listed in the yellow pages of the telephone book under "Attorney." If you do not have the money to hire an attorney, you should call the legal aid office in your area.

Because the law does change, the forms and information about them may have become outdated. You should be aware that changes may have taken place in the law or court rules that would affect the accuracy of the forms or instructions.

In no event will the Florida Supreme Court, The Florida Bar, or anyone contributing to the production of these forms or instructions be liable for any direct, indirect, or consequential damages resulting from their use.

### **FAMILY LAW PROCEDURES**

**Communication with the court.** Ex parte communication is communication with the judge with only one party present. Judges are not allowed to engage in ex parte communication except in very limited circumstances, so, absent specific authorization to the contrary, you should not try to speak with or write to the judge in your case unless the other party is present or has been properly notified. **If you have something you need to tell the judge, you must ask for a hearing and give notice to the other party or file a written statement in the court file and send a copy of the written statement to the other party.**

**Filing a case.** A case begins with the filing of a petition. A petition is a written request to the court for some type of legal action. The person who originally asks for legal action is called the petitioner and remains the petitioner throughout the case.

A petition is given to the clerk of the circuit court, whose office is usually located in the county courthouse or a branch of the county courthouse. A case number is assigned and an official court file is opened. Delivering the petition to the clerk's office is called filing a case. A filing fee is usually required.

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file a petition or other pleadings, motions, and documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your petition electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the circuit within which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

**Service of the original petition or supplemental petition.** When one party files a petition, motion, or other pleading, the other party must be "served" with a copy of the document. This means that the other party is given proper notice of the pending action(s) and any scheduled hearings. The person

against whom the original legal action is being requested is called the **respondent**, because he or she is expected to respond to the petition. The respondent remains the respondent throughout the case.

**Personal service** of the petition and summons on the respondent by a deputy sheriff or private process server is required in all **original petitions** and **supplemental petitions**, unless **constructive service** is permitted by law. Personal service may also be required in other actions by some judges.

**Constructive Service.** If you absolutely do not know where the other party to your case lives or if the other party resides in another state, you may be able to use **constructive service**; however, if constructive service is used, other than granting a divorce, the court may only grant limited relief, which cannot include either alimony or child support. For more information on constructive service, see **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage (No Child or Financial Support)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(1), **Notice of Action for Family Cases with Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(2), **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b), and **Affidavit of Diligent Search**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(c).. Additionally, if the other party is in the military service of the United States, additional steps for service may be required. See, for example, **Memorandum for Certificate of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(a). In sum, the law regarding constructive service and service on an individual in the military is very complex and you may wish to consult an attorney regarding these issues.

Forms for service of process are included in the Florida Family Law Forms, along with more detailed instructions and information regarding service. The instructions to those forms should be read **carefully** to ensure that you have properly served the other party. **If proper service is not obtained, the court cannot hear your case. Service must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.**

**Subsequent Service.** Other than the original or supplemental petitions, any time you file additional pleadings or motions in your case, you must provide a copy to the other party and include a **certificate of service**. Likewise, the other party must provide you with copies of everything that he or she files. **If the other party is represented by an attorney, you should serve the attorney unless service upon the other party is required by the court.**

**Electronic Service.** After the initial service of process of the petitioner or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

**Default.** After being served with a petition or counterpetition, the other party has 20 days to file a response. If a response to a petition is not filed, the petitioner may file a **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a), with the clerk. This means that you may proceed with your case and set a **final hearing**, and a **judge** will make a decision, even if the other party will not cooperate. For more information, see rule 12.080(c), Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure.

**Answer and Counterpetition.** After being served, the respondent has 20 days to file an answer admitting or denying each of the allegations contained in the petition. In addition to an answer, the respondent may also file a counterpetition. In a counterpetition, the respondent may request the same or some other relief or action not requested by the petitioner. If the respondent files a counterpetition, the petitioner should then file an **Answer to Counterpetition**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.903(d), and either admit or deny the allegations in the respondent's counterpetition.

**Mandatory disclosure.** Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires each party in a dissolution of marriage to exchange certain information and documents, and file a **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c). Failure to make this required disclosure within the time required by the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure may allow the court to dismiss the case or to refuse to consider the pleadings of the party failing to comply. This requirement also must be met in other family law cases, **except** adoptions, simplified dissolutions of marriage, enforcement proceedings, contempt proceedings, and proceedings for injunctions for domestic or repeat violence. The **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932, lists the documents that must be given to the other party. For more information see rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, and the instructions to the **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932.

**Parenting Plan.** If your case involves minor or dependent child(ren), a **Parenting Plan** shall be approved or established by the court. **Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form, 12.995(a), **Safety-Focused Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(b), or **Relocation/Long Distance Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(c). The Parenting Plan shall be developed and agreed to by the parents and approved by a court.

**If the parents cannot agree, or if the agreed Parenting Plan is not approved, the court must establish a Parenting Plan.** The Parenting Plan shall contain a time-sharing schedule and should address the issues regarding the child(ren)'s education, health care, and physical, social, and emotional well-being.

**Setting a hearing or trial.** Generally, the court will have hearings on motions, final hearings on uncontested or default cases, and trials on contested cases. Before setting your case for **final hearing** or trial, certain requirements such as completing mandatory disclosure and filing certain papers and having them served on the other party must be met. These requirements vary depending on the type of case and the procedures in your particular jurisdiction. For further information, you should refer to the instructions for the type of form you are filing.



Next, you must obtain a hearing or trial date so that the court may consider your request. You should ask the clerk of court, or **family law intake staff** about the local procedure for setting a hearing or trial, which you should attend. These family law forms contain **orders** and **final judgments**, which the judge may use. You should ask the clerk of court or family law intake staff if you need to bring one of these forms with you to the hearing or trial. If so, you should type or print the heading, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the parties' names, and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete at your hearing or trial.

The shaded areas below explain different parts of family law forms. Although each form you use may not contain each part explained below, all forms contain a case style which identifies the judicial circuit and county in Florida in which the case is filed, the division within that circuit to which the case is assigned, the parties in the case, and the number of the case. Some, but not all, forms require that the person signing the form state under oath that what he or she claims in the form is true; those particular forms must be signed in the presence of either a deputy clerk of the court or a notary public who witnesses your signature before notarizing the form. Most forms contain a nonlawyer clause which requests certain information be provided by any person who is not licensed to practice law in the State of Florida who has helped you to complete the form.

2

Each form that provides a blank space will have instructions on how to fill in the blank. Please follow all instructions which ask for specific information. Often these instructions appear in *italics*. [

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE (1) JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR (2) COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: (3)  
Division: (4)

(5),  
Petitioner,  
and  
(6),  
Respondent.

- Line 1** The clerk of court can tell you the number of your judicial circuit. Type or print it here.
- Line 2** Type or print your county name on line (2).
- Line 3** If you are filing an initial petition or pleading, the Clerk of the Court will assign a case number after the case is filed. You should type or print this case number on all papers you file in this case.
- Line 4** The clerk of the court can tell you the name of the division in which your case is being filed, and you should type or print it here. Divisions vary from court to court. For example, your case may be filed in the civil division, the family division, or the juvenile division.
- Line 5** Type or print the legal name of the person who originally filed the case on line 5. This person is the petitioner because he/she is the one who filed the original petition.
- Line 6** Type or print the other party's legal name on line 6. The other party is the respondent because he/she is responding to the petition.

Some forms require that your signature be witnessed. If so, you must sign the form in the presence of a **notary public** or deputy clerk (employee of the clerk of the court's office). When signing the form, you must have a valid photo identification unless the notary knows you personally. You should completely fill in all lines (1 & 3–8) except 2 with the requested information, if applicable. **Line 2, the signature line,**

must be signed in the presence of the notary public or deputy clerk. **DO NOT SIGN OR FILL IN THE PART OF THE FORM WHICH ASKS FOR THE NOTARY'S OR CLERK'S SIGNATURE.** This section of the form is to be completed by either the deputy clerk or the notary public who is witnessing your signature.

**I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this petition and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ (1)

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

(2)

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name:

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_ (4)

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ (5)

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (6)

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (7)

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_ (8)

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.}

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

\_\_\_\_\_ Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-lawyer Clause.** The section below should be completed by anyone who helps you fill out these forms but is **not** an attorney who is a member in good standing of The Florida Bar, which means that he or she is not licensed to practice law in Florida.

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: {either Petitioner or Respondent; or Husband or Wife}

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_,  
{name of business} \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_,  
{address} \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_,  
{city} \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_, {state} \_\_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_\_, {zip code} \_\_\_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_\_\_, {telephone number} \_\_\_\_\_ (7) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Line 1** The nonlawyer who helps you should type or print his or her name on line 1.

**Lines 2–7** The nonlawyer’s business name, address, (including street, city, state, zip code, and telephone number) should be typed or printed on lines 2–7.

In addition, a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), should be completed if a nonlawyer assists you. The disclosure is available as a family law form and should be completed before the nonlawyer helps you. This is to be sure that you understand the role and limitations of a nonlawyer. You and the nonlawyer should keep a copy of this disclosure for your records.

## FAMILY LAW GLOSSARY OF COMMON TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

**Note:** The following definitions are intended to be helpful, BUT they are not intended to constitute legal advice or address every possible meaning of the term(s) contained in this glossary.

**Affidavit** - a written statement in which the facts stated are sworn or affirmed to be true.

**Alimony**-spousal support which may be ordered by the court in a proceeding for dissolution of marriage. Types of alimony include: bridge-the-gap, durational, rehabilitative, or retroactive, and may be either temporary or permanent. The court may order periodic payments, payments in lump sum, or both. In determining whether to award alimony, the court must determine whether either party has an actual need for alimony and whether the other party has the ability to pay. The court must consider the factors set forth in section 61.08, Florida Statutes, and must make certain written findings. An alimony award may not leave the paying party with significantly less net income than that of the receiving party without written findings of exceptional circumstances.

**Answer** - written response by a respondent that states whether he or she admits (agrees with) or denies (disagrees with) the allegations in the petition. Any allegations not specifically denied are considered to be admitted.

**Appeal** - asking a district court of appeal to review the decision in your case. There are strict procedural and time requirements for filing an appeal.

**Asset** - everything owned by you or your spouse, including property, cars, furniture, bank accounts, jewelry, life insurance policies, businesses, or retirement plans. An asset may be marital or nonmarital, but that distinction is for the court to determine if you and your spouse do not agree.

**Attorney** - a person with special education and training in the field of law who is a member in good standing of The Florida Bar and licensed to practice law in Florida. An attorney is the only person who is allowed to give you legal advice. An attorney may file your case and represent you in court, or just advise you of your rights before you file your own case. In addition to advising you of your rights, an attorney may tell you what to expect and help prepare you for court. In family law matters, you are not entitled to a court-appointed lawyer, like a public defender in a criminal case. However, legal assistance is often available for those who are unable to hire a private attorney. You may consult the yellow pages of the telephone directory for a listing of legal aid or lawyer referral services in your area, or ask your local clerk of court or family law intake staff what services are available in your area. You may also obtain information from the Florida Supreme Court's Internet site located at <http://www.flcourts.org>.

**Bond** - money paid to the clerk of court by one party in a case, to be held and paid to an enjoined party in the event that the first party causes loss or damage of property as a result of wrongfully enjoining the other party.

**Beneficiary Designation**-Florida law provides that a beneficiary designation made by or on behalf of a party providing for the payment or transference of an asset or benefit upon his or her death to the other spouse is void when the final judgment dissolving or declaring a marriage invalid is signed, unless the final judgment specifically states otherwise. Federal law and other statutory provisions may also apply. This includes, but is not limited to, such assets as life insurance policies, annuities, employee benefit plans, individual retirement accounts, and payable-on-death accounts. Whether or not to continue a beneficiary designation is a complex area of the law and you may wish to consult with an attorney.

**Bridge-the-Gap Alimony**-spousal support which is ordered to assist a party to make the transition from being married to being single. Bridge-the-Gap alimony is designed to assist a party with legitimate, identifiable short-time needs; its length cannot exceed two years and it cannot be modified.

**Central Depository**-the office of the clerk of court that is responsible for collecting and disbursing court ordered alimony and child support payments. The depository also keeps payment records and files judgments if support is not paid.

**Certificate of Service** - a document that must be filed whenever a form you are using does not contain a statement for you to fill in showing to whom you are sending copies of the form. Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914 is the certificate of service form and contains additional instructions.

**Certified Copy** - a copy of an order or final judgment, certified by the clerk of the circuit court to be an authentic copy.

**Certified Mail** - mail which requires the receiving party to sign as proof that they received it.

**Child Support** - money paid from one parent to the other for the benefit of their dependent or minor child(ren).

**Clerk of the Circuit Court** - elected official in whose office papers are filed, a case number is assigned, and case files are maintained. The clerk's office usually is located in the county courthouse.

**Concurrent Custody**-(for the purposes of a petition filed pursuant to chapter 751, Florida Statutes) means that an eligible extended family member is awarded custodial rights to care for a child or children concurrently with the child(ren)'s parent or parents.

**Constructive Service** - notification of the other party by newspaper publication or posting of notice at designated places when the other party cannot be located for personal service. You may also be able to use constructive service when the other party lives in another state. Constructive service is also called "service by publication." However, when constructive service is used, the relief the Court may grant is limited; that relief cannot include either alimony or child support. For more information on service, see the instructions for Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Forms 12.910(a) and 12.913(b) and Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Forms 12.913(a)(1) and (2).

**Contested Issues** - any or all issues upon which the parties are unable to agree and which must be resolved by the judge at a hearing or trial.

**Contingent Asset** - an asset that you **may** receive or get later, such as income, tax refund, accrued vacation or sick leave, a bonus, or an inheritance.

**Contingent Liability** - a liability that you **may** owe later, such as payments for lawsuits, unpaid taxes, or debts that you have agreed or guaranteed to pay if someone else does not.

**Counterpetition** - a written request to the court for legal action, which is filed by a respondent after being served with a petition.

**Custody Order** – a judgment or order incorporating a Parenting Plan is a child custody determination for the purposes of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, the International Child Abduction Remedies Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 11601 et seq., the Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act, and the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction enacted at the Hague on October 25, 1980.

**Default** - a failure of a party to respond to the pleading of another party. This failure to respond may allow the court to decide the case without input from the party who did not appear or respond.

**Delinquent** - late.

**Dependent Child(ren)** - child(ren) who depend on their parent(s) for support either because they are under the age of 18, have a mental or physical disability that prevents them from supporting themselves, or are in high school, between the ages of 18 and 19, and performing in good faith with a reasonable expectation of graduation before the age of 19.

**Deputy Clerk** - an employee of the office of the clerk of court, which is usually located in the county courthouse or a branch of the county courthouse.

**Dissolution of Marriage** - divorce; a court action to end a marriage.

**Durational Alimony**-spousal support which is ordered to provide economic assistance for a set period of time following a marriage of short or moderate duration or following a marriage of long duration if there is no ongoing need for support on a permanent basis. Durational alimony terminates upon the death of either party or upon remarriage of the party receiving support. It may be modified or terminated, but cannot exceed the length of a marriage.

**Electronic Communication** – Contact, other than face-to-face contact, facilitated by tools such as telephones, electronic mail or email, webcams, video-conferencing equipment and software or other wired or wireless technologies, or other means of communication to supplement fact-to face contact between a parent and that parent’s minor child.

**Enjoined** - prohibited by the court from doing a specific act.

**Ex Parte** - communication with the judge by only one party. In order for a judge to speak with either party, the other party must have been properly notified and have an opportunity to be heard. If you have something you wish to tell the judge, you should ask for a hearing or file information in the clerk of court’s office, with certification that a copy was sent to the other party.

**Extended Family Member**-(for the purposes of a petition filed pursuant to chapter 751, Florida Statutes) is a person who is either:

- 1) A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent; OR
- 2) The stepparent of a minor child if the stepparent is currently married to the parent of the child and is not a party in a pending dissolution, separate maintenance, domestic violence, or other civil or criminal proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction involving one or both of the child’s parents as an adverse party.

**Family Law Intake Staff** - a court’s employee(s) who is (are) available to assist you in filing a family law case. Family law intake staff are not attorneys and cannot give legal advice. They may only assist you with filling out the form(s). Your local clerk’s office can tell you if your county has such assistance available.

**Filing** - delivering a petition, response, motion, or other pleading in a court case to the clerk of court’s office.

**Filing Fee** - an amount of money, set by law, that the petitioner must pay when filing a case. If you cannot afford to pay the fee, you must file an **Application for Determination of Civil Indigent Status**, to ask the clerk to file your case without payment of the fee. This form can be obtained from the clerk’s office.

**Final Hearing** - trial in your case.

**Financial Affidavit** - a sworn statement that contains information regarding your income, expenses, assets, and liabilities.

**Final Judgment** - a written document signed by a judge and recorded in the clerk of the circuit court’s office that contains the judge’s decision in your case.

**Guardian ad Litem** - a neutral person who may be appointed by the court to evaluate or investigate your child’s situation, and file a report with the court about what is in the best interests of your child(ren). Guardians do not “work for” either party. The guardian may interview the parties, visit their homes,

visit the child(ren)'s school(s) and speak with teachers, or use other resources to make their recommendation.

**Hearing** - a legal proceeding before a judge or designated officer (general magistrate or hearing officer) on a motion.

**Health Insurance** - coverage under a fee-for-service arrangement, health care maintenance organization, or preferred provider organization, and other types of coverage available to either parent, under which medical services could be provided to a minor or dependent child.

**Judge** - an elected official who is responsible for deciding matters on which you and the other parties in your case are unable to agree. A judge is a neutral person who is responsible for ensuring that your case is resolved in a manner which is fair, equitable, and legal. **A judge is prohibited by law from giving you or the other party any legal advice, recommendations, or other assistance, and may not talk to either party unless both parties are present, represented, or at a properly scheduled hearing.**

**Judicial Assistant** - the judge's personal staff assistant.

**Liabilities** - everything owed by you or your spouse, including mortgages, credit cards, or car loans. A liability may be marital or nonmarital, but that distinction is for the court to determine if you and your spouse do not agree.

**Lump Sum Alimony** - money ordered to be paid by one spouse to another in a limited number of payments, often a single payment.

**Mandatory Disclosure** - items that must be disclosed by both parties except those exempted from disclosure by Florida Family Law Rule 12.285.

**Marital Asset** - generally, anything that you and/or your spouse acquired or received (by gift or purchase) during the marriage. For example, something you owned before your marriage **may** be nonmarital. An asset may only be determined to be marital by agreement of the parties or determination of the judge.

**Marital Liability** - generally, any debt that you and/or your spouse incurred during the marriage. A debt may only be determined to be nonmarital by agreement of the parties or determination of the judge.

**Mediator** - a person who is trained and certified to assist parties in reaching an agreement before going to court. Mediators do not take either party's side and are not allowed to give legal advice. They are only responsible for helping the parties reach an agreement and putting that agreement into writing. In some areas, mediation of certain family law cases may be required before going to court.

**Modification** - a change made by the court in an order or final judgment.

**Motion** - a request made to the court, other than a petition.

**No Contact** - a court order directing a party not speak to, call, send mail to, visit, or go near his or her spouse, ex-spouse, child(ren), or other family member.

**Nonlawyer** - a person who is not a member in good standing of The Florida Bar.

**Nonmarital Asset** - generally, anything owned separately by you or your spouse. An asset may only be determined to be nonmarital by either agreement of the parties or determination of the judge.

**Nonmarital Liability** - generally, any debt that you or your spouse incurred before your marriage or since your separation. A debt may only be determined to be nonmarital by either agreement of the parties or determination of the judge.

**Nonparty** - a person who is not the petitioner or respondent in a court case.

**Notary Public** - a person authorized to witness signatures on court related forms.

**Obligee** - a person to whom money, such as child support or alimony, is owed.

**Obligor** - a person who is ordered by the court to pay money, such as child support or alimony.

**Order** - a written decision, signed by a judge and filed in the clerk of the circuit court's office that contains the judge's decision on part of your case, usually on a motion.

**Original Petition** - see **Petition**.

**Parenting Course** - a class that teaches parents how to help their child(ren) cope with divorce and other family issues.

**Parenting Plan** – a document created to govern the relationship between the parents relating to the decisions that must be made regarding the minor child(ren). The Parenting Plan must contain a time-sharing schedule for the parents and child(ren) and shall address the issues concerning the minor child(ren). The issues concerning the minor child(ren) may include, but are not limited to, the child(ren)'s education, health care, and physical, social, and emotional well-being. In creating the Plan, all circumstances between the parents, including their historic relationship, domestic violence, and other factors must be taken into consideration. The Parenting Plan must be developed and agreed to by the parents and approved by the court. If the parents cannot agree to a Parenting Plan, or if the parents agreed to a plan that is not approved by the court, a Parenting Plan will be established by the court with or without the use of **parenting plan recommendations**.

**Parenting Plan Recommendation** – A nonbinding recommendation concerning one or more elements of a Parenting Plan made by a court-appointed mental health practitioner or other professional designated pursuant to either section 61.20 or 61.401, Florida Statutes, or Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.363.

**Party** - a person involved in a court case, either as a petitioner or respondent.

**Paternity Action** - A lawsuit used to determine whether a designated individual is the father of a specific child or children.

**Payor** - an employer or other person who provides income to an obligor.

**Permanent Alimony** - spousal support ordered to provide for the needs and necessities of life as they were established during the marriage for a party who lacks the financial ability to meet his or her needs and necessities after dissolution of marriage. Permanent alimony is paid at a specified, periodic rate until: modification by a court order; the death of either party; or the remarriage of the party receiving alimony, whichever occurs first. Permanent alimony requires consideration of the factors set forth in section 61.08(2), Florida Statutes, and must include certain written findings by the court.

**Personal Service** - when a summons and a copy of a petition (or other pleading) that has been filed with the court are delivered by a deputy sheriff or private process server to the other party. Personal service is required for all petitions and supplemental petitions.

**Petition** - a written request to the court for legal action, which begins a court case.

**Petitioner** - the person who originally files a petition that begins a court case. The Petitioner remains the Petitioner throughout the duration of the case.

**Pleading** - a formal, written statement of exactly what a party wants the court to do in a lawsuit or court action.

**Pro Se or Self-Represented Litigant** - a person who appears in court without the assistance of a lawyer.

**Pro Se Coordinator** - see **Family Law Intake Staff**.

**Rehabilitative Alimony** - spousal support ordered to be paid for a limited period of time to allow one of the parties an opportunity to complete a plan of education or training, according to a rehabilitative plan accepted by the court, so that he or she may better support himself or herself after dissolution of marriage.

**Relocation**- a change in the location of the principal residence of a parent or other person in accordance with section 61.13001, Florida Statutes.



**Respondent** - the person who is served with a petition requesting some legal action against him or her. The Respondent remains the Respondent throughout the duration of the case.

**Scientific Paternity Testing** - a medical test to determine the biological father of a child

**Service** - the delivery of legal documents to a party. Service must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

**Shared Parental Responsibility** - an arrangement under which both parents have full parental rights and responsibilities for their child(ren), and the parents make major decisions affecting the welfare of the child(ren) jointly. Shared Parental Responsibility is presumptive in Florida.

**Sole Parental Responsibility** - a parenting arrangement under which the responsibility for the minor child(ren) is given to one parent by the court, with or without rights of time-sharing to the other parent.

**State Disbursement Unit**- the unit established and operated by the Title IV-D agency to provide one central address for the collection and disbursement of child support payments made in both Department of Revenue and non-Department of Revenue cases, in which the obligation is paid through an income deduction order.

**Supervised Time-Sharing**- a parenting arrangement under which time-sharing between a parent and his or her child(ren) is supervised by either a friend, family member, or a supervised visitation center.

**Supplemental Petition** - a petition that may be filed by either party after the judge has made a decision in a case and a final judgment or order has been entered. For example, a supplemental petition may be used to request that the court modify the previously entered final judgment or order.

**Supportive Relationship**-a relationship, defined in section 61.14(1)(b)1, Florida Statutes, existing between an obligee who receives alimony and a person with whom that obligee resides.

**Time-Sharing Schedule** – a timetable that must be included in the Parenting Plan that specifies the time, including overnights and holidays that a minor child or children will spend with each parent. The time-sharing schedule shall either be developed and agreed to by the parents of a minor child or children and is approved by the court, or established by the court if the parents cannot agree, or if their agreed-upon schedule is not approved by the court.

**Trial** - the final hearing in a contested case.

**Uncontested** - any and all issues on which the parties are able to agree and which are part of a marital settlement agreement.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,

Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,

Respondent.

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FAMILY LAW DIVISION  
THE TWELVE RULES OF COURTROOM CIVILITY**

The judges, general masters and hearing officers assigned to the Family Law Division in Hillsborough County expect that all litigants, whether or not they are represented by attorneys, will conduct themselves in an appropriate fashion so that all parties will be afforded a fair opportunity to present their case.

The following guidelines are meant to assist you in meeting appropriate standards of conduct when you appear in court.

1. Be truthful in all statements that you make to the court. False statements under oath constitute perjury which is a criminal offense.
2. Do not call or write to the judge. As a general rule, documents and testimony can be read or heard by the judge only in the presence of both parties.
3. Be courteous. Other than to make appropriate objections, do not interrupt anyone who is speaking. If you are representing yourself and you have an objection to something a witness says, merely say, "Objection" and the court will allow you to state the nature of your objection.
4. Treat all court personnel with respect, including bailiffs, judicial assistants, clerks, court investigators, judges, general masters and hearing officers.
5. Do not make faces or gestures at the opposing party, his or her attorney, witnesses or the judge while in the courtroom. Speak directly to the judge or your attorney, not the opposing party or a witness. You will be given an opportunity to be heard by the court.

6. Show your respect for the court by dressing appropriately and wearing clean clothes. Coats, ties, suits and dresses are welcome but not required. Shorts, blue jeans, t-shirts and sneakers are not appropriate.
7. Do not bring any food or beverage into the courtroom and do not chew gum or eat candy in the courtroom.
8. Do not bring children to the courthouse (except in adoption cases), unless the court has so ordered.
9. Be aware that witnesses you bring to court are not usually permitted to remain in the courtroom while you, your spouse or former spouse, or other witnesses testify.
10. Bring at least four (4) copies of any documents that you intend to offer into evidence.
11. All documents should be pre-marked with a case number, name, the date and a space for the judge to admit the document into evidence.
12. The courthouse is located in a congested area. Parking is limited and takes time. Plan your time so you can park and be available at least fifteen (15) minutes before the hearing is scheduled to begin.

I have read and acknowledge my responsibilities as a litigant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Petitioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Respondent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I have read and reviewed with my client his or her responsibilities as a litigant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE  
FORM 12.900(a)  
DISCLOSURE FROM NONLAWYER (11/12)**

**When should this form be used?**

This form must be used when anyone who is **not** a lawyer in good standing with The Florida Bar helps you complete any Florida Family Law Form. Attorneys who are licensed to practice in other states but not Florida, or who have been disbarred or suspended from the practice of law in Florida, are nonlawyers for the purposes of the Florida Family Law Forms and instructions.

The nonlawyer must complete this form and both of you are to sign it before the nonlawyer assists you in completing any Family Law Form.

**In addition**, on any other form with which a nonlawyer helps you, the nonlawyer shall complete the nonlawyer section located at the bottom of the form unless otherwise specified in the instructions to the form. This is to protect you and be sure that you are informed in advance of the nonlawyer's limitations.

**What should I do next?**

A copy of this disclosure, signed by both the nonlawyer and the person, must be given to the person to retain and the nonlawyer must keep a copy in the person's file. The nonlawyer shall also keep copies for at least 6 years of all forms given to the person being assisted.

**Special Notes**

This disclosure form does **NOT** act as or constitute a waiver, disclaimer, or limitation of liability.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent.

### DISCLOSURE FROM NONLAWYER

{Name} \_\_\_\_\_ told me that he/she is a nonlawyer and may not give legal advice, cannot tell me what my rights or remedies are, cannot tell me how to testify in court, and cannot represent me in court.

Rule 10-2.1(b) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar defines a paralegal as a person who works under the supervision of a member of The Florida Bar and who performs specifically delegated substantive legal work for which a member of The Florida Bar is responsible. Only persons who meet the definition may call themselves paralegals. {Name} \_\_\_\_\_, informed me that he/she is not a paralegal as defined by the rule and cannot call himself/herself a paralegal.

{Name} \_\_\_\_\_, told me that he/she may only type the factual information provided by me in writing into the blanks on the form. Except for typing, {name} \_\_\_\_\_, may not tell me what to put in the form and may not complete the form for me. However, if using a form approved by the Supreme Court of Florida, {name} \_\_\_\_\_, may ask me factual questions to fill in the blanks on the form and may also tell me how to file the form.

{Choose **one** only}

\_\_\_\_\_ I can read English.

\_\_\_\_\_ I cannot read English, but this disclosure was read to me [fill in **both** blanks] by  
{name} \_\_\_\_\_ in {language} \_\_\_\_\_, which I understand.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of **NONLAWYER**

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW  
FORM 12.983(b)  
ANSWER TO PETITION TO DETERMINE PATERNITY AND FOR RELATED  
RELIEF (11/15)**

**When should this form be used?**

This form should be used when you are responding to a petition to determine paternity. You may use this form to admit or deny the allegations contained in the petition. However, if you wish to ask the court for things not included in the petition, such as, parental responsibility and time-sharing or child support, you should file an **Answer to Petition and Counterpetition to Determine Paternity and for Related Relief**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.983(c).

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign this form before a notary public or deputy clerk. You should then file the original with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for your records.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme

Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **What should I do next?**

If you deny that the person named in the petition is the child(ren)'s father, a **Motion for Scientific Paternity Testing**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.983(e), should be filed. This is used to ask the court to order a scientific test to determine who is the child(ren)'s father.

You have 20 days to file an answer to the other party's petition. A copy of this form, along with all of the other forms required with this **answer**, must be mailed, e-mailed, **or** hand delivered to the other party in your case. After you file your answer, the case will generally proceed in one of the following two ways:

**UNCONTESTED...** This case is uncontested if you and the petitioner agree on all issues raised in the petition. If this is the case, **and** you and the other party have complied with **mandatory disclosure** and filed all of the required papers, either party may call the clerk, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** to set a **final hearing**. If you request the hearing, you must notify the other party of the hearing by using a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, or other appropriate notice of hearing form.

**CONTESTED...** This case is contested if you and the other party disagree on any issues raised in the petition. If you are unable to settle the disputed issues, either party may file a **Notice for Trial** Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.924, after you have complied with mandatory disclosure and filed all of the required papers. Some circuits may require the completion of **mediation** before a final hearing may be set. You should contact the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant for instructions on how to set your case for **trial** (final hearing).

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see chapter 742, Florida Statutes.

### **Special notes...**

With this answer, you must file the following and provide a copy to the other party:

- **Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d).
- **Notice of Social Security Number**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j).
- **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902 (b) or (c). (This must be filed within 45 days of the **service** of the petition on you, if not filed at the time you file this answer.)
- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of the **service** of the petition on you, if not filed at the time you file this answer, unless you and the other party have agreed not to exchange these documents.)
- **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e). (If

you do not know the other party's income, you may file this form after the other party files his or her financial affidavit.)

Many circuits require completion of **mediation** before being allowed to schedule a final hearing. A **parenting course** must be completed prior to entry of the final judgment. You should check with your local clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant for more information on the parenting course and mediation requirements in your area.

**Parenting Plan and Time-Sharing.** If the parents are unable to agree on parenting arrangements and a time-sharing schedule, a judge will decide these issues as part of establishing a Parenting Plan. The judge will decide the parenting arrangements and time-sharing schedule based on the child(ren)'s best interests. Regardless of whether there is an agreement between the parties, the court reserves jurisdiction to modify issues relating to minor child(ren).

The judge may request a **parenting plan recommendation** or appoint a **guardian ad litem** in your case. This means that a neutral person will review your situation and report to the judge concerning parenting issues. The purpose of such intervention is to be sure that the best interests of the child(ren) are being served. For more information, you may consult sections 61.401 and 61.405, Florida Statutes.

Listed below are some terms with which you should become familiar before completing your answer. **If you do not fully understand any of the terms below or their implications, you should speak with an attorney before going any further.**

- **Shared Parental Responsibility**
- **Sole Parental Responsibility**
- **Supervised Time-Sharing**
- **No contact**
- **Parenting Plan**
- **Parenting Plan Recommendation**
- **Time-Sharing Schedule**

**Child Support...** The court may order one parent to pay **child support** to assist the other parent in meeting the child(ren)'s material needs. **Both parents are required to provide financial support**, but one parent may be ordered to pay a portion of his or her support for the child(ren) to the other parent. Florida has adopted guidelines for determining the amount of child support to be paid. These guidelines are based on the combined income of **both** parents and take into account the financial contributions of both parents. You should file a **financial affidavit**, and the other parent will be required to do the same. From your financial affidavits, you should be able to calculate the amount of child support that should be paid. Because the child support guidelines take several factors into consideration, change over time, and vary from state to state, your child support obligation may be more or less than that of other people in seemingly similar situations.

**Final Judgments...** These family law forms contain a **Final Judgment of Paternity**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.983(g), which the judge may use. You should check with the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to see if you need to bring it with you to the hearing. If so, you should type or print the heading, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the parties' names, and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete at your hearing or trial.



Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from a Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent,

### **ANSWER TO PETITION TO DETERMINE PATERNITY AND FOR RELATED RELIEF**

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, Respondent,  
being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

1. I **agree** with Petitioner as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **admit** those allegations: {indicate section and paragraph number} \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. I **disagree** with Petitioner as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **deny** those issues: {indicate section and paragraph number} \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. I currently am unable to admit or deny the following paragraphs due to lack of information: {indicate section and paragraph number} \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. [I applicable] A completed **Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), is filed with this answer as I disagree with the Affidavit filed by the Petitioner.
5. A completed **Notice of Social Security Number**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j), is filed with this answer if one has not already been filed in this case.
6. A completed **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), \_\_\_\_\_ is, or \_\_\_\_\_ will be, filed.

I certify that a copy of this document was (    ) mailed (    ) faxed and mailed (    ) e-mailed (    ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

**Petitioner or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this answer and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.}

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known  
\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification  
\_\_\_\_\_ Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only one}* (     ) Petitioner (     ) Respondent.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{address}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zip code}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.

# **INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW FORM 12.983(c), ANSWER TO PETITION AND COUNTERPETITION TO DETERMINE PATERNITY AND FOR RELATED RELIEF (11/15)**

## **When should this form be used?**

This form should be used when you are responding to a **petition** to determine **paternity** and asking the court for something different than what was in the petition, such as parental responsibility, time-sharing, and **child support**. The **answer** is used to admit or deny the allegations contained in the petition, and the **counterpetition** is used to ask for whatever you want the court to do for you. The other party has 20 days to answer your counterpetition after being served with your counterpetition.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should then **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for your records.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

## What should I do next?

You have 20 days to file an answer or answer and counterpetition to the other party's petition. A copy of this form, along with all of the other forms required with this answer and counterpetition, must be mailed **or** hand delivered to the other party in your case.

If you deny that the person named in the petition is the child(ren)'s father, a **Motion for Scientific Paternity Testing** Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.983(e), should be filed. This is used to ask the court to order a scientific test to determine who is the child(ren)'s father.

After you file an answer and counterpetition, the case will then generally proceed as follows:

**UNCONTESTED.** This case is uncontested if you and the other party agree on all issues raised in the petition and the counterpetition. If this is the case, **and** you and the other party have complied with **mandatory disclosure** and filed all of the required papers, either party may call the clerk, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** to set a final hearing. If you request the hearing, you must notify the other party of the hearing by using a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, or other appropriate notice of hearing form.

**CONTESTED.** This case is contested if you and the other party disagree on any issues raised in the petition or counterpetition. If you are unable to settle the disputed issues, either party may file a **Notice for Trial**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.924, after you have complied with mandatory disclosure and filed all of the required papers. Some circuits may require the completion of **mediation** before a final hearing may be set. You should contact the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant for instructions on how to set your case for **trial (final hearing)**.

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants for some basic information.** The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see chapter 742, Florida Statutes.

## Special notes...

If the child(ren)'s father signed papers at the hospital acknowledging that he was the father, paternity was established as a matter of law. This should be indicated on page 2, section 10a of the counterpetition part of this form. With this answer, you must file the following:

- **Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d).
- **Notice of Social Security Number** Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j).
- **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c). (This must be filed within 45 days of **service** of the petition on you if not filed with this answer.)
- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure** Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure

Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on you, if not filed with this answer, unless you and the other party have agreed not to exchange these documents.)

- **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e). (If you do not know the other party's income, you may file this worksheet after his or her financial affidavit has been filed.)
- **Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(a), 12.995(b), or (c). If the parents have reached an agreement, a signed and notarized Parenting Plan should be attached. If the parents have not reached an agreement, a proposed Parenting Plan **may** be filed.

Many jurisdictions may require the completion of **mediation** before a final hearing may be set. A **parenting course** must be completed prior to entry of the final judgment. You should contact the office of your local clerk of court, family law intake staff, or the judicial assistant about requirements for parenting courses or mediation where you live.

**Parenting Plan and Time-Sharing.** If the parties are unable to agree on parenting arrangements and a time-sharing schedule, a judge will decide as part of establishing a Parenting Plan. The judge will decide the parenting arrangements and time-sharing schedule based on the child(ren)'s best interests. Regardless of whether there is an agreement between the parties, the court reserves jurisdiction to modify issues relating to minor child(ren).

The judge may request a **parenting plan recommendation** or appoint a **guardian ad litem** in your case. This means that a neutral person will review your situation and report to the judge concerning parenting issues. The purpose of such intervention is to be sure that the best interests of the child(ren) is being served. For more information, you may consult section 61.401 and 61.405, Florida Statutes.

Listed below are some terms with which you should become familiar before completing your answer and counterpetition. **If you do not fully understand any of the terms below or their implications, you should speak with an attorney before going any further.**

**Shared Parental Responsibility**

**Sole Parental Responsibility**

**Supervised Time-Sharing**

**No contact**

**Parenting Plan**

**Parenting Plan Recommendations**

**Time-Sharing Schedule**

**Child Support.** The court may order one parent to pay child support to assist the other parent in meeting the child(ren)'s material needs. **Both parents are required to provide financial support**, but one parent may be ordered to pay a portion of his or her support for the child(ren) to the other parent.

Florida has adopted guidelines for determining the amount of child support to be paid. These guidelines are based on the combined income of **both** parents and take into account the financial contributions of both parents. You should file a **financial affidavit**, and the other parent will be required to do the same. From your financial affidavits, you should be able to calculate the amount of child support that should be

paid. Because the child support guidelines take several factors into consideration, change over time, and vary from state to state, your child support obligation may be more or less than that of other people in seemingly similar situations.

**Parenting Plan.** In all cases involving minor or dependent child(ren), a Parenting Plan shall be approved or established by the court. If the parties have reached an agreement, you should file a **Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(a), 12.995(b), or 12.995(c) which addresses the time-sharing schedule for the child(ren). If you have not reached an agreement, a proposed Parenting Plan **may** be filed. **A Parenting Plan will be established by the court.**

**Final Judgments.** These family law forms contain a **Final Judgment of Paternity**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.983(g), which the judge may use. You should check with the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to see if you need to bring it with you to the hearing. If so, you should type or print the heading, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the parties' names, and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete at your hearing or trial.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent,

### **ANSWER TO PETITION AND COUNTERPETITION TO DETERMINE PATERNITY AND FOR RELATED RELIEF**

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, Respondent,  
being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

#### **ANSWER TO PETITION**

1. I **agree** with Petitioner as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **admit** those allegations: {indicate section and paragraph number}

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. I **disagree** with Petitioner as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **deny** those issues: {indicate section and paragraph number}

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

3. I currently am unable to admit or deny the following paragraphs due to lack of information:  
{indicate section and paragraph number} \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

#### **COUNTERPETITION TO DETERMINE PATERNITY AND FOR RELATED RELIEF**

##### **SECTION I. PATERNITY**

1. Respondent is the \_\_\_\_\_ mother \_\_\_\_\_ father of the following minor child(ren):

**Name**

**Birth Date**

- (1). \_\_\_\_\_  
(2). \_\_\_\_\_  
(3). \_\_\_\_\_  
(4). \_\_\_\_\_  
(5). \_\_\_\_\_

(6). \_\_\_\_\_

2. Petitioner's current address is: {street address, city, state}

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Respondent's current address is: {street address, city, state}

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Both parties are over the age of 18.

5. Petitioner {Choose only one} \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ is not a member of the military service.

Respondent {Choose only one} \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ is not a member of the military service.

6. Neither Petitioner nor Respondent is mentally incapacitated.

7. A completed Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), is filed with this counterpetition.

8. A completed Notice of Social Security Number, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j), is filed with this counterpetition.

9. A completed Family Law Financial Affidavit, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), \_\_\_\_\_ is, or \_\_\_\_\_ will be, filed.

**10. Paternity Facts.**

{Choose only one}

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Paternity has previously been established as a matter of law.

- b. \_\_\_\_\_ The parties engaged in sexual intercourse with each other in the month(s) of {list month(s) and year(s)} \_\_\_\_\_,  
in: {city and state} \_\_\_\_\_.

As a result of the sexual intercourse, \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent conceived and gave birth to the minor child(ren) named in paragraph 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent is the natural father of the minor child(ren). The mother \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ was not married at the time of the conception and/or birth of the minor child(ren) named in paragraph 1. If the mother was married, the name and address of her husband at the time of conception and/or birth is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**SECTION II. PARENTING PLAN ESTABLISHING PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND TIME-SHARING**

1. The minor child(ren) currently reside(s) with \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Other: {explain}

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Parental Responsibility.** It is in the child(ren)'s best interests that parental responsibility be:  
{Choose only one}

a. \_\_\_\_\_ shared by both Father and Mother.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ awarded solely to \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother. Shared parental responsibility would be detrimental to the child(ren) because:

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3. **Parenting Plan and Time-Sharing.** It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that the family be ordered to comply with a Parenting Plan that \_\_\_\_\_ includes \_\_\_\_\_ does not include parental time-sharing with the child(ren). The Respondent states that it is in the best interests of the child(ren) that:

{Choose only one}

a. \_\_\_\_\_ The attached proposed Parenting Plan should be adopted by the court.  
The parties ( ) have ( ) have **not** agreed to the Parenting Plan.

b. b. The court should establish a Parenting Plan with the following provisions:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **No** time-sharing for the \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Limited time-sharing with the \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Supervised time-sharing for the \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Supervised or third-party exchange for the child(ren).

Time-sharing schedule as follows:

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4. **Explain why this request is in the best interest of the child(ren):** \_\_\_\_\_

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---

5. The minor child(ren) should:

[Choose only one]

a. \_\_\_\_\_ retain his/her (their) present name(s).

b. \_\_\_\_\_ receive a change of name as follows:

present name(s)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

be changed to:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION III. CHILD SUPPORT

*[Indicate **all** that apply]*

1. Respondent requests that the court award child support as determined by Florida's child support guidelines, section 61.30, Florida Statutes. A completed **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), is, or will be, filed. Such support should be ordered retroactive to:

*[Choose only **one**]*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ the date when the parents did not reside together in the same household with the child, not to exceed a period of 24 months before the date of filing of this counterpetition.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ the date of the filing of this petition.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ other: {date} \_\_\_\_\_ {Explain} \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent requests that the Court award a child support amount that is more than or less than Florida's child support guidelines. Respondent understands that a **Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943, **must** be completed before the Court will consider this request.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent requests that medical/dental insurance coverage for the minor child(ren) be provided by:

*[Choose only **one**]*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Father.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Mother.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent requests that uninsured medical/dental expenses for the child(ren) be paid by: *[Choose only **one**]*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Father.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Mother.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Father and Mother each pay one-half.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Father and Mother each pay according to the percentages in the **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e).
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ Other {explain}: \_\_\_\_\_.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent requests that life insurance to secure child support be provided by:

*[Choose only **one**]*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Father.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Mother.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Both.

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent \_\_\_\_\_ Both has (have) incurred medical expenses in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on behalf of the minor child(ren), including hospital and other expenses incidental to the birth of the minor child(ren). There should be an appropriate allocation or apportionment of these expenses.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent \_\_\_\_\_ Both has (have) received past public assistance for this (these) minor child(ren).

**RESPONDENT'S REQUEST**

1. Respondent requests a hearing on this petition and understands that he or she must attend the hearing.

2. Respondent requests that the Court enter an order that:

*[Choose **all** that apply]*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ establishes paternity of the minor child(ren), ordering proper scientific testing, if necessary;
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ establishes a Parenting Plan containing provisions for parental responsibility and time-sharing for the minor or dependent child(ren);
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ awards child support, including medical/dental insurance coverage, for the minor child(ren);
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ determines the appropriate allocation or apportionment of all expenses incidental to the birth of the child(ren), including hospital and medical expenses;
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ determines the appropriate allocation or apportionment of all other past, present, and future medical and dental expenses incurred or to be incurred on behalf of the minor child(ren);
- f. \_\_\_\_\_ changes the child(ren)'s name(s); and
- g. \_\_\_\_\_ other relief as follows: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ; and  
grants such other relief as may be appropriate and in the best interests of the minor child(ren).

I certify that a copy of this document was ( ) mailed ( ) faxed and mailed ( ) e-mailed ( ) hand-delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

**Petitioner or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this answer and counterpetition and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the Respondent/Counterpetitioner. This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{address}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zip code}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.995(a), PARENTING PLAN (02/18)

## When should this form be used?

A **Parenting Plan** is required in all cases involving **time-sharing** with minor child(ren), even when time-sharing is not in dispute. The Parenting Plan must be developed and agreed to by the parents and approved by the court. If the parties cannot agree to a Parenting Plan or if the parents agreed to a plan that is not approved by the court, a Parenting Plan will be established by the court with or without the use of parenting plan recommendations. This form or a similar form should be used in the development of a Parenting Plan. If the case involves **supervised time-sharing**, the **Supervised/Safety Focused Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(b) or a similar form should be used. If the case involves relocation, pursuant to Section 61.13001, Florida Statutes, then a **Relocation/Long Distance Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(c) or a similar form should be used. **The parents must identify a name or designation to be used throughout this Parenting Plan.**

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. Please either delete or strike-through terms or paragraphs that are inappropriate or inapplicable to your agreement. If an agreement has been reached, **both** parties must sign the Parenting Plan and have their signatures witnessed by a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the **petition** was filed and keep a copy for your records. You should then refer to the instructions for your petition, **answer**, or answer and **counterpetition** concerning the procedures for setting a hearing or **trial (final hearing)**. If the parents have not reached an agreement, a proposed Parenting Plan may be filed by either parent at the time of or any time prior to the final hearing. If an agreed Parenting Plan is not filed by the parties, the court shall establish a Plan.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain

circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in “**bold underline**” in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see chapter 61, Florida Statutes, and the instructions for the petition and/or answer that were filed in this case.

### **Special notes...**

At a minimum, the **Parenting Plan** must describe in adequate detail:

- How the parties will share and be responsible for the daily tasks associated with the upbringing of the child(ren),
- The **time-sharing schedule** arrangements that specify the time that the minor child(ren) will spend with each parent,
- A designation of who will be responsible for any and all forms of health care, school-related matters, including the address to be used for school-boundary determination and registration, other activities, and
- The methods and technologies that the parents will use to communicate with the child(ren).

The best interests of the child(ren) is the primary consideration in the Parenting Plan. In creating the Parenting Plan, all circumstances between the parents, including their historic relationship, domestic violence, and other factors must be taken into consideration. Determination of the best interests of the child(ren) shall be made by evaluating all of the factors affecting the welfare and interest of the particular minor child(ren) and the circumstances of that family, as listed in section 61.13(3), Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to:



- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to facilitate and encourage a close and continuing parent-child relationship, to honor the time-sharing schedule, and to be reasonable when changes are required;
- The anticipated division of parental responsibilities after the litigation, including the extent to which parental responsibilities will be delegated to third parties;
- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to determine, consider, and act upon the needs of the child(ren) as opposed to the needs or desires of the parent;
- The length of time the child(ren) has lived in a stable, satisfactory environment and the desirability of maintaining continuity;
- The geographic viability of the parenting plan, with special attention paid to the needs of school-age children and the amount of time to be spent traveling to effectuate the parenting plan. This factor does not create a presumption for or against relocation of either parent with a child(ren);
- The moral fitness of the parents;
- The mental and physical health of the parents;
- The home, school, and community record of the child(ren);
- The reasonable preference of the child(ren), if the court deems the child(ren) to be of sufficient intelligence, understanding, and experience to express a preference;
- The demonstrated knowledge, capacity, and disposition of each parent to be informed of the circumstances of the minor child(ren), including, but not limited to, the child(ren)'s friends, teachers, medical care providers, daily activities, and favorite things;
- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to provide a consistent routine for the child(ren), such as discipline, and daily schedules for homework, meals, and bedtime;
- The demonstrated capacity of each parent to communicate with and keep the other parent informed of issues and activities regarding the minor child(ren), and the willingness of each parent to adopt a unified front on all major issues when dealing with the child(ren);
- Evidence of domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect, regardless of whether a prior or pending action relating to those issues has been brought. If the court accepts evidence of prior or pending actions regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect, the court must specifically acknowledge in writing that such evidence was considered when evaluating the best interests of the child(ren);
- Evidence that either parent has knowingly provided false information to the court regarding any prior or pending action regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect;
- The particular parenting tasks customarily performed by each parent and the division of parental responsibilities before the institution of litigation and during the pending litigation, including the extent to which parenting responsibilities were undertaken by third parties;
- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to participate and be involved in the child(ren)'s school and extracurricular activities;
- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to maintain an environment for the child(ren) which is free from substance abuse;
- The capacity and disposition of each parent to protect the child(ren) from the ongoing litigation as demonstrated by not discussing the litigation with the child(ren), not sharing documents or

electronic media related to the litigation with the child(ren), and refraining from disparaging comments about the other parent to the child(ren); and

- The developmental stages and needs of the child(ren) and the demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to meet the child(ren)'s developmental needs.

This standard form does not include every possible issue that may be relevant to the facts of your case. The Parenting Plan should be as detailed as possible to address the time-sharing schedule. Additional provisions should be added to address all of the relevant factors. The parties should give special consideration to the age and needs of each child.

In developing the Parenting Plan, you may wish to consult or review other materials which are available at your local library, law library or through national and state family organizations.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,  
and  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

## PARENTING PLAN

This parenting plan is: *{Choose only one}*

\_\_\_\_\_ A Parenting Plan submitted to the court with the agreement of the parties.

\_\_\_\_\_ A proposed Parenting Plan submitted by or on behalf of:  
*{Parent's Name}* \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ A Parenting Plan established by the court.

This parenting plan is: *{Choose only one}*

\_\_\_\_\_ A final Parenting Plan established by the court.

\_\_\_\_\_ A temporary Parenting Plan established by the court.

\_\_\_\_\_ A modification of a prior final Parenting Plan or prior final order.

### I. PARENTS

**Petitioner, hereinafter referred to in this Parenting Plan as Parent**

***{name or designation}*** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Unknown: *{Please indicate here if Petitioner's address is unknown}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Confidential: *{Please indicate here if Petitioner's address and phone numbers are confidential pursuant to either a \_\_\_\_\_ Final Judgment for Protection Against Domestic Violence, or \_\_\_\_\_ other court order \_\_\_\_\_}*.

**Respondent, hereinafter referred to in this Parenting Plan as Parent**

***{name or designation}*** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Unknown: *{Please indicate here if Respondent's address is unknown}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Confidential: *{Please indicate here if Respondent's address and phone numbers are confidential pursuant to either a \_\_\_\_\_ Final Judgment for Protection Against Domestic Violence or \_\_\_\_\_ other court order\_\_\_\_\_}*

**II. CHILDREN:** This parenting plan is for the following child(ren) born to, or adopted by the parties: *(add additional lines as needed)*

Name

Date of Birth

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

### III. JURISDICTION

The United States is the country of habitual residence of the child(ren).

The State of Florida is the child(ren)'s home state for the purposes of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

This Parenting Plan is a child custody determination for the purposes of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, the International Child Abduction Remedies Act, 42 U.S.C. Sections 11601 et seq., the Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act, and the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction enacted at the Hague on October 25, 1980, and for all other state and federal laws.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### IV. PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND DECISION MAKING

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

#### 1. Parental Responsibility *{Choose only one}*

a. \_\_\_\_\_ **Shared Parental Responsibility.**

It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that the parents confer and **jointly** make all major decisions affecting the welfare of the child(ren). Major decisions include, but are not limited to, decisions about the child(ren)'s education, healthcare, and other responsibilities unique to this family. Either parent may consent to mental health treatment for the child(ren).

**OR**

b. \_\_\_\_\_ **Shared Parental Responsibility with Decision Making Authority**

It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that the parents confer and attempt to agree on the major decisions involving the child(ren). If the parents are unable to agree, the authority for making major decisions regarding the child(ren) shall be as follows:

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Education/Academic decisions | Parent _____ |
| Non-emergency health care    | Parent _____ |
| Other: {Specify} _____       | Parent _____ |
| _____                        | Parent _____ |
| _____                        | Parent _____ |

OR

c. \_\_\_\_\_ **Sole Parental Responsibility:**

It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that Parent {name or designation} \_\_\_\_\_ shall have sole authority to make major decisions for the child(ren.) It is detrimental to the child(ren) to have shared parental responsibility.

2. **Day-to-Day Decisions**

Unless otherwise specified in this plan, each parent shall make decisions regarding day-to-day care and control of each child while the child is with that parent. Regardless of the allocation of decision making in the parenting plan, either parent may make emergency decisions affecting the health or safety of the child(ren) when the child is residing with that parent. A parent who makes an emergency decision shall share the decision with the other parent as soon as reasonably possible.

3. **Extra-curricular Activities** {Indicate all that apply}

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Either parent may register the child(ren) and allow them to participate in the activity of the child(ren)'s choice.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ The parents must mutually agree to all extra-curricular activities.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ The parent with the minor child(ren) shall transport the minor child(ren) to and/or from all mutually agreed upon extra-curricular activities, providing all necessary uniforms and equipment within the parent's possession.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ The costs of the extra-curricular activities shall be paid by:  
Parent \_\_\_\_\_ %  
Parent \_\_\_\_\_ %
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ The uniforms and equipment required for the extra-curricular activities shall be paid by:  
Parent \_\_\_\_\_ %  
Parent \_\_\_\_\_ %

f. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: *{Specify}* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**V. INFORMATION SHARING.** Unless otherwise indicated or ordered by the Court:

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, each parent shall have access to medical and school records and information pertaining to the child(ren) and shall be permitted to independently consult with any and all professionals involved with the child(ren). The parents shall cooperate with each other in sharing information related to the health, education, and welfare of the child(ren) and they shall sign any necessary documentation ensuring that both parents have access to said records.

Each parent shall be responsible for obtaining records and reports directly from the school and health care providers.

Both parents have equal rights to inspect and receive governmental agency and law enforcement records concerning the child(ren).

Both parents shall have equal and independent authority to confer with the child(ren)'s school, day care, health care providers, and other programs with regard to the child(ren)'s educational, emotional, and social progress.

Both parents shall be listed as "emergency contacts" for the child(ren).

Each parent has a continuing responsibility to provide a residential, mailing, and contact address and contact telephone number to the other parent. Each parent shall notify the other parent in writing within 24 hours of any changes. Each parent shall notify the court in writing within seven (7) days of any changes.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**VI. SCHEDULING**

**1. School Calendar**

If necessary, on or before \_\_\_\_\_ of each year, both parents should obtain a copy of the school calendar for the next school year. The parents shall discuss the calendars and the time-sharing schedule so that any differences or questions can be resolved.

The parents shall follow the school calendar of: *{Indicate all that apply}*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ the oldest child
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ the youngest child
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ County

d. \_\_\_\_\_ School

**2. Academic Break Definition**

When defining academic break periods, the period shall begin at the end of the last scheduled day of classes before the holiday or break and shall end on the first day of regularly scheduled classes after the holiday or break.

**3. Schedule Changes {Indicate all that apply}**

a. \_\_\_\_\_ A parent making a request for a schedule change will make the request as soon as possible, but in any event, except in cases of emergency, no less than \_\_\_\_\_ before the change is to occur.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ A parent requesting a change of schedule shall be responsible for any additional child care, or transportation costs caused by the change.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Other {Specify} \_\_\_\_\_.

**VII. TIME-SHARING SCHEDULE**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

*{A time-sharing schedule must be provided for **both** parents.}*

**1. Weekday and Weekend Schedule**

The following schedule shall apply beginning on \_\_\_\_\_ with  
Parent {name or designation} \_\_\_\_\_ and continue as follows:

The child(ren) shall spend time with **Parent** \_\_\_\_\_ on the following dates  
and times:

WEEKENDS: \_\_\_\_\_ Every \_\_\_\_\_ Every Other \_\_\_\_\_ Other {specify} \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

WEEKDAYS: {Specify days} \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: {Specify} \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

The child(ren) shall spend time with the **Parent** \_\_\_\_\_ on the following  
dates and times:

WEEKENDS: \_\_\_\_\_ Every \_\_\_\_\_ Every Other \_\_\_\_\_ Other {specify} \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

WEEKDAYS: {Specify days} \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: {Specify} \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

**Please indicate if there is a different time sharing schedule for any child. Complete a separate Attachment for each child for whom there is a different time sharing schedule.**

\_\_\_\_\_ There is a different time-sharing schedule for the following child(ren) in Attachment \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Name of Child) (Name of Child)

**2. Holiday Schedule {Choose only *one*}**

a. \_\_\_\_\_ No holiday time sharing shall apply. The regular time-sharing schedule set forth above shall apply.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Holiday time-sharing shall be as the parties agree.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Holiday time-sharing shall be in accordance with the following schedule. The Holiday schedule will take priority over the regular weekday, weekend, and summer schedules. Fill in the blanks with the name or designation of the appropriate parent to indicate where the child(ren) will be for the holidays. Provide the beginning and ending times. If a holiday is not specified as even, odd, or every year with one parent, then the child(ren) will remain with the parent in accordance with the regular schedule

| <b><u>Holidays</u></b>  | <b><u>Even Years</u></b> | <b><u>Odd Years</u></b> | <b><u>Every Year</u></b> | <b><u>Begin/End Time</u></b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mother's Day            | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Father's Day            | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| President's Day         | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| M. L. King Day          | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Easter                  | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Passover                | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Memorial Day Wkd        | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> of July | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Labor Day Wkd           | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Columbus Day Wkd        | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Halloween               | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Thanksgiving            | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Veteran's Day           | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Hanukkah                | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Yom Kippur              | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Rosh Hashanah           | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |
| Child(ren)'s Birthdays: | _____                    | _____                   | _____                    | _____                        |



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This holiday schedule may affect the regular Time-Sharing Schedule. Parents may wish to specify either or both of the following options:

d. \_\_\_\_\_ When the parents are using an alternating weekend plan and the holiday schedule would result in one parent having the child(ren) for three weekends in a row, the parents will exchange the following weekend, so that each has two weekends in a row before the regular alternating weekend pattern resumes.

e. \_\_\_\_\_ If a parent has the child(ren) on a weekend immediately before or after an unspecified holiday or non-school day, they shall have the child(ren) for the holiday or non-school day.

**3. Winter Break {Choose only *one*}**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall have the child(ren) from the day and time school is dismissed until December \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p. m in \_\_\_\_\_ odd-numbered years \_\_\_\_\_ even-numbered years \_\_\_\_\_ every year. The other parent will have the children for the second portion of the Winter Break. The parties shall alternate the arrangement each year.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall have the child(ren) for the **entire** Winter Break during \_\_\_\_\_ odd-numbered years \_\_\_\_\_ even-numbered years \_\_\_\_\_ every year.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**d. \_\_\_\_\_ Specific Winter Holidays**

If not addressed above, the specific Winter Holidays such as Christmas, New Year's Eve, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, etc. shall be shared as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**4. Spring Break {Choose only *one*}**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

a. \_\_\_\_\_ The parents shall follow the regular schedule.

- b. \_\_\_\_ The parents shall alternate the entire Spring Break with Parent \_\_\_\_\_ having the child(ren) during the \_\_\_\_ odd-numbered years and Parent \_\_\_\_\_ during the \_\_\_\_ even numbered years.
- c. \_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall have the child(ren) for the entire Spring Break every year.
- d. \_\_\_\_ The Spring Break will be evenly divided. The first half of the Spring Break will go to the parent whose regularly scheduled weekend falls on the first half and the second half going to the parent whose weekend falls during the second half.
- e. \_\_\_\_ Other: {Specify} \_\_\_\_\_.

**5. Summer Break {Choose only *one*}**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

- a. \_\_\_\_ The parents shall follow the regular schedule through the summer.
- b. \_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall have the entire Summer Break from \_\_\_\_\_ after school is out until \_\_\_\_\_ before school starts.
- c. \_\_\_\_ The parents shall equally divide the Summer Break as follows:  
During \_\_\_\_ odd-numbered years \_\_\_\_ even numbered years, \_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall have the children from \_\_\_\_\_  
after school is out until \_\_\_\_\_. The other parent shall have the child(ren) for the second one-half of the Summer Break. The parents shall alternate the first and second one-halves each year unless otherwise agreed. During the extended periods of time-sharing, the other parent shall have the child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- d. \_\_\_\_ Other: {Specify} \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**6. Number of Overnights:**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

Based upon the time-sharing schedule, Parent \_\_\_\_\_ has a total of \_\_\_\_\_ overnights per year and Parent \_\_\_\_\_ has a total of \_\_\_\_\_ overnights per year.

**Note: The two numbers must equal 365.**

7. \_\_\_\_ **If not set forth above**, the parties shall have time-sharing in accordance with the schedule which is attached and incorporated herein.

**VIII. TRANSPORTATION AND EXCHANGE OF CHILD(REN)**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

1. **Transportation** *{Choose only one}*

- a. \_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall provide all transportation.
- b. \_\_\_\_ The parent beginning their time-sharing shall provide transportation for the child(ren).
- c. \_\_\_\_ The parent ending their time-sharing shall provide transportation for the child(ren).
- d. \_\_\_\_ Other: *{Specify}* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Exchange**

Both parents shall have the child(ren) ready on time with sufficient clothing packed and ready at the agreed upon time of exchange. If a parent is more than \_\_\_\_\_ minutes late without contacting the other parent to make other arrangements, the parent with the child(ren) may proceed with other plans and activities.  
*{Choose only one}*:

- a. \_\_\_\_ Exchanges shall be at the parents' homes unless both parents agree to a different meeting place.
- b. \_\_\_\_ Exchanges shall occur at \_\_\_\_\_ unless both parties agree in advance to a different meeting place.
- c. \_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Transportation Costs** *{Choose only one}*

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

- a. \_\_\_\_ Transportation costs are included in the Child Support Worksheets and/or the Order for Child Support and should not be included here.
- b. \_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall pay \_\_\_\_% and Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall pay \_\_\_\_% of the transportation costs.
- c. \_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

4. **Foreign and Out-Of-State Travel** *{Indicate all that apply}*

a. \_\_\_\_ Either parent may travel within the United States with the child(ren) during his/her time-sharing. The parent traveling with the child(ren) shall give the other parent at least \_\_\_\_ days written notice before traveling out of state unless there is an emergency, and shall provide the other parent with a detailed itinerary, including locations and telephone numbers where the child(ren) and parent can be reached at least \_\_\_\_ days before traveling.

b. \_\_\_\_ Either parent may travel out of the country with the child(ren) during his/her time-sharing. At least \_\_\_\_ days prior to traveling, the parent shall provide a detailed itinerary, including locations, and telephone numbers where the child(ren) and parent may be reached during the trip. Each parent agrees to provide whatever documentation is necessary for the other parent to take the child(ren) out of the country.

c. \_\_\_\_ If a parent wishes to travel out of the country with the child(ren), he/she shall provide the following security for the return of the child

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

d. \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**IX. EDUCATION**

1. **School designation.**

For purposes of school boundary determination and registration, the address of Parent *{name or designation}* \_\_\_\_\_ shall be used .

2. \_\_\_\_ *{If Applicable}* The following provisions are made regarding private or home schooling: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Other.** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**X. DESIGNATION FOR OTHER LEGAL PURPOSES**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

The child(ren) named in this Parenting Plan are scheduled to reside the majority of the time with Parent \_\_\_\_\_. This majority designation is **SOLELY** for purposes of all other state and federal laws which require such a designation. **This designation does not affect either parent's rights and responsibilities under this Parenting Plan.**

## XI. COMMUNICATION

### 1. Between Parents

All communications regarding the child(ren) shall be between the parents. The parents shall not use the child(ren) as messengers to convey information, ask questions, or set up schedule changes.

The parents shall communicate with each other: *{Indicate all that apply}*

\_\_\_\_\_ in person

\_\_\_\_\_ by telephone

\_\_\_\_\_ by letter

\_\_\_\_\_ by e-mail

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: *{Specify}* \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2. Between Parent and Child(ren)

Both parents shall keep contact information current. Telephone or other electronic communication between the child(ren) and the other parent shall not be monitored by or interrupted by the other parent. "Electronic communication" includes telephones, electronic mail or e-mail, webcams, video-conferencing equipment and software or other wired or wireless technologies or other means of communication to supplement face to face contact.

The child(ren) may have \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ other electronic communication in the form of \_\_\_\_\_ with the other parent:  
*{Choose only one}*

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Anytime

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Every day during the hours of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ On the following days \_\_\_\_\_  
during the hours of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

d. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### 3. Costs of Electronic Communication shall be addressed as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## XII. CHILD CARE *{Choose only one}*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Each parent may select appropriate child care providers

2. \_\_\_\_ All child care providers must be agreed upon by both parents.
3. \_\_\_\_ Each parent must offer the other parent the opportunity to care for the child(ren) before using a child care provider for any period exceeding \_\_\_\_ hours.
4. \_\_\_\_ Other: *{Specify}*\_\_\_\_\_.

### **XIII. CHANGES OR MODIFICATIONS OF THE PARENTING PLAN**

Temporary changes to this Parenting Plan may be made informally without a written document; however, if the parties dispute the change, the Parenting Plan shall remain in effect until further order of the court.

Any substantial changes to the Parenting Plan must be sought through the filing of a supplemental petition for modification.

### **XIV. RELOCATION**

Any relocation of the child(ren) is subject to and must be sought in compliance with section 61.13001, Florida Statutes.

### **XV. DISPUTES OR CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Parents shall attempt to cooperatively resolve any disputes which may arise over the terms of the Parenting Plan. The parents may wish to use mediation or other dispute resolution methods and assistance, such as Parenting Coordinators and Parenting Counselors, before filing a court action.

### **XVI. OTHER PROVISIONS**

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**SIGNATURES OF PARENTS**

**I certify that I have been open and honest in entering into this Parenting Plan. I am satisfied with this Plan and intend to be bound by it.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Petitioner/Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of  
notary or clerk.}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

\_\_\_\_\_ Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I have been open and honest in entering into this Parenting Plan. I am satisfied with this Plan and intend to be bound by it.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Respondent/Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of  
notary or clerk.}*

\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only one}* \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner

\_\_\_\_ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{address}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zip code}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.



**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW  
FORM 12.995(b),  
SUPERVISED/SAFETY-FOCUSED PARENTING PLAN  
(02/18)**

**When should this form be used?**

A **Parenting Plan** is required in all cases involving minor child(ren). This form or a similar form should be used in cases when you feel your child(ren) cannot be safely alone with the other parent or if you believe **shared parental responsibility** presents a detriment to the child(ren). In this case, a Parenting Plan must be developed that allows **time-sharing** with any minor child(ren), while providing protection for the child(ren). If safety or supervised time-sharing is not a concern, **Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(a) or a similar form should be used. If the case involves relocation, pursuant to Section 61.13001, Florida Statutes, then **Relocation/Long Distance Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(c) or a similar form should be used. **The parents must identify a name or designation to be used throughout this Parenting Plan.**

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. If an agreement has been reached, **both** parties must sign the Parenting Plan and have their signatures witnessed by a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the **petition** was filed and keep a copy for your records. You should then refer to the instructions for your petition, **answer**, or answer and **counterpetition** concerning the procedures for setting a hearing or **trial (final hearing)**. If the parents have not reached an agreement, a proposed Parenting Plan may be filed by either parent at the time of or any time prior to the final hearing. If an agreed Parenting Plan is not filed by the parties, the court shall establish a Plan.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial**

**Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in “**bold underline**” in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see chapter 61, Florida Statutes, and the instructions for the petition and/or answer that were filed in this case.

### **Special notes...**

If you fear that disclosing your address would put you in danger, you should complete a Request for Confidential Filing of Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Form 12.980(h), file it with the clerk of the circuit court and write confidential in the space provided in the Parenting Plan.

At a minimum, the **Parenting Plan** must describe in adequate detail:

- How the parties will share and be responsible for the daily tasks associated with the upbringing of the child(ren),
- The **time-sharing schedule** arrangements that specify the time that the minor child(ren) will spend with each parent,
- A designation of who will be responsible for any and all forms of health care, school-related matters, including the address to be used for school-boundary determination and registration, other activities, and
- The methods and technologies that the parents will use to communicate with the child(ren).

The best interests of the child(ren) is the primary consideration in the Parenting Plan. In creating the Parenting Plan, all circumstances between the parents, including their historic relationship, domestic violence, and other factors must be taken into consideration. Determination of the best interests of the

child(ren) shall be made by evaluating all of the factors affecting the welfare and interest of the particular minor child(ren) and the circumstances of that family, as listed in section 61.13(3), Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to:

- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to facilitate and encourage a close and continuing parent-child relationship, to honor the time-sharing schedule, and to be reasonable when changes are required;
- The anticipated division of parental responsibilities after the litigation, including the extent to which parental responsibilities will be delegated to third parties;
- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to determine, consider, and act upon the needs of the child(ren) as opposed to the needs or desires of the parent;
- The length of time the child(ren) has lived in a stable, satisfactory environment and the desirability of maintaining continuity;
- The geographic viability of the parenting plan, with special attention paid to the needs of school-age children and the amount of time to be spent traveling to effectuate the parenting plan. This factor does not create a presumption for or against relocation of either parent with a child(ren);
- The moral fitness of the parents;
- The mental and physical health of the parents;
- The home, school, and community record of the child(ren);
- The reasonable preference of the child(ren), if the court deems the child(ren) to be of sufficient intelligence, understanding, and experience to express a preference;
- The demonstrated knowledge, capacity, and disposition of each parent to be informed of the circumstances of the minor child(ren), including, but not limited to, the child(ren)'s friends, teachers, medical care providers, daily activities, and favorite things;
- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to provide a consistent routine for the child(ren), such as discipline, and daily schedules for homework, meals, and bedtime;
- The demonstrated capacity of each parent to communicate with and keep the other parent informed of issues and activities regarding the minor child(ren), and the willingness of each parent to adopt a unified front on all major issues when dealing with the child(ren);
- Evidence of domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect, regardless of whether a prior or pending action relating to those issues has been brought. If the court accepts evidence of prior or pending actions regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect, the court must specifically acknowledge, in writing that such evidence was considered when evaluating the best interests of the child(ren);
- Evidence that either parent has knowingly provided false information to the court regarding any prior or pending action regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect;
- The particular parenting tasks customarily performed by each parent and the division or parental responsibilities before the institution of litigation and during the pending litigation, including the extent to which parenting responsibilities were undertaken by third parties;
- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to participate and be involved in the child(ren)'s school and extracurricular activities;

- The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to maintain an environment for the child(ren) which is free from substance abuse;
- The capacity and disposition of each parent to protect the child(ren) from the ongoing litigation as demonstrated by not discussing the litigation with the child(ren), not sharing documents or electronic media related to the litigation with the child(ren), and refraining from disparaging comments about the other parent to the child(ren); and
- The developmental stages and needs of the child(ren) and the demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to meet the child(ren)'s developmental needs.

This standard form does not include every possible issue that may be relevant to the facts of your case. The Parenting Plan should be as detailed as possible to address the time-sharing schedule. Additional provisions should be added to address all of the relevant factors. The parties should give special consideration to the age and needs of each child.

In developing the Parenting Plan, you may wish to consult or review other materials which are available at your local library, law library or through national and state family organizations.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,  
and  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

## **SUPERVISED/SAFETY-FOCUSED PARENTING PLAN**

This parenting plan is: *{Choose only one}*

\_\_\_\_\_ A Parenting Plan submitted to the court with the agreement of the parties.

\_\_\_\_\_ A proposed Parenting Plan submitted by or on behalf of:  
*{Parent's Name}* \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ A Parenting Plan established by the court.

This parenting plan is: *{Choose only one}*

\_\_\_\_\_ A final Parenting Plan established by the court.

\_\_\_\_\_ A temporary Parenting Plan established by the court.

\_\_\_\_\_ A modification of a prior final Parenting Plan or prior final order.

### **I. PARENTS**

**Petitioner, hereafter referred to in this Parenting Plan as Parent**

***{name or designation}*** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Unknown: *{Please indicate if Petitioner's address is unknown}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Confidential: *{Please indicate if Petitioner's address and phone numbers are confidential pursuant to either a \_\_\_\_\_ Final Judgment for Protection Against Domestic Violence or \_\_\_\_\_ other court order \_\_\_\_\_.*

**Respondent, hereafter referred to in this Parenting Plan as Parent**

***{name or designation}*** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Unknown: *(Please indicate if Respondent's address is unknown)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Address Confidential: *(Please indicate if Respondent's address and telephone numbers are confidential pursuant to either a \_\_\_\_\_ Final Judgment for Protection Against Domestic Violence or \_\_\_\_\_ other court order \_\_\_\_\_.)*

**II. CHILDREN:** This parenting plan is for the following child(ren) born to, or adopted by the parties:  
*(add additional lines as needed)*

Name

Date of Birth

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

**III. JURISDICTION**

The United States is the country of habitual residence of the child(ren).

The State of Florida is the child(ren)'s home state for the purposes of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

This Parenting Plan is a child custody determination for the purposes of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, the International Child Abduction Remedies Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 11601 et seq., the Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act, and the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction enacted at the Hague on October 25, 1980, and for other state and federal laws.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY** *{Choose only one}*

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **Sole** Parental Responsibility

It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that Parent

*{name or designation}* \_\_\_\_\_ shall have **sole** authority to make major decisions for the child(ren.) It is detrimental to the child(ren) for the parents to have shared parental responsibility.

**OR**

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Shared** Parental Responsibility with Decision Making Authority

It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that the parents confer and attempt to agree on the major decisions involving the child(ren). If the parents are unable to agree, the authority for making major decisions regarding the child(ren) shall be as follows:

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Education/Academic decisions | Parent _____ |
| Non-emergency health care    | Parent _____ |
| _____                        | Parent _____ |
| _____                        | Parent _____ |
| _____                        | Parent _____ |

\_\_\_\_\_ **Other:** *{Specify}* \_\_\_\_\_.

**V. TIME-SHARING SCHEDULE** *{Choose only one}*

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided}*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **No Time-Sharing:** Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall have no contact with the child(ren) until further order of the court. All parenting decisions shall be made by the other parent.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Supervised Time-Sharing:** Whenever the child(ren) are with \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_, the supervisor shall be present. \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ has the right to spend time with the child(ren) even though the other parent will be making most, if not all, of the parenting decisions which are made on the child(ren)'s behalf. The time-sharing schedule shall be mutually agreed to between the parents, but not less than the schedule set forth below: *{Choose only one}*

a. \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week. The place(s), and time(s) shall be set by Parent \_\_\_\_\_.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_ m. to \_\_\_\_\_ m. on the following day(s) \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Restricted Time-Sharing:** \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall have time-sharing with the following restrictions. *{The restrictions should be described in detail such as time-sharing only in public places, no overnight visits, etc.}* The time-sharing schedule shall be mutually agreed upon between the parents, but not less than the schedule set forth below: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week. The place(s), and time(s) shall be set by Parent \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**VI. SUPERVISOR AND SUPERVISION** {Choose only **one**}

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

1. **Supervisor.** The person supervising the time-sharing shall be selected by: {Choose only **one**}

\_\_\_\_\_ both parents .

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent {name or designation} \_\_\_\_\_, subject to the other parent's approval.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Restrictions or Level of Supervision:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. **Costs of Supervision**

\_\_\_\_\_The costs of the supervision shall be paid by Parent {name or designation} \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**VII. LOCATION:** {Choose only **one**}

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ shall spend his/her time-sharing with the child(ren) at the following location(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Supervised visitation center (name and address of facility) \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ {location} or other location designated by Parent \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Any location designated by Parent \_\_\_\_\_ with the approval of the supervisor.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**VIII. DESIGNATION FOR OTHER LEGAL PURPOSES**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*



1. The child(ren) named in this Safety-Focused Parenting Plan are scheduled to reside the majority of the time with Parent *{name or designation}* \_\_\_\_\_. This majority designation is **SOLELY** for purposes of all other state and federal statutes which require such a designation. **This designation does not affect either parent's rights and responsibilities under this parenting plan.**
2. For purposes of school boundary determination and registration, the address of Parent *{name or designation}* \_\_\_\_\_ shall be used.

#### **IX. TRANSPORTATION AND EXCHANGE OF CHILD(REN)**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

##### **1. Transportation**

The child(ren) shall not be driven in a car unless the driver has a valid driver's license, automobile insurance, seat belts, and child safety seats as required by Florida law.

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ or mutually agreed upon person shall be responsible for transporting the child(ren) to the exchange point. The child(ren) shall be picked up and/or returned to the exchange point by *{Choose only one}*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ with the supervisor present.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ The supervisor alone.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

##### **2. Exchange**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

The exchange of the child(ren) shall occur at: *{Indicate all that apply}*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ The site of the supervised visit.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ A monitored exchange location *{specify name and address of facility}* \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Parent \_\_\_\_\_ is prohibited from coming to the exchange point.

#### **X. COMMUNICATION**

##### **1. Between Parents**

All communications regarding the child(ren) shall be between the parents. The parents shall not use the child(ren) as messengers to convey information, ask questions, or set up schedule changes.

\_\_\_\_\_ The parents shall communicate with each other: *{Indicate all that apply}*  
\_\_\_\_\_ in person  
\_\_\_\_\_ by telephone  
\_\_\_\_\_ by letter  
\_\_\_\_\_ by e-mail  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: *{Specify}* \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ **No Communication.** Unless otherwise prohibited by court order, all information and communication regarding the child(ren) shall be exchanged via or through \_\_\_\_\_.

**2. Between Parent and Child(ren)**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

Parent *{name or designation}* \_\_\_\_\_ *{Indicate all that apply}*

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Shall not telephone, write, or e-mail the child(ren) unless the contact is agreed to in advance by the other parent.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ May write or e-mail the child(ren) at any time. Each parent shall provide a contact address (and e-mail address if appropriate) to the other parent, unless otherwise prohibited by court order.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ May call the child(ren) on the telephone \_\_\_\_\_ times per week. The call shall last no more than \_\_\_\_\_ minutes and shall take place between \_\_\_\_\_ m. and \_\_\_\_\_ m. Each parent shall provide a telephone number to the other parent, unless otherwise prohibited by court order or law.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Long distance telephone calls made by the child(ren) to a parent shall be paid by \_\_\_\_\_. Each parent shall provide a telephone number to the other parent, unless otherwise prohibited by court order or law.
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Costs of Electronic Communication**

“Electronic communication” includes telephones, electronic mail or e-mail, webcams, video-conferencing equipment and software or other wired or wireless technologies or other means of communication to supplement face-to face contact.

The costs of electronic communication shall be addressed as follows:

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**XI. ACCESS TO ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_ *{Choose only **one**}*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Shall not attend the child(ren)'s activities and events, including but not limited to, school, athletic, and extra-curricular activities and events.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ May attend the child(ren)'s school, athletic, and extra-curricular activities and events.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Must stay \_\_\_\_\_ feet from the other parent and \_\_\_\_\_ feet from the child.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**XII. CHILD(REN)'S SAFETY**

*{Insert the name or designation of the appropriate parent in the space provided.}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent *{name or designation}* \_\_\_\_\_ shall follow the safety rules checked below. *(Indicate all that apply)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ There shall be no firearms in the home, car, or in the child(ren)'s presence during time-sharing.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ No alcoholic beverages shall be consumed from twenty-four (24) hours before the child(ren) arrive until they are returned to the other parent.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The child(ren) shall not be disciplined by corporal punishment.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The following person(s) present a danger to the child(ren) and shall not be present during time-sharing: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**XIII. CHANGES OR MODIFICATIONS OF THE PARENTING PLAN**

All changes to the Safety-Focused Parenting Plan must be pursuant to a court order.

**XIV. OTHER PROVISIONS**

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**SIGNATURES OF PARENTS**

**I certify that I have been open and honest in entering into this Parenting Plan. I am satisfied with this Plan and intend to be bound by it.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Petitioner/Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I have been open and honest in entering into this Parenting Plan. I am satisfied with this Plan and intend to be bound by it.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Respondent/Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only **one**}* \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner

\_\_\_\_\_ Respondent.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{address}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zip code}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW  
FORM 12.902(d)  
UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY JURISDICTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACT  
(UCCJEA) AFFIDAVIT  
(02/18)**

**When should this form be used?**

This form should be used in any case involving parental responsibility for, custody of, or time-sharing or visitation with, any minor child(ren). This **affidavit** is **required** even if the parental responsibility for, custody of, or time-sharing or visitation with, the minor child(ren) is not in dispute.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should then **file** it with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for your records.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed**

**What should I do next?**

A copy of this form must be mailed, e-mailed, or hand delivered to the other party in your case, if it is not served on him or her with your initial papers.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the

A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see sections 61.501-61.542, Florida Statutes.

### **Special notes...**

With this form, you must also file a **Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing**, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Appendix to Rule 2.420 Form.

Effective October 1, 2008, terms such as custodial parent, noncustodial parent, primary residential parent, secondary residential parent, and visitation were removed from Chapter 61, Florida Statutes; however, because the UCCJEA uses the terms, custody and visitation, they are included in this form. Parents must develop a Parenting Plan that includes, among other things, their time-sharing schedule with the minor child(ren). If the parents cannot agree, a parenting plan will be established by the Court.

If you are the petitioner in an injunction for protection against domestic violence case and you have filed a **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h), you should write confidential in any space on this form that would require you to write the address where you are currently living.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

## UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY JURISDICTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACT (UCCJEA) AFFIDAVIT

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, being sworn, certify that the following statements are true:

1. The number of minor child(ren) subject to this proceeding is \_\_\_\_\_. The name, place of birth, birth date, and sex of each child; the present address, periods of residence, and places where each child has lived **within the past five (5) years**; and the name, present address, and relationship to the child of each person with whom the child has lived during that time are:

### THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TRUE ABOUT CHILD # 1 :

Child's Full Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

### Child's Residence for the past 5 years:

| Dates<br>(From/To)              | Address (including city and<br>state) where child lived | Name and present address of<br>person child lived with | Relationship<br>to child |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| ____/____/____<br>____/present* |   |  |                          |
| ____/____                       |   |  |                          |
| ____/____                       |   |  |                          |
| ____/____                       |   |  |                          |
|                                 |   |  |                          |

|           |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|
| ____/____ |  |  |  |
| ____/____ |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |

**\* If you are the petitioner in an injunction for protection against domestic violence case and you have filed a Request for Confidential Filing of Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h), you should write confidential in any space on this form that would require you to enter the address where you are currently living.**

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TRUE ABOUT CHILD # \_\_\_\_:**

Child's Full Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Residence for the past 5 years:**

| Dates<br>(From/To) | Address (including city and<br>state) where child lived | Name and present address of<br>person child lived with | Relationship<br>to child |
|--------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| ____/present       |   |  |                          |
| ____/____          |   |  |                          |
| ____/____          |   |  |                          |
| ____/____          |   |  |                          |
| ____/____          |   |  |                          |
| ____/____          |   |  |                          |

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TRUE ABOUT CHILD # \_\_\_\_:**

Child's Full Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Residence for the past 5 years:**

| Dates<br>(From/To) | Address (including city and<br>state) where child lived | Name and present address of<br>person child lived with | Relationship<br>to child |
|--------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| ____/present       |   |  |                          |

|           |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|
|           |  |  |  |
| ____/____ |  |  |  |
| ____/____ |  |  |  |
| ____/____ |  |  |  |
| ____/____ |  |  |  |
| ____/____ |  |  |  |

**2. Participation in custody or time-sharing proceeding(s):**

*[Choose only one]*

\_\_\_\_\_ I HAVE NOT participated as a party, witness, or in any capacity in any other litigation or custody proceeding in this or any other state, jurisdiction, or country, concerning parental responsibility for, custody of, or time-sharing or visitation with a child subject to this proceeding.

\_\_\_\_\_ I HAVE participated as a party, witness, or in any capacity in any other litigation or custody proceeding in this or another state, jurisdiction, or country, concerning parental responsibility for, custody of, or time-sharing or visitation with a child subject to this proceeding.

*Explain:*

- Name of each child: \_\_\_\_\_
- Type of proceeding: \_\_\_\_\_
- Court and state: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of court order or judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Information about custody or time-sharing proceeding(s):**

*[Choose only one]*

\_\_\_\_\_ I HAVE NO INFORMATION of any parental responsibility, custody, time-sharing, or visitation proceeding pending in a court of this or any other state, jurisdiction, or country concerning a child subject to this proceeding.

\_\_\_\_\_ I HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION concerning a parental responsibility, custody, time-sharing, or visitation proceeding pending in a court of this or another state concerning a child subject to this proceeding, other than set out in item 2. *Explain:*

- Name of each child involved in said litigation: \_\_\_\_\_
- Type of proceeding: \_\_\_\_\_
- Court and state: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of court order or judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_
- Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Persons not a party to this proceeding:**

*[Choose only one]*

\_\_\_\_\_ I DO NOT KNOW OF ANY PERSON in this or any other state, jurisdiction, or country, who is not a party to this proceeding and who has physical custody or claims to have parental responsibility for, custody of, or time-sharing or visitation with respect to any child subject to this proceeding.

\_\_\_\_\_ I KNOW THAT THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON(S), not a party to this proceeding, has (have) physical custody or claim(s) to have parental responsibility for, custody of, or time-sharing or visitation with respect to any child subject to this proceeding:

a. Name and address of person: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ has physical custody

\_\_\_\_\_ claims parental responsibility or custody rights

\_\_\_\_\_ claims time-sharing or visitation

Name of each child: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Name and address of person: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ has physical custody

\_\_\_\_\_ claims parental responsibility or custody rights

\_\_\_\_\_ claims time-sharing or visitation

Name of each child: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Name and address of person: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ has physical custody

\_\_\_\_\_ claims parental responsibility or custody rights

\_\_\_\_\_ claims time-sharing or visitation

Name of each child: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

5. **Knowledge of prior child support proceedings:**

*[Choose only one]*

\_\_\_\_\_ The child(ren) described in this affidavit are NOT subject to existing child support order(s) in this or any other state, jurisdiction, or country..

\_\_\_\_\_ The child(ren) described in this affidavit are subject to the following existing child support order(s):

a. Name of each child: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Type of proceeding: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Court and address: \_\_\_\_\_

d. Date of court order/judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

e. Amount of child support ordered to be paid and by whom: \_\_\_\_\_

6. I acknowledge that I have a continuing duty to advise this Court of any parental responsibility, custody, time-sharing or visitation , child support, or guardianship proceeding (including dissolution of marriage, separate maintenance, child neglect, or dependency) concerning the child(ren) in this state or any other state about which information is obtained during this proceeding.

7. A completed Notice of **Confidential Information within Court Filing**, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Appendix to Rule 2.420 Form, is filed with this Affidavit.

I certify that a copy of this document was (    ) e-served (    ) mailed (    ) faxed and mailed (    ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this affidavit and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.]

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the {choose only **one**} \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} \_\_\_\_\_,

{name of business} \_\_\_\_\_,

{address} \_\_\_\_\_,

{city} \_\_\_\_\_, {state} \_\_\_\_\_, {zip code} \_\_\_\_\_, {telephone number} \_\_\_\_\_.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE  
FORM 12.902(b)  
FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (SHORT FORM)  
(10/21)**

**When should this form be used?**

This form should be used when you are involved in a family law case which requires a **financial affidavit** and your individual gross income is **UNDER \$50,000 per year** unless:

- (1) You are filing a simplified dissolution of marriage under rule 12.105 and both parties have waived the filing of a financial affidavit;
- (2) You have no minor children, no support issues, and have filed a written settlement agreement disposing of all financial issues; or
- (3) The court lacks jurisdiction to determine any financial issues.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. You should **file** this document with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the **petition** was filed and keep a copy for your records.

**What should I do next?**

A copy of this form must be filed with the court and served on the other party or his or her attorney in your case within 45 days of being served with the petition, if it is not served on him or her with your initial papers. The copy you are serving to the other party must be either mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to the opposing party or his or her attorney on the same day indicated on the certificate of service. If it is mailed, it must be postmarked on the date indicated in the certificate of service. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in

electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you must review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by email, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General), Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915;** and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

### Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **“bold underline”** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285.

### Special notes . . .

If you want to keep your address confidential because you have been found by a judge to be the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence, do not enter the address, telephone, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h).

The affidavit must be completed using **monthly** income and expense amounts. If you are paid or your bills are due on a schedule which is not monthly, you must convert those amounts. Hints are provided below for making these conversions.

**Hourly** - If you are paid by the hour, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|               |   |                       |   |                       |
|---------------|---|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Hourly amount | x | Hours worked per week | = | Weekly amount         |
| Weekly amount | x | 52 Weeks per year     | = | Yearly amount         |
| Yearly amount | ÷ | 12 Months per year    | = | <b>Monthly Amount</b> |

**Daily** - If you are paid by the day, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|               |   |                      |   |                       |
|---------------|---|----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Daily amount  | x | Days worked per week | = | Weekly amount         |
| Weekly amount | x | 52 Weeks per year    | = | Yearly amount         |
| Yearly amount | ÷ | 12 Months per year   | = | <b>Monthly Amount</b> |

**Weekly** - If you are paid by the week, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|               |   |                   |   |               |
|---------------|---|-------------------|---|---------------|
| Weekly amount | x | 52 Weeks per year | = | Yearly amount |
|---------------|---|-------------------|---|---------------|



Yearly amount            ÷        12 Months per year        =        **Monthly Amount**

**Bi-weekly** - If you are paid every two weeks, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Bi-weekly amount        x                26                =        Yearly amount

Yearly amount            ÷        12 Months per year        =        **Monthly Amount**

**Semi-monthly** - If you are paid twice per month, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Semi-monthly amount x                2                =        **Monthly Amount**

Expenses may be converted in the same manner.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent.

## **FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (SHORT FORM)**

(Under \$50,000 Individual Gross Annual Income)

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

My Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pay rate: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) every week ( ) every other week ( ) twice a month ( ) monthly  
( ) other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Check here if unemployed and explain on a separate sheet your efforts to find employment.

### **SECTION I. PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME:**

**All amounts must be MONTHLY.** See the instructions with this form to figure out money amounts for anything that is NOT paid monthly. Attach more paper, if needed. Items included under "other" should be listed separately with separate dollar amounts.

1. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gross salary or wages
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly bonuses, commissions, allowances, overtime, tips, and similar payments
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly business income from sources such as self-employment, partnerships, close corporations, and/or independent contracts (gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses required to produce income) (Attach sheet itemizing such income and expenses.)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly disability benefits/SSI
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Workers' Compensation
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Unemployment Compensation
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly pension, retirement, or annuity payments
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Social Security benefits
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly alimony actually received (Add 9a and 9b)
  - 9a. From this case: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9b. From other case(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly interest and dividends
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly rental income (gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses required to produce income) (Attach sheet itemizing such income and expense items.)
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly income from royalties, trusts, or estates
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly reimbursed expenses and in-kind payments to the extent that they reduce personal living expenses
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gains derived from dealing in property (not including nonrecurring gains)
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Any other income of a recurring nature (list source) \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME** (Add lines 1–16)

**PRESENT MONTHLY DEDUCTIONS:**

18. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly federal, state, and local income tax (corrected for filing status and allowable dependents and income tax liabilities)
- a. Filing Status \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Number of dependents claimed \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly FICA or self-employment taxes
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Medicare payments
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly mandatory union dues
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly mandatory retirement payments
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly health insurance payments (including dental insurance), excluding portion paid for any minor children of this relationship
24. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly court-ordered child support actually paid for children from another relationship
25. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly court-ordered alimony actually paid (Add 25a and 25b)
- 25a. from this case: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 25b. from other case(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_
26. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL DEDUCTIONS ALLOWABLE UNDER SECTION 61.30, FLORIDA STATUTES**  
(Add lines 18 through 25)
27. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **PRESENT NET MONTHLY INCOME** (Subtract line 26 from line 17)

## SECTION II. AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENSES

**Proposed/Estimated Expenses.** If this is a dissolution of marriage case **and** your expenses as listed below do not reflect what you actually pay currently, you should write "estimate" next to each amount that is estimated.

### A. HOUSEHOLD:

Mortgage or rent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Property taxes \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Utilities \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Food \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Meals outside home \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Maintenance/Repairs \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### B. AUTOMOBILE

Gasoline \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Repairs \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### C. CHILD(REN)'S EXPENSES

Day care \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Lunch money \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Clothing \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Grooming \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Gifts for holidays \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical/Dental (uninsured) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### D. INSURANCE

Medical/Dental (if not listed on lines 23 or 45) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Child(ren)'s medical/dental \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Life \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### E. OTHER EXPENSES NOT LISTED ABOVE

Clothing \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical/Dental (uninsured) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Grooming \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Entertainment \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Gifts \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Religious organizations \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Miscellaneous \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### F. PAYMENTS TO CREDITORS

| CREDITOR: | MONTHLY PAYMENT |
|-----------|-----------------|
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |
| _____     | \$ _____        |

28. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES** (add **ALL** monthly amounts in A through F above)

**SUMMARY**

29. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY NET INCOME** (from line 27 of SECTION I. INCOME)

30. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES** (from line 28 above)

31. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SURPLUS** (If line 29 is more than line 30, subtract line 30 from line 29. This is the amount of your surplus. Enter that amount here.)

32. (\$ \_\_\_\_\_) **(DEFICIT)** (If line 30 is more than line 29, subtract line 29 from line 30. This is the amount of your deficit. Enter that amount here.)

**SECTION III. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

Use the nonmarital column only if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage and you believe an item is “nonmarital,” meaning it belongs to only one of you and should not be divided. You should indicate to whom you believe the item(s) or debt belongs. (Typically, you will only use this column if property/debt was owned/owed by one spouse before the marriage. See the “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms and section 61.075(1), Florida Statutes, for definitions of “marital” and “nonmarital” assets and liabilities.)

**A. ASSETS:**

| DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S). List a description of each separate item owned by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). LIST ONLY LAST 4 DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check the line next to any asset(s) which you are requesting the judge award to you. |  | Current Fair Market Value | Nonmarital (check correct column) |            |
|---|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
|   |  |                           | Petitioner                        | Respondent |
|   | Cash (on hand)   | \$                        |                                   |            |
|   | Cash (in banks or credit unions)                               |                           |                                   |            |
|   | Stocks, Bonds, Notes   |                           |                                   |            |
|   | Real estate: (Home)  |                           |                                   |            |
|   | (Other)  |                           |                                   |            |
|   | Automobiles  |                           |                                   |            |
|   | Other personal property  |                           |                                   |            |
|   | Retirement plans (Profit Sharing, Pension, IRA, 401(k)s, etc.) |                           |                                   |            |
|   | Other  |                           |                                   |            |
|   |  |                           |                                   |            |
|   |  |                           |                                   |            |
|   |  |                           |                                   |            |
|   |  |                           |                                   |            |
|   |  |                           |                                   |            |
|   |  |                           |                                   |            |
|   |  |                           |                                   |            |
|   | _____ Check here if additional pages are attached.             |                           |                                   |            |
| <b>Total Assets</b> (add next column)   |  | \$                        |                                   |            |

**B. LIABILITIES:**

| DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S). List a description of each separate debt owed by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). LIST ONLY LAST 4 DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check the line next to any debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible. |  | Current Amount Owed | Nonmarital (check correct column) |            |
|---|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
|   |  |                     | Petitioner                        | Respondent |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Mortgages on real estate: First mortgage on home | \$                  |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Second mortgage on home                          |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Other mortgages                                  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Auto loans                                       |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Charge/credit card accounts                      |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Other  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                     |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Check here if additional pages are attached.     |                     |                                   |            |
| <b>Total Debts</b> (add next column)  |  | \$                  |                                   |            |

**C. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:**

INSTRUCTIONS: If you have any **POSSIBLE assets** (income potential, accrued vacation or sick leave, bonus, inheritance, etc.) or **POSSIBLE liabilities** (possible lawsuits, future unpaid taxes, contingent tax liabilities, debts assumed by another), you must list them here.

| Contingent Assets   |  | Possible Value | Nonmarital (check correct column) |            |
|---|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Check the line next to any contingent asset(s) which you are requesting the judge award to you. |  |                | Petitioner                        | Respondent |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  | \$             |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |                |                                   |            |
| <b>Total Contingent Assets</b>  |  | \$             |                                   |            |

| Contingent Liabilities   |  | Possible Amount Owed | Nonmarital (check correct column) |            |
|--|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Check the line next to any contingent debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible. |  |                      | Petitioner                        | Respondent |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   |  | \$                   |                                   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |                      |                                   |            |
| <b>Total Contingent Liabilities</b>  |  | \$                   |                                   |            |

#### SECTION IV. CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET

(Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, MUST be filed with the court at or prior to a hearing to establish or modify child support. This requirement cannot be waived by the parties.)

[Check **one** only]

\_\_\_\_\_ **A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS or WILL BE filed in this case.** This case involves the establishment or modification of child support.

\_\_\_\_\_ **A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS NOT being filed in this case.** The establishment or modification of child support is not an issue in this case.

I certify that a copy of this document was [check all used]: ( ) e-mailed ( ) mailed ( ) faxed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Other party or his/her attorney:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read this document and the facts stated in it are true.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number:

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address(es):

#### IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: {choose only **one**} ( ) Petitioner ( ) Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} \_\_\_\_\_

{name of business} \_\_\_\_\_

{address} \_\_\_\_\_

{city} \_\_\_\_\_, {state} \_\_\_\_\_, {zip code} \_\_\_\_\_, {telephone number} \_\_\_\_\_.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE  
FORM 12.902(c)  
FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (LONG FORM)  
(10/21)**

**When should this form be used?**

This form should be used when you are involved in a family law case which requires a **financial affidavit** and your individual gross income is **\$50,000 OR MORE per year** unless:

- (1) You are filing a simplified dissolution of marriage under rule 12.105 and both parties have waived the filing of financial affidavits;
- (2) you have no minor children, no support issues, and have filed a written settlement agreement disposing of all financial issues; or
- (3) the court lacks jurisdiction to determine any financial issues.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form. You should then **file** this document with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the **petition** was filed and keep a copy for your records.

**What should I do next?**

A copy of this form must be served on the other **party** in your case within 45 days of being served with the petition, if it is not served on him or her with your initial papers. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

A copy of this form must be filed with the court and served on the other party or his or her attorney. The copy you are serving to the other party must be either mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to the opposing party or his or her attorney on the same day indicated on the certificate of service. If it is mailed, it must be postmarked on the date indicated in the certificate of service.

**Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **“bold underline”** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you must review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by email, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General), Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915;** and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

### Special notes . . .

If you want to keep your address confidential because you have been found by a judge to be the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence do not enter the address, telephone, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h).

The affidavit must be completed using **monthly** income and expense amounts. If you are paid or your bills are due on a schedule which is not monthly, you must convert those amounts. Hints are provided below for making these conversions.

**Hourly** - If you are paid by the hour, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|               |   |                       |   |                       |
|---------------|---|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Hourly amount | x | Hours worked per week | = | Weekly amount         |
| Weekly amount | x | 52 Weeks per year     | = | Yearly amount         |
| Yearly amount | ÷ | 12 Months per year    | = | <b>Monthly Amount</b> |

**Daily** - If you are paid by the day, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|               |   |                      |   |                       |
|---------------|---|----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Daily amount  | x | Days worked per week | = | Weekly amount         |
| Weekly amount | x | 52 Weeks per year    | = | Yearly amount         |
| Yearly amount | ÷ | 12 Months per year   | = | <b>Monthly Amount</b> |

**Weekly** - If you are paid by the week, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|               |   |                    |   |                       |
|---------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Weekly amount | x | 52 Weeks per year  | = | Yearly amount         |
| Yearly amount | ÷ | 12 Months per year | = | <b>Monthly Amount</b> |

**Bi-weekly** - If you are paid every two weeks, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|                  |   |                    |   |                       |
|------------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Bi-weekly amount | x | 26                 | = | Yearly amount         |
| Yearly amount    | ÷ | 12 Months per year | = | <b>Monthly Amount</b> |

**Semi-monthly** - If you are paid twice per month, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

|                     |   |   |   |                       |
|---------------------|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| Semi-monthly amount | x | 2 | = | <b>Monthly Amount</b> |
|---------------------|---|---|---|-----------------------|

Expenses may be converted in the same manner.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent.

## **FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (LONG FORM)**

(\$50,000 or more Individual Gross Annual Income)

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, being sworn, certify  
that the following information is true:

### **SECTION I. INCOME**

1. My age is: \_\_\_\_\_

2. My occupation is: \_\_\_\_\_

3. I am currently

*[Check **all** that apply]*

a. ☐ Unemployed

Describe your efforts to find employment, how soon you expect to be employed, and the pay  
you expect to receive: \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Employed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Pay rate: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) every week ( ) every other week ( ) twice a month

( ) monthly ( ) other: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are expecting to become unemployed or change jobs soon, describe the change you  
expect and why and how it will affect your income: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you currently have more than one job. List the information above for the  
second job(s) on a separate sheet and attach it to this affidavit.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Retired. Date of retirement: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer from whom retired: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**LAST YEAR'S GROSS INCOME:**

YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

Your Income

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other Party's Income (*if known*)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME:**

**All amounts must be MONTHLY.** See the instructions with this form to figure out money amounts for anything that is NOT paid monthly. Attach more paper, if needed. Items included under "other" should be listed separately with separate dollar amounts.

1. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gross salary or wages
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly bonuses, commissions, allowances, overtime, tips, and similar payments
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly business income from sources such as self-employment, partnerships, close corporations, and/or independent contracts (Gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses required to produce income.)(Attach sheet itemizing such income and expenses.)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly disability benefits/SSI
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Workers' Compensation
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Unemployment Compensation
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly pension, retirement, or annuity payments
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Social Security benefits
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly alimony actually received (Add 9a and 9b)  
9a. From this case: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
9b. From other case(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly interest and dividends
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly rental income (gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses required to produce income) (Attach sheet itemizing such income and expense items.)
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly income from royalties, trusts, or estates
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly reimbursed expenses and in-kind payments to the extent that they reduce personal living expenses (Attach sheet itemizing each item and amount.)
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gains derived from dealing in property (not including nonrecurring gains)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Any other income of a recurring nature (identify source):
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME** (Add lines 1 through 16.)

**PRESENT MONTHLY DEDUCTIONS:**

**All amounts must be MONTHLY.** See the instructions with this form to figure out money amounts for anything that is NOT paid monthly.

18. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly federal, state, and local income tax (corrected for filing status and allowable dependents and income tax liabilities)  
a. Filing Status \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Number of dependents claimed \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly FICA or self-employment taxes

20. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Medicare payments
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly mandatory union dues
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly mandatory retirement payments
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly health insurance payments (including dental insurance), excluding portion paid for any minor children of this relationship
24. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly court-ordered child support actually paid for children from another relationship
25. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly court-ordered alimony actually paid (Add 25a and 25b)
  - 25a. from this case: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - 25b. from other case(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_
26. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL DEDUCTIONS ALLOWABLE UNDER SECTION 61.30, FLORIDA STATUTES**  
(Add lines 18 through 25.)
27. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **PRESENT NET MONTHLY INCOME**  
(Subtract line 26 from line 17.)

## SECTION II. AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENSES

**Proposed/Estimated Expenses.** If this is a dissolution of marriage case **and** your expenses as listed below do not reflect what you actually pay currently, you should write "estimate" next to each amount that is estimated.

### HOUSEHOLD:

1. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly mortgage or rent payments
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly property taxes (if not included in mortgage)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly insurance on residence (if not included in mortgage)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly condominium maintenance fees and homeowner's association fees
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly electricity
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly water, garbage, and sewer
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly telephone
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly fuel oil or natural gas
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly repairs and maintenance
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly lawn care
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly pool maintenance
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly pest control
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly misc. household
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly food and home supplies
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly meals outside home
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly cable t.v.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly alarm service contract
18. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly service contracts on appliances
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly maid service

Other:

20. \_\_\_\_\_
21. \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_

25. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SUBTOTAL** (Add lines 1 through 24.)

**AUTOMOBILE:**

- 26. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gasoline and oil
- 27. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly repairs
- 28. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly auto tags and emission testing
- 29. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly insurance
- 30. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly payments (lease or financing)
- 31. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly rental/replacements
- 32. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly alternative transportation (bus, rail, car pool, etc.)
- 33. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly tolls and parking
- 34. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 35. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SUBTOTAL** (Add lines 26 through 34.)

**MONTHLY EXPENSES FOR CHILDREN COMMON TO BOTH PARTIES:**

- 36. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly nursery, babysitting, or day care
- 37. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly school tuition
- 38. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly school supplies, books, and fees
- 39. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly after school activities
- 40. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly lunch money
- 41. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly private lessons or tutoring
- 42. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly allowances
- 43. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly clothing and uniforms
- 44. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly entertainment (movies, parties, etc.)
- 45. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly health insurance
- 46. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly medical, dental, prescriptions (nonreimbursed only)
- 47. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly psychiatric/psychological/counselor
- 48. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly orthodontic
- 49. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly vitamins
- 50. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly beauty parlor/barber shop
- 51. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly nonprescription medication
- 52. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly cosmetics, toiletries, and sundries
- 53. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gifts from child(ren) to others (other children, relatives, teachers, etc.)
- 54. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly camp or summer activities
- 55. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly clubs (Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.)
- 56. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly time-sharing expenses
- 57. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly miscellaneous
- 58. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SUBTOTAL** (Add lines 36 through 57.)

**MONTHLY EXPENSES FOR CHILD(REN) FROM ANOTHER RELATIONSHIP**

(other than court-ordered child support)

- 59. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 60. \_\_\_\_\_
- 61. \_\_\_\_\_
- 62. \_\_\_\_\_
- 63. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SUBTOTAL** (Add lines 59 through 62.)

**MONTHLY INSURANCE:**

64. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Health insurance (if not listed on lines 23 or 45)

65. \_\_\_\_\_ Life insurance

66. \_\_\_\_\_ Dental insurance.

Other:

67. \_\_\_\_\_

68. \_\_\_\_\_

69. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SUBTOTAL** (Add lines 66 through 68, exclude lines 64 and 65.)**OTHER MONTHLY EXPENSES NOT LISTED ABOVE:**

70. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly dry cleaning and laundry

71. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly clothing

72. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly medical, dental, and prescription (unreimbursed only)

73. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly psychiatric, psychological, or counselor (unreimbursed only)

74. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly non-prescription medications, cosmetics, toiletries, and sundries

75. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly grooming

76. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gifts

77. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly pet expenses

78. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly club dues and membership

79. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly sports and hobbies

80. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly entertainment

81. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly periodicals/books/tapes/CDs

82. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly vacations

83. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly religious organizations

84. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly bank charges/credit card fees

85. \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly education expenses

86. \_\_\_\_\_ Other: (include any usual and customary expenses not otherwise mentioned in the items listed above) \_\_\_\_\_

87. \_\_\_\_\_

88. \_\_\_\_\_

89. \_\_\_\_\_

90. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SUBTOTAL** (Add lines 70 through 89.)**MONTHLY PAYMENTS TO CREDITORS:** (only when payments are currently made by you on outstanding balances). List only last 4 digits of account numbers.

MONTHLY PAYMENT AND NAME OF CREDITOR(s):

91. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

92. \_\_\_\_\_

93. \_\_\_\_\_

94. \_\_\_\_\_

95. \_\_\_\_\_

96. \_\_\_\_\_

97. \_\_\_\_\_

98. \_\_\_\_\_

99. \_\_\_\_\_

100. \_\_\_\_\_

101. \_\_\_\_\_

102. \_\_\_\_\_  
103. \_\_\_\_\_  
104. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SUBTOTAL** (Add lines 91 through 103.)  
105. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES:**  
(Add lines 25, 35, 58, 63, 69, 90, and 104 of Section II, Expenses.)

**SUMMARY**

106. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY NET INCOME** (from line 27 of SECTION I. INCOME)  
  
107. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES** (from line 105 above)  
  
108. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **SURPLUS** (If line 106 is more than line 107, subtract line 107 from line 106. This is the amount of your surplus. Enter that amount here.)  
  
109. (\$ \_\_\_\_\_) **(DEFICIT)** (If line 107 is more than line 106, subtract line 106 from line 107. This is the amount of your deficit. Enter that amount here.)

|  |
|--|
| <b>SECTION III. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b> |
|--|

**A. ASSETS (This is where you list what you OWN.)**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**STEP 1:** In column A, list a description of each separate item owned by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). Blank spaces are provided if you need to list more than one of an item.

**STEP 2:** If this is a petition for dissolution of marriage, check the line in Column A next to any item that you are requesting the judge award to you.

**STEP 3:** In column B, write what you believe to be the current fair market value of all items listed.

**STEP 4:** Use column C only if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage and you believe an item is "nonmarital," meaning it belongs to only one of you and should not be divided. You should indicate to whom you believe the item belongs. (Typically, you will only use Column C if property was owned by one spouse before the marriage. See the "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms and section 61.075(1), Florida Statutes, for definitions of "marital" and "nonmarital" assets and liabilities.)



| <b>A</b><br><b>ASSETS: DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S)</b><br><b>LIST ONLY LAST FOUR DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS.</b><br><b>Check the line next to any asset(s) which you are</b><br><b>requesting the judge award to you.</b> |   | <b>B</b><br><b>Current</b><br><b>Fair</b><br><b>Market</b><br><b>Value</b> | <b>C</b><br><b>Nonmarital</b><br><b>(Check correct column)</b> |            |
|---|---|--|--|------------|
|   |   |  | Petitioner   | Respondent |
|   | Cash (on hand)                              | \$   |  |            |
|   | Cash (in banks or credit unions)            |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   | Stocks/Bonds                                |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   | Notes (money owed to you in writing)        |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   | Money owed to you (not evidenced by a note) |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   | Real estate: (Home)                         |  |  |            |
|   | (Other)                                     |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   | Business interests                          |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   | Automobiles                                 |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   | Boats                                       |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |
|   |   |  |  |            |



**B. LIABILITIES/DEBTS (This is where you list what you OWE.)**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**STEP 1:** In column A, list a description of each separate debt owed by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). Blank spaces are provided if you need to list more than one of an item.

**STEP 2:** If this is a petition for dissolution of marriage, check the line in Column A next to any debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible.

**STEP 3:** In column B, write what you believe to be the current amount owed for all items listed.

**STEP 4:** Use column C only if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage and you believe an item is “nonmarital,” meaning the debt belongs to only one of you and should not be divided. You should indicate to whom you believe the debt belongs. (Typically, you will only use Column C if the debt was owed by one spouse before the marriage. See the “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms and section 61.075(1), Florida Statutes, for definitions of “marital” and “nonmarital” assets and liabilities.)

| <b>A</b><br><b>LIABILITIES: DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S)</b><br><b>LIST ONLY LAST FOUR DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS.</b><br><b>Check the line next to any debt(s) for which you believe</b><br><b>you should be responsible.</b> |  | <b>B</b><br><b>Current Amount</b><br><b>Owed</b> | <b>C</b><br><b>Nonmarital</b><br><b>(Check correct column)</b> |            |
|---|--|--|--|------------|
|   |  |  | Petitioner   | Respondent |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Mortgages on real estate: First mortgage on home | \$   |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Second mortgage on home                          |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Other mortgages                                  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Charge/credit card accounts                      |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Auto loan  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Auto loan  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Bank/Credit Union loans                          |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Money you owe (not evidenced by a note)          |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Judgments  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | Other:   |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |  |            |
| <b>Total Debts (add column B)</b>   |  | <b>\$</b>  |  |            |

**C. NET WORTH (excluding contingent assets and liabilities)**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Assets** (enter total of Column B in Asset Table; Section A)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Liabilities** (enter total of Column B in Liabilities Table; Section B)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL NET WORTH (Total Assets minus Total Liabilities)**  
(excluding contingent assets and liabilities)

**D. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

If you have any **POSSIBLE assets** (income potential, accrued vacation or sick leave, bonus, inheritance, etc.) or **POSSIBLE liabilities** (possible lawsuits, future unpaid taxes, contingent tax liabilities, debts assumed by another), you must list them here.

| A<br>Contingent Assets   |  | B<br>Possible Value | C<br>Nonmarital<br>(Check correct column) |            |
|--|--|---------------------|---|------------|
| Check the line next to any contingent asset(s) which<br>you are requesting the judge award to you. |  |                     | Petitioner                                | Respondent |
|  |  | \$                  |   |            |
|  |  |                     |   |            |
|  |  |                     |   |            |
|  |  |                     |   |            |
|  |  |                     |   |            |
| Total Contingent Assets  |  | \$                  |   |            |

| A<br>Contingent Liabilities  |  | B<br>Possible Amount Owed | C<br>Nonmarital<br>(Check correct column) |            |
|--|--|---------------------------|---|------------|
| Check the line next to any contingent debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible. |  |                           | Petitioner                                | Respondent |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   |  | \$                        |   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |                           |   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |                           |   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |                           |   |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |                           |   |            |
| Total Contingent Liabilities   |  | \$                        |   |            |

**E. CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET.** Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, **MUST** be filed with the court at or prior to a hearing to establish or modify child support. This requirement cannot be waived by the parties.

[Check **one** only]

\_\_\_\_\_ **A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS or WILL BE filed in this case.** This case involves the establishment or modification of child support.

\_\_\_\_\_ **A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS NOT being filed in this case.** The establishment or modification of child support is not an issue in this case.

I certify that a copy of this financial affidavit was [check all used]: ( ) e-mailed ( ) mailed, ( ) faxed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on **{date}** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read this document and the facts stated in it are true.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: **{choose only one}** ( ) Petitioner ( ) Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

**{name of individual}** \_\_\_\_\_

**{name of business}** \_\_\_\_\_

**{address}** \_\_\_\_\_

**{city}** \_\_\_\_\_, **{state}** \_\_\_\_\_, **{telephone number}** \_\_\_\_\_.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW  
FORM 12.902(j),  
NOTICE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER  
(06/18)**

**When should this form be used?**

This form must be completed and filed by each party in all paternity, child support, and dissolution of marriage cases, regardless of whether the case involves a minor child(ren) and/or property.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where your case was filed and keep a copy for your records.

**CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

Under Rule 2.420 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, Social Security Numbers are confidential; however, this information is required by the Florida Statutes. A Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing must be filed with the Notice of Social Security Number. This Notice is an appendix to rule 2.420.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

**What should I do next?**

A copy of this form must be mailed, e-mailed, or hand delivered to the other party in your case, if it is not served on him or her with your initial papers.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial**

**Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in “**bold underline**” in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see chapter 61, Florida Statutes.

Special notes...

**If this is a domestic violence case and you want to keep your address confidential for safety reasons, do not enter the address, telephone, fax, or e-mail information at the bottom of this form.** Instead, file a **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(i).

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

### NOTICE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, certify that  
my social security number is \_\_\_\_\_, as required by the applicable section of  
the Florida Statutes. My date of birth is \_\_\_\_\_.

[Choose **one** only]

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. This notice is being filed in a dissolution of marriage case in which the parties have **no** minor  
or dependent child(ren) in common.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. This notice is being filed in a paternity or child support case, or in a dissolution of marriage  
in which the parties have minor or dependent children in common. The minor or dependent  
child(ren)'s name(s), date(s) of birth, and social security number(s) is/are:

| Name  | Birth date | Social Security Number |
|-------|------------|------------------------|
| _____ | _____      | _____                  |
| _____ | _____      | _____                  |
| _____ | _____      | _____                  |
| _____ | _____      | _____                  |
| _____ | _____      | _____                  |
| _____ | _____      | _____                  |
| _____ | _____      | _____                  |

{Attach additional pages if necessary.}

**Disclosure of social security numbers shall be limited** to the purpose of administration of the Title IV-D  
program for child support enforcement.

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this notice and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on by \_\_\_\_\_.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk]*

\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

\_\_\_\_ Type of identification produced

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: {choose only **one**} \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} \_\_\_\_\_,

{name of business} \_\_\_\_\_,

{address} \_\_\_\_\_,

{city} \_\_\_\_\_, {state} \_\_\_\_\_, {zip code} \_\_\_\_\_, {telephone number} \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE  
FORM 12.902(e)  
CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET (04/22)**

**When should this form be used?**

You should complete this worksheet if **child support** is being requested in your case. If you know the income of the other **party**, this worksheet should accompany your **financial affidavit**. If you do not know the other party's income, this form must be completed after the other party files his or her financial affidavit, and **serves** a copy on you.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. You should file this document with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records.

**What should I do next?**

A copy of this form must be filed with the court and served on the other party or his or her attorney. The copy you are serving to the other party must be either mailed, emailed, or hand-delivered to the opposing party or his or her attorney on the same day indicated on the certificate of service. If it is mailed, it must be postmarked on the date indicated in the certificate of service. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you must review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General

Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by email, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

### Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **“bold underline”** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see section 61.30, Florida Statutes.

### Special notes. . .

If you want to keep your address confidential because you have been found by a judge to be the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery or domestic violence, do not enter the address, telephone, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h).

The chart below contains the guideline amounts that you should use when calculating child support. This amount is based on the number of children and the combined income of the parents, and it is divided between the parents in direct proportion to their income or earning capacity. From time to time, some of the amounts in the child support guidelines chart will change. Be sure you have the most recent version of the chart before using it.

If the parties’ combined monthly net income is not listed on the below chart, then calculate child support as provided by law in section 61.30(6), Florida Statutes.

Because the guidelines are based on monthly amounts, it may be necessary to convert some income and expense figures from other frequencies to monthly. You should do this as follows:

|                                      |                |   |    |   |                          |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---|----|---|--------------------------|
| <b>If payment is twice per month</b> | Payment amount | x | 2  | = | <b>Monthly amount</b>    |
| <b>If payment is every two weeks</b> | Payment amount | x | 26 | = | <b>Yearly amount due</b> |
|                                      | Yearly amount  | ÷ | 12 | = | <b>Monthly amount</b>    |

**If payment is weekly**

|               |   |    |   |                       |
|---------------|---|----|---|-----------------------|
| Weekly amount | x | 52 | = | Yearly amount due     |
| Yearly amount | ÷ | 12 | = | <b>Monthly amount</b> |

If you or the other parent request that the court award an amount that is different than the guideline amount, you must also complete and attach a **Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

### CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES CHART

| Combined<br>Monthly<br>Available<br>Income | One<br>Child | Two<br>Children | Three<br>Children | Four<br>Children | Five<br>Children | Six<br>Children |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 800.00                                     | 190          | 211             | 213               | 216              | 218              | 220             |
| 850.00                                     | 202          | 257             | 259               | 262              | 265              | 268             |
| 900.00                                     | 213          | 302             | 305               | 309              | 312              | 315             |
| 950.00                                     | 224          | 347             | 351               | 355              | 359              | 363             |
| 1000.00                                    | 235          | 365             | 397               | 402              | 406              | 410             |
| 1050.00                                    | 246          | 382             | 443               | 448              | 453              | 458             |
| 1100.00                                    | 258          | 400             | 489               | 495              | 500              | 505             |
| 1150.00                                    | 269          | 417             | 522               | 541              | 547              | 553             |
| 1200.00                                    | 280          | 435             | 544               | 588              | 594              | 600             |
| 1250.00                                    | 290          | 451             | 565               | 634              | 641              | 648             |
| 1300.00                                    | 300          | 467             | 584               | 659              | 688              | 695             |
| 1350.00                                    | 310          | 482             | 603               | 681              | 735              | 743             |
| 1400.00                                    | 320          | 498             | 623               | 702              | 765              | 790             |
| 1450.00                                    | 330          | 513             | 642               | 724              | 789              | 838             |
| 1500.00                                    | 340          | 529             | 662               | 746              | 813              | 869             |
| 1550.00                                    | 350          | 544             | 681               | 768              | 836              | 895             |
| 1600.00                                    | 360          | 560             | 701               | 790              | 860              | 920             |
| 1650.00                                    | 370          | 575             | 720               | 812              | 884              | 945             |
| 1700.00                                    | 380          | 591             | 740               | 833              | 907              | 971             |
| 1750.00                                    | 390          | 606             | 759               | 855              | 931              | 996             |
| 1800.00                                    | 400          | 622             | 779               | 877              | 955              | 1022            |
| 1850.00                                    | 410          | 638             | 798               | 900              | 979              | 1048            |
| 1900.00                                    | 421          | 654             | 818               | 923              | 1004             | 1074            |
| 1950.00                                    | 431          | 670             | 839               | 946              | 1029             | 1101            |
| 2000.00                                    | 442          | 686             | 859               | 968              | 1054             | 1128            |
| 2050.00                                    | 452          | 702             | 879               | 991              | 1079             | 1154            |
| 2100.00                                    | 463          | 718             | 899               | 1014             | 1104             | 1181            |
| 2150.00                                    | 473          | 734             | 919               | 1037             | 1129             | 1207            |
| 2200.00                                    | 484          | 751             | 940               | 1060             | 1154             | 1234            |
| 2250.00                                    | 494          | 767             | 960               | 1082             | 1179             | 1261            |
| 2300.00                                    | 505          | 783             | 980               | 1105             | 1204             | 1287            |
| 2350.00                                    | 515          | 799             | 1000              | 1128             | 1229             | 1314            |
| 2400.00                                    | 526          | 815             | 1020              | 1151             | 1254             | 1340            |
| 2450.00                                    | 536          | 831             | 1041              | 1174             | 1279             | 1367            |
| 2500.00                                    | 547          | 847             | 1061              | 1196             | 1304             | 1394            |
| 2550.00                                    | 557          | 864             | 1081              | 1219             | 1329             | 1420            |
| 2600.00                                    | 568          | 880             | 1101              | 1242             | 1354             | 1447            |
| 2650.00                                    | 578          | 896             | 1121              | 1265             | 1379             | 1473            |
| 2700.00                                    | 588          | 912             | 1141              | 1287             | 1403             | 1500            |
| 2750.00                                    | 597          | 927             | 1160              | 1308             | 1426             | 1524            |

| Combined<br>Monthly<br>Available<br>Income | One<br>Child | Two<br>Children | Three<br>Children | Four<br>Children | Five<br>Children | Six<br>Children |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 2800.00                                    | 607          | 941             | 1178              | 1328             | 1448             | 1549            |
| 2850.00                                    | 616          | 956             | 1197              | 1349             | 1471             | 1573            |
| 2900.00                                    | 626          | 971             | 1215              | 1370             | 1494             | 1598            |
| 2950.00                                    | 635          | 986             | 1234              | 1391             | 1517             | 1622            |
| 3000.00                                    | 644          | 1001            | 1252              | 1412             | 1540             | 1647            |
| 3050.00                                    | 654          | 1016            | 1271              | 1433             | 1563             | 1671            |
| 3100.00                                    | 663          | 1031            | 1289              | 1453             | 1586             | 1695            |
| 3150.00                                    | 673          | 1045            | 1308              | 1474             | 1608             | 1720            |
| 3200.00                                    | 682          | 1060            | 1327              | 1495             | 1631             | 1744            |
| 3250.00                                    | 691          | 1075            | 1345              | 1516             | 1654             | 1769            |
| 3300.00                                    | 701          | 1090            | 1364              | 1537             | 1677             | 1793            |
| 3350.00                                    | 710          | 1105            | 1382              | 1558             | 1700             | 1818            |
| 3400.00                                    | 720          | 1120            | 1401              | 1579             | 1723             | 1842            |
| 3450.00                                    | 729          | 1135            | 1419              | 1599             | 1745             | 1867            |
| 3500.00                                    | 738          | 1149            | 1438              | 1620             | 1768             | 1891            |
| 3550.00                                    | 748          | 1164            | 1456              | 1641             | 1791             | 1915            |
| 3600.00                                    | 757          | 1179            | 1475              | 1662             | 1814             | 1940            |
| 3650.00                                    | 767          | 1194            | 1493              | 1683             | 1837             | 1964            |
| 3700.00                                    | 776          | 1208            | 1503              | 1702             | 1857             | 1987            |
| 3750.00                                    | 784          | 1221            | 1520              | 1721             | 1878             | 2009            |
| 3800.00                                    | 793          | 1234            | 1536              | 1740             | 1899             | 2031            |
| 3850.00                                    | 802          | 1248            | 1553              | 1759             | 1920             | 2053            |
| 3900.00                                    | 811          | 1261            | 1570              | 1778             | 1940             | 2075            |
| 3950.00                                    | 819          | 1275            | 1587              | 1797             | 1961             | 2097            |
| 4000.00                                    | 828          | 1288            | 1603              | 1816             | 1982             | 2119            |
| 4050.00                                    | 837          | 1302            | 1620              | 1835             | 2002             | 2141            |
| 4100.00                                    | 846          | 1315            | 1637              | 1854             | 2023             | 2163            |
| 4150.00                                    | 854          | 1329            | 1654              | 1873             | 2044             | 2185            |
| 4200.00                                    | 863          | 1342            | 1670              | 1892             | 2064             | 2207            |
| 4250.00                                    | 872          | 1355            | 1687              | 1911             | 2085             | 2229            |
| 4300.00                                    | 881          | 1369            | 1704              | 1930             | 2106             | 2251            |
| 4350.00                                    | 889          | 1382            | 1721              | 1949             | 2127             | 2273            |
| 4400.00                                    | 898          | 1396            | 1737              | 1968             | 2147             | 2295            |
| 4450.00                                    | 907          | 1409            | 1754              | 1987             | 2168             | 2317            |
| 4500.00                                    | 916          | 1423            | 1771              | 2006             | 2189             | 2339            |
| 4550.00                                    | 924          | 1436            | 1788              | 2024             | 2209             | 2361            |
| 4600.00                                    | 933          | 1450            | 1804              | 2043             | 2230             | 2384            |
| 4650.00                                    | 942          | 1463            | 1821              | 2062             | 2251             | 2406            |
| 4700.00                                    | 951          | 1477            | 1838              | 2081             | 2271             | 2428            |
| 4750.00                                    | 959          | 1490            | 1855              | 2100             | 2292             | 2450            |
| 4800.00                                    | 968          | 1503            | 1871              | 2119             | 2313             | 2472            |
| 4850.00                                    | 977          | 1517            | 1888              | 2138             | 2334             | 2494            |

| Combined<br>Monthly<br>Available<br>Income | One<br>Child | Two<br>Children | Three<br>Children | Four<br>Children | Five<br>Children | Six<br>Children |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 4900.00                                    | 986          | 1530            | 1905              | 2157             | 2354             | 2516            |
| 4950.00                                    | 993          | 1542            | 1927              | 2174             | 2372             | 2535            |
| 5000.00                                    | 1000         | 1551            | 1939              | 2188             | 2387             | 2551            |
| 5050.00                                    | 1006         | 1561            | 1952              | 2202             | 2402             | 2567            |
| 5100.00                                    | 1013         | 1571            | 1964              | 2215             | 2417             | 2583            |
| 5150.00                                    | 1019         | 1580            | 1976              | 2229             | 2432             | 2599            |
| 5200.00                                    | 1025         | 1590            | 1988              | 2243             | 2447             | 2615            |
| 5250.00                                    | 1032         | 1599            | 2000              | 2256             | 2462             | 2631            |
| 5300.00                                    | 1038         | 1609            | 2012              | 2270             | 2477             | 2647            |
| 5350.00                                    | 1045         | 1619            | 2024              | 2283             | 2492             | 2663            |
| 5400.00                                    | 1051         | 1628            | 2037              | 2297             | 2507             | 2679            |
| 5450.00                                    | 1057         | 1638            | 2049              | 2311             | 2522             | 2695            |
| 5500.00                                    | 1064         | 1647            | 2061              | 2324             | 2537             | 2711            |
| 5550.00                                    | 1070         | 1657            | 2073              | 2338             | 2552             | 2727            |
| 5600.00                                    | 1077         | 1667            | 2085              | 2352             | 2567             | 2743            |
| 5650.00                                    | 1083         | 1676            | 2097              | 2365             | 2582             | 2759            |
| 5700.00                                    | 1089         | 1686            | 2109              | 2379             | 2597             | 2775            |
| 5750.00                                    | 1096         | 1695            | 2122              | 2393             | 2612             | 2791            |
| 5800.00                                    | 1102         | 1705            | 2134              | 2406             | 2627             | 2807            |
| 5850.00                                    | 1107         | 1713            | 2144              | 2418             | 2639             | 2820            |
| 5900.00                                    | 1111         | 1721            | 2155              | 2429             | 2651             | 2833            |
| 5950.00                                    | 1116         | 1729            | 2165              | 2440             | 2663             | 2847            |
| 6000.00                                    | 1121         | 1737            | 2175              | 2451             | 2676             | 2860            |
| 6050.00                                    | 1126         | 1746            | 2185              | 2462             | 2688             | 2874            |
| 6100.00                                    | 1131         | 1754            | 2196              | 2473             | 2700             | 2887            |
| 6150.00                                    | 1136         | 1762            | 2206              | 2484             | 2712             | 2900            |
| 6200.00                                    | 1141         | 1770            | 2216              | 2495             | 2724             | 2914            |
| 6250.00                                    | 1145         | 1778            | 2227              | 2506             | 2737             | 2927            |
| 6300.00                                    | 1150         | 1786            | 2237              | 2517             | 2749             | 2941            |
| 6350.00                                    | 1155         | 1795            | 2247              | 2529             | 2761             | 2954            |
| 6400.00                                    | 1160         | 1803            | 2258              | 2540             | 2773             | 2967            |
| 6450.00                                    | 1165         | 1811            | 2268              | 2551             | 2785             | 2981            |
| 6500.00                                    | 1170         | 1819            | 2278              | 2562             | 2798             | 2994            |
| 6550.00                                    | 1175         | 1827            | 2288              | 2573             | 2810             | 3008            |
| 6600.00                                    | 1179         | 1835            | 2299              | 2584             | 2822             | 3021            |
| 6650.00                                    | 1184         | 1843            | 2309              | 2595             | 2834             | 3034            |
| 6700.00                                    | 1189         | 1850            | 2317              | 2604             | 2845             | 3045            |
| 6750.00                                    | 1193         | 1856            | 2325              | 2613             | 2854             | 3055            |
| 6800.00                                    | 1196         | 1862            | 2332              | 2621             | 2863             | 3064            |
| 6850.00                                    | 1200         | 1868            | 2340              | 2630             | 2872             | 3074            |
| 6900.00                                    | 1204         | 1873            | 2347              | 2639             | 2882             | 3084            |
| 6950.00                                    | 1208         | 1879            | 2355              | 2647             | 2891             | 3094            |



| Combined<br>Monthly<br>Available<br>Income | One<br>Child | Two<br>Children | Three<br>Children | Four<br>Children | Five<br>Children | Six<br>Children |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 7000.00                                    | 1212         | 1885            | 2362              | 2656             | 2900             | 3103            |
| 7050.00                                    | 1216         | 1891            | 2370              | 2664             | 2909             | 3113            |
| 7100.00                                    | 1220         | 1897            | 2378              | 2673             | 2919             | 3123            |
| 7150.00                                    | 1224         | 1903            | 2385              | 2681             | 2928             | 3133            |
| 7200.00                                    | 1228         | 1909            | 2393              | 2690             | 2937             | 3142            |
| 7250.00                                    | 1232         | 1915            | 2400              | 2698             | 2946             | 3152            |
| 7300.00                                    | 1235         | 1921            | 2408              | 2707             | 2956             | 3162            |
| 7350.00                                    | 1239         | 1927            | 2415              | 2716             | 2965             | 3172            |
| 7400.00                                    | 1243         | 1933            | 2423              | 2724             | 2974             | 3181            |
| 7450.00                                    | 1247         | 1939            | 2430              | 2733             | 2983             | 3191            |
| 7500.00                                    | 1251         | 1945            | 2438              | 2741             | 2993             | 3201            |
| 7550.00                                    | 1255         | 1951            | 2446              | 2750             | 3002             | 3211            |
| 7600.00                                    | 1259         | 1957            | 2453              | 2758             | 3011             | 3220            |
| 7650.00                                    | 1263         | 1963            | 2461              | 2767             | 3020             | 3230            |
| 7700.00                                    | 1267         | 1969            | 2468              | 2775             | 3030             | 3240            |
| 7750.00                                    | 1271         | 1975            | 2476              | 2784             | 3039             | 3250            |
| 7800.00                                    | 1274         | 1981            | 2483              | 2792             | 3048             | 3259            |
| 7850.00                                    | 1278         | 1987            | 2491              | 2801             | 3057             | 3269            |
| 7900.00                                    | 1282         | 1992            | 2498              | 2810             | 3067             | 3279            |
| 7950.00                                    | 1286         | 1998            | 2506              | 2818             | 3076             | 3289            |
| 8000.00                                    | 1290         | 2004            | 2513              | 2827             | 3085             | 3298            |
| 8050.00                                    | 1294         | 2010            | 2521              | 2835             | 3094             | 3308            |
| 8100.00                                    | 1298         | 2016            | 2529              | 2844             | 3104             | 3318            |
| 8150.00                                    | 1302         | 2022            | 2536              | 2852             | 3113             | 3328            |
| 8200.00                                    | 1306         | 2028            | 2544              | 2861             | 3122             | 3337            |
| 8250.00                                    | 1310         | 2034            | 2551              | 2869             | 3131             | 3347            |
| 8300.00                                    | 1313         | 2040            | 2559              | 2878             | 3141             | 3357            |
| 8350.00                                    | 1317         | 2046            | 2566              | 2887             | 3150             | 3367            |
| 8400.00                                    | 1321         | 2052            | 2574              | 2895             | 3159             | 3376            |
| 8450.00                                    | 1325         | 2058            | 2581              | 2904             | 3168             | 3386            |
| 8500.00                                    | 1329         | 2064            | 2589              | 2912             | 3178             | 3396            |
| 8550.00                                    | 1333         | 2070            | 2597              | 2921             | 3187             | 3406            |
| 8600.00                                    | 1337         | 2076            | 2604              | 2929             | 3196             | 3415            |
| 8650.00                                    | 1341         | 2082            | 2612              | 2938             | 3205             | 3425            |
| 8700.00                                    | 1345         | 2088            | 2619              | 2946             | 3215             | 3435            |
| 8750.00                                    | 1349         | 2094            | 2627              | 2955             | 3224             | 3445            |
| 8800.00                                    | 1352         | 2100            | 2634              | 2963             | 3233             | 3454            |
| 8850.00                                    | 1356         | 2106            | 2642              | 2972             | 3242             | 3464            |
| 8900.00                                    | 1360         | 2111            | 2649              | 2981             | 3252             | 3474            |
| 8950.00                                    | 1364         | 2117            | 2657              | 2989             | 3261             | 3484            |
| 9000.00                                    | 1368         | 2123            | 2664              | 2998             | 3270             | 3493            |
| 9050.00                                    | 1372         | 2129            | 2672              | 3006             | 3279             | 3503            |

| Combined<br>Monthly<br>Available<br>Income | One<br>Child | Two<br>Children | Three<br>Children | Four<br>Children | Five<br>Children | Six<br>Children |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 9100.00                                    | 1376         | 2135            | 2680              | 3015             | 3289             | 3513            |
| 9150.00                                    | 1380         | 2141            | 2687              | 3023             | 3298             | 3523            |
| 9200.00                                    | 1384         | 2147            | 2695              | 3032             | 3307             | 3532            |
| 9250.00                                    | 1388         | 2153            | 2702              | 3040             | 3316             | 3542            |
| 9300.00                                    | 1391         | 2159            | 2710              | 3049             | 3326             | 3552            |
| 9350.00                                    | 1395         | 2165            | 2717              | 3058             | 3335             | 3562            |
| 9400.00                                    | 1399         | 2171            | 2725              | 3066             | 3344             | 3571            |
| 9450.00                                    | 1403         | 2177            | 2732              | 3075             | 3353             | 3581            |
| 9500.00                                    | 1407         | 2183            | 2740              | 3083             | 3363             | 3591            |
| 9550.00                                    | 1411         | 2189            | 2748              | 3092             | 3372             | 3601            |
| 9600.00                                    | 1415         | 2195            | 2755              | 3100             | 3381             | 3610            |
| 9650.00                                    | 1419         | 2201            | 2763              | 3109             | 3390             | 3620            |
| 9700.00                                    | 1422         | 2206            | 2767              | 3115             | 3396             | 3628            |
| 9750.00                                    | 1425         | 2210            | 2772              | 3121             | 3402             | 3634            |
| 9800.00                                    | 1427         | 2213            | 2776              | 3126             | 3408             | 3641            |
| 9850.00                                    | 1430         | 2217            | 2781              | 3132             | 3414             | 3647            |
| 9900.00                                    | 1432         | 2221            | 2786              | 3137             | 3420             | 3653            |
| 9950.00                                    | 1435         | 2225            | 2791              | 3143             | 3426             | 3659            |
| 10000.00                                   | 1437         | 2228            | 2795              | 3148             | 3432             | 3666            |

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent.

## NOTICE OF FILING CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that {name} \_\_\_\_\_, is filing his/her Child

Support Guidelines Worksheet attached and labeled Exhibit 1.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this Notice of Filing with the Child Support Guidelines Worksheet was  
[**check all used**]: ( ) e-mailed ( ) mailed ( ) faxed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed  
below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

### Other party or his/her attorney:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party or his/her Attorney

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Florida Bar Number: \_\_\_\_\_

| CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET   |               |               |       |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------|
|  | A. PETITIONER | B. RESPONDENT | TOTAL |
| <b>1. Present Net Monthly Income</b><br>Enter the amount from line 27, Section I of Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), Financial Affidavit.  |               |               |       |
| <b>2. Basic Monthly Obligation</b><br>There is (are) {number} _____ minor child(ren) common to the parties. Using the total amount from line 1, enter the appropriate amount from the child support guidelines chart.  |               |               |       |
| <b>3. Percent of Financial Responsibility</b><br>Divide the amount on line 1A by the total amount on line 1 to get Petitioner's percentage of financial responsibility. Enter answer on line 3A. Divide the amount on line 1B by the total amount on line 1 to get Respondent's percentage of financial responsibility. Enter answer on line 3B. | %             | %             |       |
| <b>4. Share of Basic Monthly Obligation</b><br>Multiply the number on line 2 by the percentage on line 3A to get Petitioner's share of basic obligation. Enter answer on line 4A. Multiply the number on line 2 by the percentage on line 3B to Respondent's share of basic obligation. Enter answer on line 4B.                                 |               |               |       |
| <b>Additional Support — Health Insurance, Child Care &amp; Other</b>   |               |               |       |

| CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET  |               |               |       |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------|
|   | A. PETITIONER | B. RESPONDENT | TOTAL |
| <b>5. a.</b> 100% of Monthly Child Care Costs<br>[Child care costs should not exceed the level required to provide quality care from a licensed source. See section 61.30(7), Florida Statutes, for more information.]  |               |               |       |
| <b>b.</b> Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Health Insurance Cost<br>[This is only amounts actually paid for health insurance on the child(ren).]  |               |               |       |
| <b>c.</b> Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Noncovered Medical, Dental and Prescription Medication Costs   |               |               |       |
| <b>d.</b> Total Monthly Child Care & Health Costs<br>[Add lines 5a + 5b +5c.]   |               |               |       |
| <b>6.</b> Additional Support Payments<br>Multiply the number on line 5d by the percentage on line 3A to determine the Petitioner's share. Enter answer on line 6A. Multiply the number on line 5d by the percentage on line 3B to determine the Respondent's share.<br><br>Enter answer on line 6B. |               |               |       |
| <b>Statutory Adjustments/Credits</b>  |               |               |       |
| <b>7. a.</b> Monthly child care payments actually made.   |               |               |       |
| <b>b.</b> Monthly health insurance payments actually made.  |               |               |       |

| CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET  |               |               |       |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------|
|   | A. PETITIONER | B. RESPONDENT | TOTAL |
| c. Other payments/credits actually made for any noncovered medical, dental and prescription medication expenses of the child(ren) not ordered to be separately paid on a percentage basis. (See section 61.30 (8), Florida Statutes.)   |               |               |       |
| 8. Total Support Payments actually made (Add 7a through 7c.)  |               |               |       |
| <b>9. MINIMUM CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION FOR EACH PARENT</b><br>[Line 4 plus line 6; minus line 8.]   |               |               |       |
| <b>Substantial Time-Sharing (GROSS UP METHOD) If each parent exercises time-sharing at least 20 percent of the overnights in the year (73 overnights in the year), complete Nos. 10 through 21.</b>   |               |               |       |
| 10. Basic Monthly Obligation x 150%<br><br>[Multiply line 2 by 1.5]   |               |               |       |
| 11. Increased Basic Obligation for each parent. Multiply the number on line 10 by the percentage on line 3A to determine the Petitioner's share. Enter answer on line 11A. Multiply the number on line 10 by the percentage on line 3B to determine the Respondent's share. Enter answer on line 11B. |               |               |       |

| CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET   |               |               |       |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------|
|  | A. PETITIONER | B. RESPONDENT | TOTAL |
| <b>12.</b> Percentage of overnight stays with each parent. The child(ren) spend(s) _____ overnight stays with the Petitioner each year. Using the number on the above line, multiply it by 100 and divide by 365. Enter this number on line 12A. The child(ren) spend(s) _____ overnight stays with the Respondent each year. Using the number on the above line, multiply it by 100 and divide by 365. Enter this number on line 12B. | %             | %             |       |
| <b>13.</b> Parent's support multiplied by other Parent's percentage of overnights. [Multiply line 11A by line 12B. Enter this number in 13A. Multiply line 11B by line 12A. Enter this number in 13B.]   |               |               |       |
| <b>Additional Support — Health Insurance, Child Care &amp; Other</b>   |               |               |       |
| <b>14. a.</b> Total Monthly Child Care Costs [Child care costs should not exceed the level required to provide quality care from a licensed source. See section 61.30(7), Florida Statutes, for more information.]   |               |               |       |
| <b>b.</b> Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Health Insurance Cost. [This is only amounts actually paid for health insurance on the child(ren).]   |               |               |       |
| <b>c.</b> Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Noncovered Medical, Dental and Prescription Medication Costs.   |               |               |       |
| <b>d.</b> Total Monthly Child Care & Health Costs [Add lines 14a + 14b + 14c.]   |               |               |       |

| CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET   |               |               |       |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------|
|  | A. PETITIONER | B. RESPONDENT | TOTAL |
| <b>15.</b> Additional Support Payments.<br>Multiply the number on line 14d by the percentage on line 3A to determine the Petitioner's share. Enter answer on line 15A. Multiply the number on line 14d by the percentage on line 3B to determine the Respondent's share. Enter answer on line 15B. |               |               |       |
| <b>Statutory Adjustments/Credits</b>   |               |               |       |
| <b>16. a.</b> Monthly child care payments actually made.   |               |               |       |
| <b>b.</b> Monthly health insurance payments actually made.   |               |               |       |
| <b>c.</b> Other payments/credits actually made for any noncovered medical, dental and prescription medication expenses of the child(ren) not ordered to be separately paid on a percentage basis. [See section 61.30(8), Florida Statutes.]  |               |               |       |
| <b>17.</b> Total Support Payments actually made [Add 16a through 16c.]   |               |               |       |
| <b>18.</b> Total Additional Support Transfer Amount [Line 15 minus line 17; enter any negative number as zero.]  |               |               |       |
| <b>19.</b> Total Child Support Owed from Petitioner to Respondent [Add line 13A plus 18A.]   |               |               |       |
| <b>20.</b> Total Child Support Owed from Respondent to Petitioner. [Add line 13B plus line 18B.]   |               |               |       |



| CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET   |               |               |       |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------|
|  | A. PETITIONER | B. RESPONDENT | TOTAL |
| <b>21. Presumptive Child Support to Be Paid.</b> [Comparing lines 19 and 20, Subtract the smaller amount owed from the larger amount owed and enter the result in the column for the parent that owes the larger amount of support.] | \$            |               |       |

**ADJUSTMENTS TO GUIDELINES AMOUNT.** If you or the other parent is requesting the Court to award a child support amount that is more or less than the child support guidelines, you must complete and file Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943.

[check **one** only]

- a. ☐ **Deviation from the guidelines amount is requested.** The Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943, is attached.
- b. ☐ **Deviation from the guidelines amount is NOT requested.** The Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943, is not attached.

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: {choose only **one**} \_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} \_\_\_\_\_,

{name of business} \_\_\_\_\_,

{address} \_\_\_\_\_,

{city} \_\_\_\_\_, {state} \_\_\_\_\_, {zip code} \_\_\_\_\_, {telephone number} \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE  
FORM 12.932  
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATORY DISCLOSURE  
(10/21)**

**When should this form be used?**

**Mandatory disclosure** requires each **party** in a family matter to provide the other party with certain financial information and documents. These documents must be served on the other party within 45 days of **service** of the initial petition or supplemental petition for modification on the **respondent**. The mandatory disclosure rule applies to all original and **supplemental** cases, except simplified dissolution of marriage cases and cases where the respondent is served by **constructive service** and does not answer. You should use this form to notify the court and the other party that you have complied with the mandatory disclosure rule.

**Each party must provide the other party with the documents listed in section 2 of this form if the relief being sought is permanent regardless of whether it is an initial or supplemental proceeding. ONLY THE COMPLETED FORM IS FILED WITH THE COURT. EXCEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT AND CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET, NO DOCUMENTS SHALL BE FILED IN THE COURT FILE WITHOUT A PRIOR COURT ORDER. THE DOCUMENTS LISTED ON THE FORM ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE OTHER PARTY.** If your individual gross annual income is under \$50,000, you should complete the **Family Law Financial Affidavit (Short Form)**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b). If your individual gross annual income is \$50,000 or more, you should complete the **Family Law Financial Affidavit (Long Form)**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c).

In addition, there are separate mandatory disclosure requirements that apply to **temporary financial hearings**, which are listed in section 1 of this form. The party seeking temporary financial relief must serve these documents on the other party with the notice of temporary financial hearing. The responding party must serve the required documents on the party seeking temporary relief. Any documents that have already been served under the requirements for temporary or initial proceedings do not need to be reserved again in the same proceeding. If a supplemental petition is filed, seeking modification, then the mandatory disclosure requirements begin again.

You must state with specificity the documents that you are producing to the other party. References to account numbers and personal identifying information are governed by Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.425, which you should review prior to completing this form.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** this document with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records. A copy of this form must be served on any other party in your case. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

## What should I do next?

After you have provided the other party all of the financial information and documents and have filed this form certifying that you have complied with this rule, you are under a continuing duty to promptly give the other party any information or documents that change your financial status or that make the information already provided inaccurate. You should not file with the clerk any of the documents listed in the certificate of compliance other than the financial affidavit and the child support guidelines worksheet. Refer to the instructions regarding the petition in your case to determine how you should proceed after filing this form.

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you must review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by email, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General), Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **Special notes . . .**

You may provide copies of required documents; however, the originals must be produced for inspection if the other party requests to see them.

Although the financial affidavits are based on individual gross income, either party may ask the other party to complete the **Family Law Financial Affidavit (Long Form)**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c), by serving the appropriate interrogatory form. (See **Standard Family Law Interrogatories**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.930(b) (original proceedings) or (c) (modification proceedings)).

Any portion of the mandatory disclosure rule may be modified by order of the **judge** or agreement of the parties. Therefore, you and the other party may agree that you will not require each other to produce the documents required under the mandatory disclosure rule. This exception does **not** apply to the **Financial Affidavit**, Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), which is required in all cases and cannot be waived.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

## **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATORY DISCLOSURE**

**ONLY THE COMPLETED FORM IS FILED WITH THE COURT.  
EXCEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT AND CHILD SUPPORT  
GUIDELINES WORKSHEET, NO DOCUMENTS SHALL BE FILED IN THE  
COURT FILE WITHOUT A PRIOR COURT ORDER. THE DOCUMENTS  
LISTED BELOW ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE OTHER PARTY.**

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I have complied  
with the mandatory disclosure required by Florida Family Law Rule 12.285 as follows:

### **1. FOR TEMPORARY FINANCIAL RELIEF, ONLY:**

The date the following documents were served: \_\_\_\_\_.

[Check **all** that apply. State with specificity the documents being produced; if sufficient space is not  
provided, you may attach additional papers with this form and refer to them in the space provided.]

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Affidavit

\_\_\_\_\_ Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) (short form)

\_\_\_\_\_ Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c) (long form)

b. \_\_\_\_\_ All complete federal and state personal income tax, gift tax, and foreign tax returns for  
the past 3 years; including all attachments, including IRS forms W-2, 1099, and K-1, and  
all accompanying schedules and worksheets comprising the entire tax return; **or**

\_\_\_\_\_ Transcript of tax return as provided by IRS form 4506-T; **or**

\_\_\_\_\_ IRS forms W-2, 1099, and K-1 for the past year because the income tax return for  
the past year has not been prepared; and for any of the prior 2 years beyond the  
past year if tax returns for any of those years have not been filed.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Pay stubs or other evidence of earned income for the 6 months before the compliance  
with the disclosure requirements for temporary relief. The following are produced:

\_\_\_\_\_

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**2. FOR INITIAL, SUPPLEMENTAL, AND PERMANENT FINANCIAL RELIEF:**

The date the following documents were served: \_\_\_\_\_.

[Check **all** that apply. State with specificity the documents being produced; if sufficient space is not provided, you may attach additional papers with this form and refer to them in the space provided.]

- a. \_\_\_\_ Financial Affidavit  
\_\_\_\_ Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) (short form)  
\_\_\_\_ Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c) (long form)
- b. \_\_\_\_ All complete federal and state personal income tax, gift tax, and foreign tax returns, for the past 3 years; including all attachments, including IRS forms W-2, 1099, and K-1, and all accompanying schedules and worksheets comprising the entire tax return;  
\_\_\_\_ Transcript of the tax return as provided by IRS form 4506-T; **or**  
\_\_\_\_ IRS forms W-2, 1099, and K-1 for the past year because the income tax return for the past year has not been prepared; and for any of the prior 2 years beyond the past year if tax returns for any of those years have not been filed.
- c. \_\_\_\_ Pay stubs or other evidence of earned income for the 6 months before the compliance with these disclosure requirements for initial or supplemental proceedings. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- d. \_\_\_\_ A statement identifying the source and amount of all income for the 6 months before the compliance with these disclosure requirements for initial or supplemental proceedings, if not reflected on the pay stubs produced. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- e. \_\_\_\_ All loan applications, financial statements, credit reports, or any other form of financial disclosure, including financial aid forms, prepared for any purpose or used for any purpose within the 24 months preceding the compliance with these disclosure requirements for initial or supplemental proceedings. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- f. \_\_\_\_ All deeds to real estate in which I presently own or owned an interest within the past 3 years. All promissory notes or other documents evidencing money owed to me or my spouse at any time within the last 24 months. All leases, whether in my name individually, in my name jointly with any other person or entity, in my name as trustee or guardian for a party or a minor or adult dependent child of both parties, or in someone else's name on my behalf wherein either party (A) is receiving or has received payments at any time within the last 3 years, or (B) owns or owned an interest. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

g. \_\_\_\_ All periodic statements for the last 12 months for all checking accounts and for the last year for all savings accounts, money market funds, certificates of deposit, etc., whether in my name individually, in my name jointly with any other person or entity, in my name as trustee or guardian for a party or a minor or adult dependent child of both parties, or in someone else's name on my behalf; and for all accounts that have check-writing privileges, copies of canceled checks and registers, whether written or electronically maintained. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

h. \_\_\_\_ All brokerage account statements for the last 12 months, in either party's name individually or jointly with any person or entity, or as a trustee or guardian for a party or a minor or adult dependent child of both parties, or in someone else's name on my behalf; and for all accounts that have check-writing privileges, copies of canceled checks and registers, whether written or electronically maintained. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

i. \_\_\_\_ Most recent statement and statements for the past 12 months for any pension, profit sharing, deferred compensation, or retirement plan (for example, IRA, 401(k), 403(b), SEP, KEOGH, etc.) and summary plan description for any such plan in which I am a participant or an alternate payee receiving payments. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

j. \_\_\_\_ Most recent statement and statements for the past 12 months for any virtual currency transactions in which either party participated within the last 12 months or holds an interest in, either individually, jointly with any other person or entity, as trustee or guardian for a party or minor or adult dependent child of both parties, or in someone else's name on my behalf, and a listing of all current holdings of virtual currency. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

k. \_\_\_\_ The declaration page, the last periodic statement, statements for the past 12 months and the certificate for any group insurance for all life insurance policies insuring my life or the life of my spouse. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

l. \_\_\_\_ All health and dental insurance cards covering either me or my spouse and/or our dependent child(ren). The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

- m. \_\_\_\_ Corporate, partnership, and trust tax returns for the last 3 tax years, in which I have an ownership or interest. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- n. \_\_\_\_ All credit card and charge account statements and other records showing my (our) indebtedness as of the date of the filing of this action and for the prior 24 months preceding compliance with these disclosure requirements for initial or supplemental proceedings. All promissory notes on which I presently owe or owned within the past 24 months, whether paid or not. All lease agreements I presently owe, either in my name individually, jointly with any other person or entity, in my name as trustee or guardian for a party or a minor or adult dependent child of both parties, or in someone else's name on my behalf. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- o. \_\_\_\_ All premarital and marital agreements between the parties to this case, and all affidavits and declaration of non-paternity or judgments of disestablishment of paternity for any minor or dependent children born or conceived during the marriage. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- p. \_\_\_\_ If a modification proceeding, all written agreements entered into between the parties at any time since the order to be modified was entered. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- q. \_\_\_\_ All documents relating to claims for an unequal distribution of marital property, enhancement or appreciation in nonmarital property, or nonmarital status of an asset or debt. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- r. \_\_\_\_ Any court order directing that I pay or receive spousal support (alimony) or child support. The following are produced: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

I certify that a copy of this document was [check all used]: ( ) e-mailed ( ) mailed  
( ) faxed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date}\_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read this document and the facts stated in it are true.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only one}* \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{address}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zip code}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.

# **INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.943, MOTION TO DEVIATE FROM CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES (11/15)**

## **When should this form be used?**

Child support in Florida is determined by the child support guidelines found in section 61.30, Florida Statutes. The court, at its discretion, may raise or lower the child support guidelines amount by up to 5%. In addition, the court may raise or lower the guidelines support amount by more than 5%, if written reasons are given for the adjustment. The court may make these additional adjustments based on certain considerations, which are reflected in this form. You should review this form to determine if any of the reasons for adjusting the child support guidelines amount apply to your situation and you should complete this form **only** if you want the court to order **more child support or less child support** than the amount required by the child support guidelines.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should file the original with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

## **What should I do next?**

A copy of this form must be mailed, e-mailed, or hand delivered to the other party in your case.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** For further information, see section 61.30, Florida Statutes.

### **Special notes...**

More information on the child support guidelines as well as a chart for converting income and expenses to monthly amounts if paid or incurred on other than a monthly basis is contained in the instructions to **Florida Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), and the **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e).

With this form you must also file the following, if not already filed:

- **Florida Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c).
- **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e). (If you do not know the other party's income, you should file this worksheet as soon as you receive a copy of his or her financial affidavit.)

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent,

## MOTION TO DEVIATE FROM CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES

\_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent requests that the Court enter an order granting the following:

### SECTION I

*[Choose A or B]*

A. \_\_\_\_\_ **MORE** child support than the amount required by the child support guidelines. The Court should order **MORE** child support than the amount required by the child support guidelines because of:  
*[Choose all that apply to your situation]*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Extraordinary medical, psychological, educational, or dental expenses;
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ Seasonal variations in one or both parent's income or expenses
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ Age(s) of the child(ren), taking into account the greater needs of older child(ren);
  4. \_\_\_\_\_ Special needs, such as costs that may be associated with the disability of a child or child(ren), that have traditionally been met within the family budget even though the fulfilling of those needs will cause support to exceed the presumptive amount established by the guidelines;
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ Total available assets of obligee, obligor, and the child(ren);
  6. \_\_\_\_\_ Impact of the Internal Revenue Service Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit, Earned Income Tax Credit, and dependency exemption and waiver of that exemption;
  7. \_\_\_\_\_ The Parenting Plan, such as where the child or children spend a significant amount of time, but less than 20 percent of the overnights, with one parent, thereby reducing the financial expenditures incurred by the other parent, or the refusal of a parent to become involved in the activities of the child(ren) has increased the financial expenditure incurred by the obligee;
  8. \_\_\_\_\_ The obligee parent's low income and ability to maintain the basic necessities of the home for the child(ren);
  9. \_\_\_\_\_ The likelihood that either parent will actually exercise the time-sharing schedule set forth in the parenting plan and/or whether all the children are exercising the same time-sharing schedule;
  10. \_\_\_\_\_ Any other adjustment that is needed to achieve an equitable result, which may include reasonable and necessary expenses or debts jointly incurred during the marriage.
- Explain any items marked above: \_\_\_\_\_

---

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B. \_\_\_\_\_ **LESS** child support than the amount required by the child support guidelines. The Court should order **LESS** child support than the amount required by the child support guidelines because of:  
[Choose **all** that apply to your situation]

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Extraordinary medical, psychological, educational, or dental expenses;
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ Independent income of child(ren), excluding the child(ren)'s SSI (supplemental security income)
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ Payment of support for a parent which has been regularly paid and for which there is a demonstrated need;
  4. \_\_\_\_\_ Seasonal variations in one or both parent's income or expenses;
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ Age of the child(ren), taking into account the greater needs of older child(ren);
  6. \_\_\_\_\_ Total available assets of obligee, obligor, and child(ren);
  7. \_\_\_\_\_ Impact of the Internal Revenue Service Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit, Earned Income Tax Credit, and dependency exemption and waiver of that exemption;
  8. \_\_\_\_\_ Application of the child support guidelines which requires the obligor to pay more than 55% of gross income for a single support order;
  9. \_\_\_\_\_ Residency of subsequently born or adopted child(ren) with the obligor, include consideration of the subsequent spouse's income;
  10. \_\_\_\_\_ The Parenting Plan, where the child(ren) spend a significant amount of time, but less than 20 percent of the overnights, with one parent, thereby reducing the financial expenditures incurred by the other parent; or the refusal of a parent to become involved in the activities of the child(ren) has reduced the financial expenditure of that parent;
  11. \_\_\_\_\_ Any other adjustment that is needed to achieve an equitable result, which may include reasonable and necessary expenses or debts jointly incurred during the marriage.
  12. Explain any items marked above: \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- 

## SECTION II. INCOME AND ASSETS OF CHILD(REN) COMMON TO BOTH PARTIES

List the total of any independent income or assets of the child(ren) common to both parties (income from Social Security, gifts, stocks/bonds, employment, trust fund(s), investment(s), etc.). Attach an explanation.

**TOTAL VALUE OF ASSETS OF CHILD(REN)**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME OF CHILD(REN)**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION III. EXPENSES FOR CHILD(REN) COMMON TO BOTH PARTIES

All amounts must be MONTHLY. See the instructions with this form to figure out money amounts for anything that is NOT paid monthly. Attach more paper, if needed. Items included under "other" should be listed separately with separate dollar amounts.

1. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly nursery, babysitting, or other child care
2. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly after-school care

3. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly school tuition
4. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly school supplies, books, and fees
5. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly after-school activities
6. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly lunch money
7. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly private lessons/tutoring
8. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly allowance
9. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly clothing
10. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly uniforms
11. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly entertainment (movies, birthday parties, etc.)
12. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly health and dental insurance premiums
13. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly medical, dental, prescription charges (unreimbursed)
14. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly psychiatric/psychological/counselor (unreimbursed)
15. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly orthodontic (unreimbursed)
16. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly grooming
17. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly non-prescription medications/cosmetics/toiletries/sundries
18. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly gifts from children to others (other children, relatives, teachers, etc.)
19. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly camp or other summer activities
20. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly clubs (Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.) or recreational fees
21. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly visitation expenses (for nonresidential parent)  
{Explain} \_\_\_\_\_
22. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly insurance (life, etc.)  
{explain}: \_\_\_\_\_ Other {explain}: \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_
25. \_\_\_\_\_
26. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR CHILD(REN) COMMON TO BOTH PARTIES**  
(add lines 1 through 25)

I have filed, will file, or am filing with this form the following additional documents:

1. Florida Family Law Family Law Financial Affidavit, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c).
2. Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e).

I certify that a copy of this document was ( ) mailed ( ) faxed and mailed ( ) e-mailed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date}\_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this motion and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party or his/her attorney

Printed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.]*

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

\_\_\_\_\_ Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in all blanks] This form was prepared for the: {choose only **one**} ( ) Petitioner ( ) Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} \_\_\_\_\_,

{name of business} \_\_\_\_\_,

{address} \_\_\_\_\_,

{city} \_\_\_\_\_, {state} \_\_\_\_\_, {zip code} \_\_\_\_\_, {telephone number} \_\_\_\_\_

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.983(e), MOTION FOR SCIENTIFIC PATERNITY TESTING (11/15)

## When should this form be used?

This form should be used when the mother or alleged father wants the court to order a **scientific paternity test** to determine the **paternity** of a minor child(ren).

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for your records.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.



To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **What should I do next?**

When you have filed this motion, you are ready to set a **hearing** on this motion. You should check with the clerk, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** for information on the local procedure for scheduling a hearing. When you know the date and time of your hearing, you should file a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, or other appropriate notice of hearing form.

A copy of this motion and the Notice of Hearing must be mailed, e-mailed **or** hand-delivered to the other party in your case.

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see chapter 742, Florida Statutes.

### **Special notes...**

These family law forms contain an **Order on Motion for Scientific Paternity Testing**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.983(f), which the judge may use. You should check with the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to see if you need to bring it with you to the hearing. If so, you should type or print the heading, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the parties' names, and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete at your hearing or trial.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent,

### MOTION FOR SCIENTIFIC PATERNITY TESTING

I, {choose only one} \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent certifies that the following information is true:

1. At this time, other than testimony, very little or no substantial proof of paternity or nonpaternity is available in this action.
2. I request, under section 742.12, Florida Statutes, that the Court enter an order for appropriate scientific testing of the biological samples of Petitioner and Respondent and the minor child(ren) listed below, so that a determination of paternity of the minor child(ren) can be made to a reasonable degree of medical certainty:

**Name**

**Birth Date**

- |     |       |
|-----|-------|
| (1) | _____ |
| (2) | _____ |
| (3) | _____ |
| (4) | _____ |
| (5) | _____ |
| (6) | _____ |

3. I request that the costs of the scientific testing initially be borne by ( ) Petitioner ( ) Respondent ( ) both Petitioner and Respondent.

I certify that a copy of this document was ( ) mailed ( ) faxed and mailed ( ) e-mailed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Petitioner or his/her attorney:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Respondent or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.}*

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known

\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification

Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only one}* ( ) Petitioner ( ) Respondent.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{address}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zip code}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Fee Schedule For Family Law Cases**

*(These fees are effective June 1, 2019)*

### **Clerk fees (payable to The Clerk of the Circuit Court):**

| <b>Type</b>   | <b>Fee</b>  | <b>Statute Reference</b>                         |
|---|---|--|
| Adoption *  | \$400.00  | 63.102 & 28.241(1)(a)                            |
| Termination of Parental Rights *  | \$400.00  | 63.087 & 28.241(1)(a)                            |
| Delayed Birth Certificate *   | \$400.00  | 682.0195 & 28.241(1)(a)                          |
| Disabilities of nonage; removed (Emancipation) *  | \$400.00  | 743.015 & 28.241(1)(a)                           |
| Temporary Custody by Extended Family Member *   | \$400.00  | 751.03 & 28.241(1)(a)                            |
| Name Change *   | \$414.00  | 68.07 & 28.241(1)(a)                             |
| Counter Petition <i>for case indicated with *</i>   | \$395.00  | 28.101 & 28.241(1)(c)                            |
| Dissolution of Marriage **  | \$408.00  | 28.241 & 28.101                                  |
| All other Family Law actions not listed above **  | \$300.00  | 28.241(1)(a)                                     |
| Counter Petition <i>for case indicated with **</i>  | \$295.00  | 28.101 & 28.241(1)(c)                            |
| Sealing Fee   | \$42.00   | 28.24(25)  |
| Attorney appearing Pro Hac Vice   | \$100.00  | 28.241(6)  |
| Notice of Appeal<br><i>(Requires 2 separate checks:<br/>(1) \$300.00 made payable to the <u>Second District Court of Appeals</u>;<br/>(2) \$100.00 + \$1.00 per page of entire Notice of Appeal and \$2.00 for certifying made payable to Clerk of the Circuit Court)</i> | \$300.00 (Second DCA)<br>\$100.00 plus copy and certification fee (Clerk) | 28.241(2);<br>28.24(3);<br>28.24(5)(a);<br>35.22 |
| Reopen fee  | \$50.00   | 28.241(1)(b)                                     |
| Writ of Garnishment issued  | \$188.00  | 28.241(1)(a)                                     |
| Issuing a Summons (Initial, Alias, and Pluries)   | \$10.00   | 28.241(1)(d)                                     |
| Issue & filing a subpoena   | \$7.00  | 28.241(18)(a)                                    |
| Signing and sealing a subpoena  | \$2.00  | 28.24(18)(b)                                     |
| Copies  | \$1.00 (per page)   | 28.24(5)(a)                                      |
| Certification   | \$2.00  | 28.24(3)   |
| Notary fee  | \$10.00 (each )   | 117.05(2)(a)                                     |
| Approving Bond  | \$8.50  | 28.24(19)  |
| Administering oath  | \$3.50  | 38.25(13)  |
| Exemplified certificate   | \$7.00  | 28.24(16)  |
| Clerk Certificate   | \$7.00  | 28.24(8)   |
| <b><i>Child Support Fees</i></b>  |   |  |
| Judgment payoff statement (Child Support)   | \$25.00   | 61.14(6)(f)1                                     |
| Payment History (Child Support, Alimony)  | \$1.00 - \$2.00 per year  | 28.24(5)(a)                                      |
| Affidavit of Delinquency  | \$7.00  | 28.24(8)   |
| Notice of Delinquency fee   | \$25.00   | 61.14(6)(b)1.b.                                  |
| Driver License/Non Payment of Child Support   | \$25.00   | 61.14(6)(f)1.                                    |
| Verification form   | \$7.00  | 28.24(8)   |

### **Mediation (payable to The Clerk of the Circuit Court)**

|  |          |              |
|--|----------|--------------|
| Family income greater than \$50,000 but less than \$100,000 per year | \$120.00 | 44.108(2)(b) |
| Family income less than \$50,000 per year                            | \$60.00  | 44.108(2)(b) |

Print Form

**IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Plaintiff/Petitioner

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

vs

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant/Respondent

**NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION WITHIN COURT FILING**

Under Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.420(d)(2), I certify:

☐ (1) I am filing the attached document containing confidential information as described in Rule 2.420(d)(1)(B) and that:

(a) The title/type of document is \_\_\_\_\_, and:

(b) ☐ the entire document is confidential, or

☐ the confidential information within the document is precisely located at:

\_\_\_\_\_.

OR

☐ (2) A document was previously filed in this case that contains confidential information as described in Rule 2.420(d)(1)(B), but a Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing was not filed with the document and the confidential information was not maintained as confidential by the clerk of the court. I hereby notify the clerk that this confidential information is located as follows:

(a) Title/type of document: \_\_\_\_\_ ;

(b) Date of filing (if known): \_\_\_\_\_ ;

(c) Date of document: \_\_\_\_\_ ;

(d) Docket entry number: \_\_\_\_\_ ;

(e) ☐ Entire document is confidential, or

☐ Precise location of confidential information in document: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Filer's Signature

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished by ☐ e-mail ☐ delivery ☐ mail ☐ fax on (All parties and Affected Non-Parties. Note: If the name or address of a Party or Affected Non-Party is confidential DO NOT include such information in this Certificate of Service. Instead, serve the State Attorney or request Court Service. See Rule 2.420(k)) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Florida Bar No. (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: The clerk of court must review filings identified as containing confidential information to determine whether the information is facially subject to confidentiality under subdivision (d)(1)(B). The clerk must notify the filer in writing within 5 days if the clerk determines that the information is NOT subject to confidentiality, and the records must not be held as confidential for more than 10 days, unless a motion is filed under subdivision (d)(3) of the Rule. Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.420(d)(2).

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.915

## DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS (08/23)

### When should this form be used?

This form should be used to inform the clerk and the other **party** of your current mailing and e-mail address(es) or **any change of address**. It is very important that the court and the other party in your case have your correct address.

A party not represented by an attorney is required to designate a primary e-mail address for **service** unless excused pursuant to Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516(b)(1)(D). A primary and up to two secondary e-mail addresses can be designated. If you do so and the other party is represented by an attorney or has also designated e-mail address(es) for service, e-mail will be the **exclusive means of service**.

If there is any change in your mailing or e-mail address(es), you must complete a new form, file it with the clerk, and serve a copy on any other party or parties in your case.

### What should I do next?

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records. A copy of this form must be served on any other party in your case. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all

documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration** and you **must** review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MUST SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE CLERK.**

If a self-represented litigant has been excused from serving documents by e-mail and then elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once that election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there.

### **Special notes...**

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

## DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS

I, {full legal name}, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that:

### **MAILING ADDRESS:**

My current mailing address is:

{Street or Post Office Box} \_\_\_\_\_

{Apartment, lot, etc.} \_\_\_\_\_

{City}, \_\_\_\_\_, {State}, \_\_\_\_\_, {Zip} \_\_\_\_\_.

{Telephone No.} \_\_\_\_\_ {Fax No.} \_\_\_\_\_.

### **E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

The following is/are my e-mail address(es) for purposes of serving and receiving documents:

Primary e-mail address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Secondary e-mail address No.1:

\_\_\_\_\_

Secondary e-mail address No. 2:

\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I must keep the clerk's office and the opposing party or parties notified of my current mailing and e-mail address(es) and that all future papers in this lawsuit will be served at the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.

I certify that a copy of this document was [check all used] ( ) e-mailed ( ) mailed ( ) faxed ( ) hand-delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date}\_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

I HAVE READ EVERY STATEMENT MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT AND EACH STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE STATEMENTS MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE BEING MADE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, PUNISHABLE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 837.02, FLORIDA STATUTES.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-Mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: {choose only **one**} \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} \_\_\_\_\_,

{name of business} \_\_\_\_\_,

{street} \_\_\_\_\_,

{city} \_\_\_\_\_, {state} \_\_\_\_\_, {zip code} \_\_\_\_\_, {telephone number} \_\_\_\_\_