

PETITION FOR TEMPORARY CUSTODY

***Packet Price: \$11.00**

*Filing fee - \$339.50 (includes notary fee)

*On any given day, (Mon-Fri) you must be at the clerk's office before 3:00 p.m. to file a new case.

*Do not date or sign any documents unless you are in front of a Deputy Clerk or notary.

*There will be a fee at the sheriff's office when having the other party served.

*If you have any questions, you may call us at 850-981-5554.

- Emerald Coast Legal Aid – 850-432-2336
- Legal Services of North Florida – 850-432-8222
- Pro Se Coordinator - Kay Camp – 850-981-5588 – Kay.Camp@flcourts1.gov (*preferred method of contact*)

Petition for Temporary Legal Custody Checklist

1. ☐ Civil Cover Sheet for Family Law Cases, Form 12.928
2. ☐ Proof of Residency
3. ☐ Petition for Temporary Custody by Extended Family, Form 12.970(a)
4. ☐ Parental Consent to Award Temporary Legal Custody (need two – one from each parent, if possible)
5. ☐ Waiver of Service of Process and Consent for Temporary Custody by Extended Family, Form 12.970(c) (need two – one from each parent, if possible)
6. ☐ Notice and Acknowledgement of Limitation of Services Provided
7. ☐ Disclosure from Nonlawyer, Form 12.900(a) *This form is only used when a non-lawyer has assisted in the completion of the forms.*
8. ☐ Designation of Current Address and E-mail Address, Form 12.915
9. ☐ Notice of Related Cases, Form 12.900(h)
10. ☐ Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit, Form 12.902(d)
11. ☐ Copy of Birth Certificate
12. ☐ Process Service Memorandum, Form 12.910(b)
13. ☐ Request for Hearing
14. ☐ Petition for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family, Form 12.970(b) ***This petition is rarely used, it is used to award custodial rights concurrently with the parents.***
15. ☐ Waiver of Service of Process and Consent for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family, Form 12.970(d) (need two – one from each parent, if possible) ***This form is only used if the Petition for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family, Form 12.970(f) is being used.***

**SELF-HELP PACKET FOR
PETITION FOR TEMPORARY CUSTODY
BY EXTENDED FAMILY
Prepared 01/14/2025**

- This instruction sheet is for litigants who **are extended family members trying to obtain temporary custody of a child or children.**
- An *extended family member* is:
 - A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent;

OR

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 proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction involving one or both of the children's parents as an adverse party;

OR

An individual who qualifies as "fictive kin". As defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes, fictive kin means a person unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption who has an emotionally significant relationship, which possesses the characteristics of a family relationship, to a child.
- You may file a Petition for Temporary Custody if:
 - You have the signed, notarized consents of the children's legal parents;

OR

You are an extended family member who is caring full time for the child in the role of a substitute parent and with whom the children are presently living.
- There are fees for filing this petition and for service by the Sheriff's Office (if needed).
 - **\$339.50 to the Clerk's Office**
 - **\$40.00 to the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office**
 - *If you cannot pay the fees at the time of filing because of unemployment or insufficient income, you may meet the criteria to be declared indigent. You must complete a **Civil Affidavit/Application of Indigency Status** with the Clerk's Office. If you meet the criteria, the filing fees will be waived; there will be service fees that cannot be waived, and payment will be required. If obtaining service of process by the Sheriff's Office, you will need to take a copy of the Civil Application to the Sheriff's Office along with service packet. The service fee for the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office will also be waived.*
- **Petitioner:** individual initiating petition
- **Respondent:** individual receiving/answering petition
- **Make sure all documents in the packet provided have been completed. A hearing date will not be scheduled until all required documents have been filed with the Clerk's Office.**

WHERE DO I FILE THE FORMS?

- Family Law Clerk of Court located at 4025 Avalon Blvd., Milton, FL or South End Service Center, 5841 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL or by becoming a registered user of the Florida Courts E-filing Portal at **www.myflcourtaccess.com**.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER I HAVE FILED?

- The Clerk will issue a summons (if needed) for the respondent(s) and attach all filed paperwork.
- The summons informs the respondent(s) that he/she will have 20 calendar days to respond to your petition.

- For persons residing in Santa Rosa County, you will take the packet to the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office, Civil Division at 5755 E. Milton Rd., Milton, FL for service of process on the respondent.
- The Sheriff's Office will send a Return of Service to you and to the Clerk of Court, stating whether the respondent(s) was or was not served.
- **If the respondent(s) lives in another county/state**, you will need to contact the Sheriff's Office in the county where the party resides for instructions to service or utilize the services of a certified process server in that county. **For out of state service, the agency will send the return of service to you. It is your responsibility to file the return with the Clerk's Office.**
- The Request for Hearing completed by you will be sent by the clerk to the Pro Se Coordinator.
- **In approximately 90 days from the date the petition is filed**, the Pro Se Coordinator will review your filed documents and ensure the respondent has filed a response. Once her review is complete, she will contact either party by email if additional/corrected documents are required. Once all requested documents are filed by the parties, she will schedule a hearing date. **You will be emailed/mailed a Notice of Hearing. You will need to download or print the Notice of Hearing as the link will expire in approximately 2 weeks. THERE IS NO NEED TO CALL AND INQUIRE ABOUT HEARING DATE.**
- **PLEASE NOTE IF YOUR EMAIL IS ON FILE WITH THE CLERK, ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE SENT TO YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

CAN I SERVE THE OTHER PARTY MYSELF?

NO! If the respondent(s) agrees, they may waive service by the Sheriff by *signing* an Acceptance and Waiver of Service Process of Summons. The only other option for service is by a Sheriff *or* a Civil Process Server.

WHAT IF I WANT TO STOP THE PROCESS OR WITHDRAW THE PETITION?

If you decide not to pursue the petition and want to dismiss it, you can file a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal, Form 12.927, with the Clerk's Office.

WHAT IF THE RESPONDENT DOES NOT ANSWER OR FILE THE NECESSARY FORMS?

Once the respondent has been served or waived service, he/she will have 20 calendar days to file an answer to the Petition for Temporary Custody by Extended Family.

- If the respondent(s) fails to answer the original petition with the **20 days** allowed, you may file a **Motion for Default**, Form 12.922(a), along with an **Affidavit of Military Service**, Form 12.912(b). The **Motion for Default** requests that the court allow you to proceed to a final hearing.

WHAT IF I CANNOT LOCATE THE RESPONDENT?

- If you have a last known Florida address, you must attempt *personal service* first.
- After personal service has been attempted and the party still cannot be served (either in or out of state), the moving party must use **constructive service**. Constructive Service is a method of LAST RESORT to be used when personal or substitute service or process cannot be made.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance.

Please contact:

**Court Administration, ADA Liaison
Santa Rosa County, 4025 Avalon Blvd.
Milton, FL 32583
Phone 850-623-3159, Fax (850) 983-0602
ADA.SantaRosa@glcourts1.gov**

at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification in the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, Call 711.

FLORIDA COURTS E-FILING PORTAL REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Santa Rosa County Courthouse, Family Law Division, is going “paperless”. To receive copies of documents electronically filed in your case by e-mail, including Orders and Judgments, you will need to register for an account on the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal. There is no cost or charge for this service.

1. Go to the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal at www.myflcourtaccess.com
2. Click on “File Now”
3. Register for an account using the Role “Self-Represented Litigant”
4. Complete your personal email information
5. Click on “Register”
6. You will receive an email to activate your account
7. Follow the instructions in that email to activate your account

PRO SE INFORMATION

(Prepared 08/27/24)

ABOUT LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:

- A pro se litigant is a person who represents his or herself on a legal matter without the legal advice and representation of an attorney licensed to practice law.
- It is highly recommended that you consult with an attorney before deciding to represent yourself in court.
- The Pro Se Coordinator nor the Clerk are attorneys and cannot give you legal advice, represent you in court, tell you what to say, do or write, or tell you about your legal rights and remedies.
- The Pro Se Coordinator can give you information and guidance on how the court system works, what forms are available for your use, local procedures for filing your forms and getting a hearing date and agencies in the community that may be able to assist you.
- It is the pro se litigant's responsibility to file the appropriate pleadings with the Clerk of Court, properly serve the opposing party with a copy of all documents, and make sure that the other party is given sufficient notice of the hearing.
- You are representing yourself and you alone are responsible for the correct completion and filing of forms.
- There is no confidential relationship between Family Law Pro Se Staff and pro se litigants.

ABOUT THE COURT HEARING:

- Be prepared to tell the Court what specific issues are to be addressed. It is recommended that you write down all issues and concerns that you will need to know in court rather than rely on memory.
- **The parties are not allowed to speak to each other. All questions and objections must be directed to the Judge.** Address the Judge as "Your Honor" and request permission to address the court before speaking. **Do not talk while the Judge is talking.**
- Arrangements should be made in advance for the care of minor children. The court will not address family law issues while the minor child(ren) are present.
- Be sure to dress appropriately. No shorts, flip flops, slippers, halter or low-cut tops, tank tops, tight or short skirts/dresses.
- All parties must always maintain the utmost respect for the Court and each other.
- The Court will not tolerate emotional outbursts. If you disagree with the Judge's decision, refrain from yelling, cursing, or making rude, threatening or other inappropriate comments.

CAUTION: The Judge can hold you in contempt of court for inappropriate actions or words, and you could be fined and/or incarcerated.

For a complete list of forms that are available through the Florida Supreme Court, please refer to the Florida Courts official website, [flcourts.gov](https://www.flcourts.gov). From there, locate "Family Law Forms" under the "Self-Help Information" tab. For other information, refer to the Florida Statutes and the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure. You may find these and more information at:

<https://www.flcourts.gov/Resources-Services/Office-of-Family-Courts/Self-Help-Information/Getting-Started>

NOTICE OF LIMITATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED

This list of forms and procedural information should be considered as a guideline and not legal advice. It is up to you, the pro se litigant, to determine which forms and/or packets are appropriate for your situation. You are representing yourself, and you alone are responsible for the correct completion and filing of the forms. It is also your decision whether or not you choose to use the forms provided. The presiding judge in your case may require an amendment of form(s) or substitution of a different form other than any you may have obtained from the Clerk's office or a legal forms provider. The form(s) you file are only a request of the Court. The judge is not required to grant the relief requested in a form.

The Clerk of Court and court personnel cannot act as your lawyer, provide legal advice to you, advise you of your legal rights or remedies, represent you in court, or tell you how to testify in court. The Clerk of Court and court personnel are not acting on behalf of the Court or any judge. Services are available to all persons who are or will be parties to a family case. The information you give to and receive from the Clerk of Court and court personnel is not confidential and may be subject to disclosure at a later date. Nothing you may tell the Clerk of Court and court personnel is confidential. If another person involved in your case seeks assistance from the Clerk of Court and court personnel, that person will receive the same service provided to you. It is best to consult with your own attorney, especially if your case presents significant issues regarding children, child support, alimony, retirement or pension benefits, assets, or liabilities.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE
FORM 12.928
COVER SHEET FOR FAMILY COURT CASES (02/24)**

When should this form be used?

The Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases and the information contained in it does not replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other documents as required by law. This form shall be filed by the petitioner/party opening or reopening a case for the use of the **clerk of the circuit court** for the purpose of reporting judicial workload data pursuant to Florida Statutes section 25.075.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. The petitioner must **file** this cover sheet with the first pleading or motion filed to open or reopen a case in all domestic and juvenile cases.

What should I do next?

Follow these instructions for completing the form:

- I. Case Style. Enter the name of the court, the appropriate case number assigned at the time of filing of the original petition, the name of the judge assigned (if applicable), and the name (last, first, middle initial) of the petitioner(s) and respondent(s).
- II. Type of Action /Proceeding. Place a check beside the proceeding you are initiating. If you are filing more than one type of proceeding, (such as a modification and an enforcement proceeding) against the same party at the same time, then you must complete a separate cover sheet for each action being filed.
 - (A) Initial Action/Petition
 - (B) Reopening Case. If you check "Reopening Case," indicate whether you are filing a modification or supplemental petition or an action for enforcement by placing a check beside the appropriate action/petition.
 1. Modification/Supplemental Petition
 2. Motion for Civil Contempt/ Enforcement
 3. Other – All reopening actions not involving modification/supplemental petitions or petition enforcement.
- III. Type of Case. Place a check beside the appropriate case. If the case fits more than one category, select the most definitive. Definitions of the categories are provided below.
 - (A) Simplified Dissolution of Marriage- petitions for the termination of marriage pursuant to Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.105.
 - (B) Dissolution of Marriage - petitions for the termination of marriage pursuant to Chapter

- (C) 61, Florida Statutes, other than simplified dissolution.
- (D) Domestic Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against domestic violence pursuant to section 741.30, Florida Statutes.
- (E) Dating Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against dating violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.
- (F) Repeat Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against repeat violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.
- (G) Sexual Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against sexual violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.
- (H) Stalking-all matters relating to injunctions for protection against stalking pursuant to section 784.0485, Florida Statutes
- (I) Support - IV-D - all matters relating to child or spousal support in which an application for assistance has been filed with the Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement under Title IV-D, Social Security Act, except for such matters relating to dissolution of marriage petitions (sections 409.2564, 409.2571, and 409.2597, Florida Statutes), paternity, or UIFSA.
- (J) Support-Non IV-D - all matters relating to child or spousal support in which an application for assistance has **not** been filed under Title IV-D, Social Security Act.
- (K) UIFSA- IV-D - all matters relating to Chapter 88, Florida Statutes, in which an application for assistance has been filed under Title IV-D, Social Security Act.
- (L) UIFSA - Non IV-D - all matters relating to Chapter 88, Florida Statutes, in which an application for assistance has **not** been filed under Title IV-D, Social Security Act.
- (M) Support for Dependent Adult Children – all matters related to support of a dependent adult child.
- (N) Other Family Court - all matters involving time-sharing and/or parenting plans relating to minor child(ren), support unconnected with dissolution of marriage, annulment, delayed birth certificates pursuant to Florida Statutes section 382.0195, expedited affirmation of parental status pursuant to Florida Statutes section 742.16, termination of parental rights proceedings pursuant to Florida Statutes section 63.087, declaratory judgment actions related to premarital, marital, post-marital agreements, or other matters not included in the categories above.
- (O) Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 63 - all matters relating to adoption pursuant to Chapter 63, Florida Statutes, excluding any matters arising out of Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (P) Name Change - all matters relating to name change, pursuant to section 68.07, Florida Statutes.
- (Q) Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity – all matters relating to paternity pursuant to Chapter 742, Florida Statutes.
- (R) Juvenile Delinquency - all matters relating to juvenile delinquency pursuant to Chapter 985, Florida Statutes.
- (S) Petition for Dependency - all matters relating to petitions for dependency.
- (T) Shelter Petition – all matters relating to shelter petitions pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (U) Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to

- (V) termination of parental rights pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (W) Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to adoption pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (X) CINS/FINS – all matters relating to children in need of services (and families in need of services) pursuant to Chapter 984, Florida Statutes.
- (Y) Petition for Temporary or Concurrent Custody by Extended Family-all matters relating to petitions for temporary or concurrent custody pursuant to Chapter 751.
- (Z) Emancipation of a Minor-all matters relating to emancipation of a minor pursuant to Chapter 743.

ATTORNEY OR PARTY SIGNATURE. Sign the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases. Print legibly the name of the person signing the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases. Attorneys must include a Florida Bar number. Insert the date the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases is signed. Signature is a certification that filer has provided accurate information on the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases.

Nonlawyer 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.

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.

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 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. For further information, see Rule 12.100, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure.

COVER SHEET FOR FAMILY COURT CASES

I. Case Style

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Judge: _____

Petitioner,

and

Respondent.

II. Type of Action/Proceeding. Place a check beside the proceeding you are initiating. If you are filing more than one type of proceeding (such as a modification and an enforcement proceeding) against the same party at the same time, then you must complete a separate cover sheet for each action being filed. **If you are reopening a case, choose one of the three options below it.**

- (A) ____ Initial Action/Petition
- (B) ____ Reopening Case
 - 1. ____ Modification/Supplemental Petition
 - 2. ____ Motion for Civil Contempt/Enforcement
 - 3. ____ Other

III. Type of Case. If the case fits more than one type of case, select the most definitive.

- (A) ____ Simplified Dissolution of Marriage
- (B) ____ Dissolution of Marriage
- (C) ____ Domestic Violence
- (D) ____ Dating Violence
- (E) ____ Repeat Violence
- (F) ____ Sexual Violence
- (G) ____ Stalking
- (H) ____ Support IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (I) ____ Support Non-IV-D (**not** Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (J) ____ UIFSA IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (K) ____ UIFSA Non-IV-D (**not** Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (L) ____ Support for Dependent Adult Children – all matters related to support of a dependent adult child.
- (M) ____ Other Family Court
- (N) ____ Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 63

- (O) ____ Name Change
- (P) ____ Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity
- (Q) ____ Juvenile Delinquency
- (R) ____ Petition for Dependency
- (S) ____ Shelter Petition
- (T) ____ Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39
- (U) ____ Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39
- (V) ____ CINS/FINS
- (W) ____ Petition for Temporary or Concurrent Custody by Extended Family
- (X) ____ Emancipation of a Minor

IV. Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires that a Notice of Related Cases Form, Family Law Form 12.900(h), be filed with the initial pleading/petition by the filing attorney or self-represented litigant in order to notify the court of related cases. Is Form 12.900(h) being filed with this Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases and initial pleading/petition?

____ No, to the best of my knowledge, no related cases exist.
 ____ Yes, all related cases are listed on Family Law Form 12.900(h).

ATTORNEY OR PARTY SIGNATURE

I CERTIFY that the information I have provided in this cover sheet is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature _____ FL Bar No.: _____
 Attorney or party (Bar number, if attorney)

 (Type or print name)

 (E-mail Address(es))

 Date

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 12.970(a)
PETITION FOR TEMPORARY CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY
(06/21)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used by an extended family member to obtain temporary custody of a child or children pursuant to Chapter 751, Florida Statutes. This form **should not** be used if you are a parent seeking to establish parental responsibility or time-sharing with a child or children.

An **Extended Family Member** is:

A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent;

OR

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 children's parents as an adverse party;

OR

An individual who qualifies as "fictive kin." As defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes, fictive kin means a person unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption who has an emotionally significant relationship, which possesses the characteristics of a family relationship, to a child.

You may file a Petition for Temporary Custody if:

You have the signed, notarized consents of the children's legal parents;

OR

You are an extended family member who is caring full time for the children in the role of a substitute parent and with whom the children are presently living.

If one of the minor children's parents objects to the Petition, the court shall grant the Petition only upon a finding, by clear and convincing evidence, that the children's parent or parents are unfit to provide for the care and control of the children. In determining that a parent is unfit, the court must find that the parent has abused, abandoned, or neglected the children, as defined in Chapter 39, Florida Statutes. If you do not have the parents' consents, **you should consult a family law attorney before you file your papers.**

If you do not meet the qualifications above, you should talk to an attorney about other options. You may also report any suspected abuse, abandonment, or neglect to the appropriate authorities.

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 you live and keep a copy for your records.

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.** 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 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 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 General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

What should I do next?

IF YOU HAVE SIGNED AND NOTARIZED WAIVERS OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENTS from the child(ren)'s parents, and the case is uncontested, you may contact the clerk, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant**, to set a **final hearing**. You must notify the child(ren)'s parents 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.

If one of the parents is deceased, you must file a certified copy of the proof of death.

IF YOU DO **NOT** HAVE SIGNED AND NOTARIZED WAIVERS OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENTS from the children's parents, you must properly notify the parents of the **petition**. If you know where he or she lives, you should use **personal service**. If you absolutely do not know where he or she lives after conducting a diligent search, you may use **constructive service**. You must complete all of the searches listed in the **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form

12.913(c), and file the form with the clerk. You should seek legal advice on constructive service as this is a complicated area of the law. If the identity of one parent is unknown, you will need to seek legal advice to determine the proper way to serve an unknown parent. For more information, see Chapter 49, Florida Statutes.

If personal service is used, the **parents** have 20 days to answer after being served with your petition. Your case will generally proceed in one of the following ways:

DEFAULT. If after 20 days, no **answer** has been filed, you may file a **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a), with the clerk of court. You must file a **Notice for Trial**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.924. Then, if you have filed all of the required papers, you may contact the clerk, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant**, to set a **final hearing**. You must notify the child(ren)'s parents 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. If either parent files an answer which disagrees with or denies anything in your petition and you are unable to settle the disputed issues, you must file a **Notice for Trial**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.924, to request a final hearing. 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).

At any time, either or both of the children's parents may petition the court to modify or terminate the order granting temporary custody. The court shall terminate the order upon a finding that the parent is a fit parent, or by the consent of the parties. The court may modify an order granting temporary custody if the parties consent or if the modification is in the best interest of the children

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 751 and Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.

Special notes...

If you do not have the money to pay the filing fee, you may obtain an application for Determination of Civil Indigent Status, fill it out, and the clerk will determine whether you are eligible to have filing fees deferred.

With this petition, 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 Related Cases**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(h).
- **Family Court Cover Sheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.928.
- **Non-Military Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(b). (Required only for obtaining a default on petitions that have been personally or constructively served. Not required if both parents have signed a waiver and consent.)

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

Instructions for Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(a), Petition for Temporary Custody by Extended Family (06/21)

Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms **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: _____

IN THE INTEREST OF

_____,
Children

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent/_____

_____,
Respondent/_____.

PETITION FOR TEMPORARY CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY

Petitioner, {full legal name} _____, being sworn, certifies that the following information is true:

1. This is an action for temporary custody pursuant to Chapter 751, Florida Statutes.

2. Petitioner requests temporary custody of the following minor children:

Name	Date of Birth	Current Address
------	---------------	-----------------

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. Petitioner completed a **Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), which was filed with this Petition. The affidavit includes the names and current addresses of the persons with whom the children have lived during the past 5 years, the places where the children have lived during the past 5 years, and information concerning any custody proceeding in this or any other state with respect to the children. **If the Affidavit is not completely filled out, signed under oath, and filed with the Petition, the case may be dismissed without hearing.**

4. Petitioner is an extended family member who is: {Choose **one** only}

_____ Related to the minor children within the third degree by blood or marriage to a parent;

OR

_____ The stepparent of the minor children, is married to Respondent {full legal name} _____ 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 children's parents as an adverse party;

OR

_____ An individual who qualifies as fictive kin as defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes.

5. Petitioner's relationship to the minor children is: _____.

6. The residence and post office address of the Petitioner is: _____
_____.

7. Petitioner is a proper person to be awarded temporary custody because: {Choose **one** only}
_____ Petitioner has the signed, notarized consent from **both** of the children's legal parents;

OR

_____ Petitioner is caring full time for the children in the role of a substitute parent and the children currently live with the Petitioner.

If Petitioner does not have the signed consents from both parents or is not caring for the children full time as a substitute parent, Petitioner cannot obtain temporary custody under Chapter 751, Florida Statutes. Petitioner should consult an attorney about other options.

8. The legal parents of the children are:

a. _____, whose current address is: _____
_____.

b. _____, whose current address is: _____
_____.

9. _____ The Consents of Parent {full legal name} _____ and/or Parent {full legal name} _____ is/are attached to the Petition.

OR

_____ The Consent of Parent {full legal name} _____ is not attached because that parent is deceased. A certified copy of the proof of death is attached.

OR

_____ Consent has NOT been obtained from the parents. The specific acts or omissions of the parents which demonstrate that the parents have abused, abandoned, or neglected the children as defined in Chapter 39, Florida Statutes are: (attach additional sheets if necessary) _____

_____.

10. Petitioner requests temporary custody be granted for the following period of time: _____.

The reasons that support this request are: _____

_____.

11. It is in the best interests of the children that the Petitioner have temporary custody of the children for the following reasons: _____

_____.

12. ORDER OF PROTECTION

a. _____ Petitioner **IS NOT** aware of any temporary or permanent order for protection entered on behalf of or against either parent, the Petitioner, or the children in Florida or any other jurisdiction.

OR

b. _____ Petitioner **IS** aware of the following temporary or permanent orders for protection entered on behalf of or against either parent, the Petitioner, or the children in Florida or any other jurisdiction. The court entering the order and the case number is: _____

_____.

13. TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS

a. _____ Petitioner **IS NOT** aware of any temporary or permanent orders for child support for the minor children.

OR

b. _____ Petitioner **IS** aware of the following temporary or permanent order for child support for the minor children. The court entering the order and the case number is: _____

_____.

14. **CHILD SUPPORT** (*Choose **one** only*){You must have proof or waiver of service of process upon the parent(s) or a Waiver of Service of Process and Consent for the court to consider an award for child support}

a. _____ Petitioner requests the court to order the parents to pay child support.

b. _____ Petitioner requests the court to redirect all or part of the parents' existing child support obligation(s) to the Petitioner.

c. _____ Petitioner requests the court to redirect all or part of the parents' existing child support obligation(s) to the Petitioner, and to award the Petitioner retroactive child support.

15. Petitioner _____ requests _____ does not request that the court establish reasonable visitation or a time-sharing schedule with the parents.

16. Petitioner _____ requests _____ does not request additional provisions which are related to the

children's best interests, including, but not limited to, a reasonable plan for transitioning custody.
The additional provisions requested are: _____

_____.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner requests that this Court grant the Petitioner temporary custody of the children subject to this proceeding; award the Petitioner other relief as requested; and award any other relief that the Court deems necessary.

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: _____

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-Mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me by means of *{choose one}* _____ physical presence or
_____ online notarization on _____ by *{name of person making statement}*
_____.

NOTARY PUBLIC OR DEPUTY CLERK

*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name
of notary or deputy 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 Petitioner.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual}

,

{name of business}

,

{address}

,

{city}____, {state}_____, {zip code}____, {telephone number}____.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN THE INTEREST OF:

D.O.B: _____

Case Number: _____

Division: _____

PARENTAL CONSENT TO AWARD TEMPORARY LEGAL CUSTODY

The undersigned, being duly sworn, hereby states:

1. My name is: _____
2. My current address is: _____
3. I am the () Mother () Father of the above named child.
4. I hereby give consent for _____ to have temporary legal custody of my child.
5. I understand this consent may be filed with the Court record in Santa Rosa County, Florida.
6. I understand that at any time after the Court enters an Order awarding temporary legal custody of my child to _____, I may request the Court terminate the Order and return my legal custody to me.
7. I understand by giving this consent, the Court will authorize _____ to take all necessary steps to care for my child, including my not limited to the following:
 - A. Authorize and consent to all reasonable and necessary medical and dental care, including non-emergency surgery and psychiatric care.
 - B. Secure copies of the child's records held by third parties that are necessary to the care of the child, including but not limited to, medical, dental and psychiatric records, birth certificates and educational records.
 - C. Enroll the child in school and grant of withhold consent for the child to be tested or placed in special school programs, including exceptional education.
 - D. Do all other things necessary for the care of the child.

Parent's Signature

Parent's name typed or printed

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF SANTA ROSA

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this _____ day of _____, 20____

- () Personally Known
() Produced Identification _____

JASON D. ENGLISH, ESQ.
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

OR

Notary Public – State of Florida

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN THE INTEREST OF:

D.O.B: _____

Case Number: _____

Division: _____

PARENTAL CONSENT TO AWARD TEMPORARY LEGAL CUSTODY

The undersigned, being duly sworn, hereby states:

1. My name is: _____
2. My current address is: _____
3. I am the () Mother () Father of the above named child.
4. I hereby give consent for _____ to have temporary legal custody of my child.
5. I understand this consent may be filed with the Court record in Santa Rosa County, Florida.
6. I understand that at any time after the Court enters an Order awarding temporary legal custody of my child to _____, I may request the Court terminate the Order and return my legal custody to me.
7. I understand by giving this consent, the Court will authorize _____ to take all necessary steps to care for my child, including my not limited to the following:
 - A. Authorize and consent to all reasonable and necessary medical and dental care, including non-emergency surgery and psychiatric care.
 - B. Secure copies of the child's records held by third parties that are necessary to the care of the child, including but not limited to, medical, dental and psychiatric records, birth certificates and educational records.
 - C. Enroll the child in school and grant of withhold consent for the child to be tested or placed in special school programs, including exceptional education.
 - D. Do all other things necessary for the care of the child.

Parent's Signature

Parent's name typed or printed

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF SANTA ROSA

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this _____ day of _____, 20____

() Personally Known

() Produced Identification _____

JASON D. ENGLISH, ESQ.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

OR

Notary Public – State of Florida

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW
FORM 12.970(c),
WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR TEMPORARY
CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY
(06/21)**

This form is to be completed and signed by a parent who agrees to grant temporary custody of a minor child or child(ren) to an **extended family member** and agrees to waive **service** of process. Service of process occurs when a summons and a copy of the petition (or other pleading) that has been filed with the court are delivered by a deputy or private process server.

An **Extended Family Member** is:

A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent;

OR

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(ren)'s parents as an adverse party;

OR

An individual who qualifies as "fictive kin." As defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes, fictive kin means a person unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption who has an emotionally significant relationship, which possesses the characteristics of a family relationship, to a child.

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 for Temporary Custody by Extended Family**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(a) is filed and keep a copy for your records.

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.**

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 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 **must** also 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: _____

IN THE INTEREST OF

Children

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent/_____

_____,
Respondent/_____.

WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR TEMPORARY CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY

I, {full legal name} _____, the legal parent of {children's names} _____, having received a copy of the Petition for Temporary Custody by Extended Family filed herein and waived service of process, freely and voluntarily consent to the Petition filed by: {Petitioner's full legal name} _____.

I realize that by signing this document, I am consenting to the Petitioner having temporary legal custody of the minor children and that such temporary custody is in the best interest of the children. Upon entry of an Order, the Petitioner shall be able to:

1. Consent to all necessary and reasonable medical and dental care for the children, including nonemergency surgery and psychiatric care;
2. Secure copies of the children's records, held by third parties, that are necessary for the care of the child(ren), including, but not limited to:
 - a. Medical, dental, and psychiatric records;
 - b. Birth Certificates and other records; and
 - c. Educational records.
3. Enroll the children in school and grant or withhold consent for the children to be tested or placed in special school programs, including exceptional education; and
4. Do all other things necessary for the care of the children.

I realize that the custody of my children by the Petitioner is temporary and that I may, at any time, petition the court to return legal custody to me. I understand and acknowledge that I may have to comply with a reasonable transition plan prior to the court returning legal custody to me.

Dated: _____

Signature of Parent
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me by means of {choose one} _____ physical presence or
_____ online notarization on _____ by {name of person making statement}
_____.

NOTARY PUBLIC OR DEPUTY CLERK

{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of
notary or deputy 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 12.970(c),
WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR TEMPORARY
CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY
(06/21)**

This form is to be completed and signed by a parent who agrees to grant temporary custody of a minor child or child(ren) to an **extended family member** and agrees to waive **service** of process. Service of process occurs when a summons and a copy of the petition (or other pleading) that has been filed with the court are delivered by a deputy or private process server.

An **Extended Family Member** is:

A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent;

OR

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(ren)'s parents as an adverse party;

OR

An individual who qualifies as "fictive kin." As defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes, fictive kin means a person unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption who has an emotionally significant relationship, which possesses the characteristics of a family relationship, to a child.

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 for Temporary Custody by Extended Family**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(a) is filed and keep a copy for your records.

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.**

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 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 **must** also 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: _____

IN THE INTEREST OF

Children

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent/_____

_____,
Respondent/_____.

WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR TEMPORARY CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY

I, {full legal name} _____, the legal parent of {children's names} _____, having received a copy of the Petition for Temporary Custody by Extended Family filed herein and waived service of process, freely and voluntarily consent to the Petition filed by: {Petitioner's full legal name} _____.

I realize that by signing this document, I am consenting to the Petitioner having temporary legal custody of the minor children and that such temporary custody is in the best interest of the children. Upon entry of an Order, the Petitioner shall be able to:

1. Consent to all necessary and reasonable medical and dental care for the children, including nonemergency surgery and psychiatric care;
2. Secure copies of the children's records, held by third parties, that are necessary for the care of the child(ren), including, but not limited to:
 - a. Medical, dental, and psychiatric records;
 - b. Birth Certificates and other records; and
 - c. Educational records.
3. Enroll the children in school and grant or withhold consent for the children to be tested or placed in special school programs, including exceptional education; and
4. Do all other things necessary for the care of the children.

I realize that the custody of my children by the Petitioner is temporary and that I may, at any time, petition the court to return legal custody to me. I understand and acknowledge that I may have to comply with a reasonable transition plan prior to the court returning legal custody to me.

Dated: _____

Signature of Parent
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me by means of {choose one} _____ physical presence or
_____ online notarization on _____ by {name of person making statement}
_____.

NOTARY PUBLIC OR DEPUTY CLERK

{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of
notary or deputy 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} _____

.

NAME: _____

CASE NO: _____

NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LIMITATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED

By signing this disclaimer, the undersigned self-represented litigant acknowledges he/she understands the limitation of services that can be provided by Family Court Self Help personnel.

1. The personnel in this self-help program are not acting as your lawyer or providing legal advice to you.
2. Self-help personnel are not acting on behalf of the Court or any Judge.
3. The presiding Judge in your case may require amendment of a form or substitution of a different form other than any you may have obtained from the Clerk's Office, the self-help office or a legal form provider.
4. The form(s) you file are only a request of the Court. The Judge is not required to grant the relief requested in a form.
5. The personnel in this self-help program cannot tell you what your legal rights or remedies are, represent you in court or tell you how to testify in court.
6. Self-help services are available to all persons who are or will be parties to a family case.
7. The information you give to and receive from self-help personnel is not confidential and may be subject to disclosure at a later date. Nothing you may tell family court personnel is confidential.
8. If another person involved in your case seeks assistance from this self-help program, that person will be given the same type of assistance you receive.
9. I understand that in all cases, it is best to consult with your own attorney, especially if your case presents significant issues regarding children, child support, alimony, retirement or pension benefits, assets or liabilities.

() I can read English.

() I cannot read English; this notice was read to me by:

_____ in _____.
(Name) (Language)

Signature (Litigant)

Date

Signature (Family Law or Clerk Staff)

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 12.915

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 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} _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.900(h), NOTICE OF RELATED CASES (02/24)

When should this form be used?

Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires the **petitioner** in a family law case to file with the court a notice of related cases, if any. Your circuit may also require this form to be filed even if there are no related cases. A case is considered related if:

- it involves the same parties, children, or issues and is pending when the family law case is filed; or
- it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; or
- an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or
- an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier case.

This form is used to provide the required notice to the court.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. It must be **filed** with the **clerk of the circuit court** with the initial pleading in the family law case.

What should I do next?

A copy of the form must be served on the presiding judge, either the chief judge or the family law administrative judge, and all parties in the related cases. You should also keep a copy for your records. **Service** must be in accordance with 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 and underline**" in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d).

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 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 **must** also 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 RELATED CASES

1. Petitioner submits this Notice of Related Cases as required by Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d). A related case may be an open or closed civil, criminal, guardianship, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, juvenile dependency, or domestic relations case. A case is "related" to this family law case if it involves any of the same parties, children, or issues and it is pending at the time the party files a family case; if it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; if an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or if an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier litigation.

[check **one** only]

___ **There are no related cases.**

___ **The following are the related cases (add additional pages if necessary):**

Related Case No. 1

Case Name(s): _____
Petitioner _____
Respondent _____
Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

___ Dissolution of Marriage	___ Paternity
___ Custody	___ Adoption
___ Child Support	___ Support for Dependent Adult Children
___ Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings	
___ Juvenile Dependency	___ Juvenile Delinquency
___ Termination of Parental Rights	___ Criminal
___ Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat	___ Mental Health
___ Violence or Stalking Injunctions	___ Other {specify} _____

State where case was decided or is pending: ___ Florida ___ Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (*for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida*): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check **all** that apply]:

- ☐ pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
☐ may affect court's jurisdiction;
☐ order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
☐ order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 2

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Custody | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Support for Dependent Adult Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violence or Stalking Injunctions | <input type="checkbox"/> Other {specify} _____ |

State where case was decided or is pending: ☐ Florida ☐ Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

- ☐ pending case involves same parties, children, or issues.
☐ may affect court's jurisdiction;
☐ order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
☐ order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 3

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Paternity
<input type="checkbox"/> Custody	<input type="checkbox"/> Adoption
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Support for Dependent Adult Children
<input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings	
<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency	<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency
<input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Violence or Stalking Injunctions	<input type="checkbox"/> Other {specify} _____

State where case was decided or is pending: _____ Florida _____ Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (*for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida*): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

☐ pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
☐ may affect court's jurisdiction;
☐ order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
☐ order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

2. [check **one** only]

☐ I **do not** request coordination of litigation in any of the cases listed above.

☐ I **do** request coordination of the following cases: _____

3. [check **all** that apply]

☐ Assignment to one judge

☐ Coordination of existing cases will conserve judicial resources and promote an efficient determination of these case because: _____

4. The Petitioner acknowledges a continuing duty to inform the court of any cases in this or any other state that could affect the current proceeding.

Dated: _____

Petitioner's Signature
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
E-mail Address(es): _____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that I delivered a copy of this Notice of Related Cases to the _____ County Sheriff's Department or a certified process server for service on the Respondent, and [**check all used**] () e-mailed () mailed () hand delivered, a copy to {name} _____, who is the [**check all that apply**] () judge assigned to new case, () chief judge or family law administrative judge, () {name} _____ a party to the related case, () {name} _____, a party to the related case on {date} _____.

Signature of Petitioner/Attorney for Petitioner
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
E-mail Address(es): _____
Florida Bar Number: _____

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(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 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 (From/To)	Address (including city and state) where child lived	Name and present address of person child lived with	Relationship to child
_____/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 (From/To)	Address (including city and state) where child lived	Name and present address of person child lived with	Relationship 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 (From/To)	Address (including city and state) where child lived	Name and present address of person child lived with	Relationship 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 SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.910(b), PROCESS SERVICE MEMORANDUM (11/15)

When should this form be used?

You should use this form to give the sheriff's department (or private process server) instructions for serving the other party in your case with the **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a), and other papers to be served. On this form you can tell the sheriff's department the best times to find the person at work and/or at home. You can also include a map to the other person's home or work place to help the sheriff find the person and deliver the summons. Do not forget to attach to the summons a copy of your initial petition and any other papers you want personally served on the other party.

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 petition was filed and attach a copy to the **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a). You should also 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.**

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. You should read the instructions for **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a), for additional information.

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 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.

Special notes...

If you fear that disclosing your address would put you in danger because you are the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, stalking, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence, you should complete a **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h), file it with the clerk, and write confidential in the space provided on the petition.

Nonlawyer. 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,

PROCESS SERVICE MEMORANDUM

TO: _____ Sheriff of _____ County, Florida; _____ Division
_____ Private process server: _____

Please serve the *{name of document(s)}* _____

in the above-styled cause upon:

Party: *{full legal name}* _____

Address or location for service: _____

Work Address: _____

If the party to be served owns, has, and/or is known to have guns or other weapons, describe what type of weapon(s): _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: _____

Dated: _____

Signature of Party

*Printed Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City, State, Zip: _____

*Telephone Number: _____

*Fax Number: _____

*Designated E-mail Address(es) _____

*** Please see the Special Notes section in the instructions to this form regarding Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h), Request for Confidential Filing of Address, which may be used if you need to keep your addresses or telephone numbers confidential for safety reasons.**

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 Petitioner. This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Petitioner

Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email Address _____

Case No: _____

Division: _____

And

Respondent

Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email Address _____

Check only one:

Type of Case: () Dissolution of Marriage () Modification of Custody / Visitation
() Enforcement () Modification of Alimony / Child Support () Establish Visitation
() Paternity () Stepparent Adoption () Temporary Custody () ***Other Domestic***

Check all that apply

Other pending cases of final judgments: () Child Support Enforcement / Department of
Revenue case () Dependency / Department of Children and Families case () Domestic
Violence case () Other: _____

Case Number(s) _____

REQUEST FOR HEARING

I, _____, Petitioner in this case, affirm to the best of my
knowledge and belief that **all** necessary requirements for a hearing have been met as follows:

(Initial each item below)

_____ All required forms and documents that were listed in the instructions provided to me were
filed with the Clerk of Court. All forms and documents were filled out completely, signed and notarized
where required.

_____ The Petition and forms were properly served on the other party by () Service by Sheriff
() Service by Publication or Posting () Hand Delivery () An Acceptance & Waiver of Service
was filed with the case.

_____ The respondent has filed all the required forms or I have followed the instructions to request
a Default, and/or Waive or Compel the other party. If an Order to Compel was issued, the time given the
other party to comply has passed.

I understand that my file will be reviewed by court staff within the next 90 days.

A Case Status Report will be provided to me with a court date or further instructions to proceed.

Date Signed

Petitioner's Signature

Daytime Telephone Number

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW
FORM 12.970(b)
PETITION FOR CONCURRENT CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY
(06/21)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used by an extended family member to obtain concurrent custody of a child or children pursuant to Chapter 751, Florida Statutes. This form **should not** be used if you are a parent seeking to establish parental responsibility or time-sharing with a child or children. "Concurrent custody" 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.

An **Extended Family Member** is:

A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent;

OR

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 children's parents as an adverse party;

OR

An individual who qualifies as "fictive kin." As defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes, fictive kin means a person unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption who has an emotionally significant relationship, which possesses the characteristics of a family relationship, to a child.

You may file a Petition for Concurrent Custody if:

You have the signed, notarized consents of the children's legal parents;

OR

You are an extended family member who is caring full time for the children in the role of a substitute parent and with whom the children are presently living.

In addition, you must currently have physical custody of the children or have had physical custody of the children for at least 10 days in any 30-day period within the last 12 months; and not have signed, written documentation from a parent which is sufficient to enable you to do all the things necessary to care for the children.

If you do not meet the qualifications above, you should talk to an attorney about other options. You may also report any suspected abuse, abandonment, or neglect to the appropriate authorities.

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 you live and keep a copy for your records.

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.** 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 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 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 General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

What should I do next?

IF YOU HAVE SIGNED AND NOTARIZED WAIVERS OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENTS from the child(ren)'s parents, you may contact the clerk, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant**, to set a **final hearing**. You must notify the child(ren)'s parents 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.

If one of the parents is deceased, you must file a certified copy of the proof of death.

If one of the minor children's parents objects to the Petition for Concurrent Custody in writing, the court may not grant the petition even if the other parent consents, in writing, to the entry of the order. If a parent objects, you have the option of converting the Petition to a **Petition for Temporary Custody by Extended Family**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(a). If the Petition is not converted into a **Petition for Temporary Custody by Extended Family**, it shall be dismissed without prejudice.

At any time, the Petitioner or either or both of the children's parents may move the court to terminate the order granting concurrent custody. The court shall terminate the order upon a finding that either or both of the children's parents objects to the order. The fact that the order for concurrent custody has been terminated does not preclude any person who is otherwise eligible to petition for temporary custody from filing such petition.

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 751 and Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.

Special notes...

If you do not have the money to pay the filing fee, you may obtain an application for Determination of Civil Indigent Status, fill it out, and the clerk will determine whether you are eligible to have filing fees deferred.

With this petition, 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 Related Cases**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(h).
- **Family Court Cover Sheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.928.
- **Non-Military Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(b). (Required only for obtaining a default on petitions that have been personally or constructively served. Not required if both parents have signed a waiver and consent.)

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 **must** also 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: _____

IN THE INTEREST OF:

Children

Petitioner,

and

Respondent/ _____,

Respondent/ _____.

PETITION FOR CONCURRENT CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY

Petitioner, {full legal name} _____, being sworn, certifies that the following information is true:

1. This is an action for concurrent custody pursuant to Chapter 751, Florida Statutes.

2. Petitioner requests concurrent custody of the following minor children:

Name	Date of Birth	Current Address
------	---------------	-----------------

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. Petitioner completed a **Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), which was filed with this Petition. The affidavit includes the names and current addresses of the persons with whom the children have lived during the past 5 years, the places where the children have lived during the past 5 years, and information concerning any custody proceeding in this or any other state with respect to the children. **If the Affidavit is not completely filled out, signed under oath, and filed with the Petition, the case may be dismissed without a hearing.**

4. Petitioner is an extended family member who is: {Choose **one** only}

_____ Related to the minor children within the third degree by blood or marriage to a parent;

OR

_____ The stepparent of the minor children, is married to Respondent *{full legal name}* _____ 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 children's parents as an adverse party;

OR

_____ An individual who qualifies as fictive kin as defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes.

5. Petitioner's relationship to the minor children is: _____.

6. The residence and post office address of the Petitioner is: _____
_____.

7. The legal parents are:

a. _____, whose current address is: _____;

b. _____, whose current address is: _____.

8. Petitioner currently has physical custody of the children or has had physical custody of the children for at least 10 days in any 30-day period within the last 12 months. Detail the time periods during the past 12 months when the children have resided with the Petitioner: _____

_____.

9. Petitioner does not have signed, written documentation from a parent which is sufficient to enable the Petitioner to do all of the things necessary to care for the children.

10. *{If applicable}* Describe the type of documents, if any, provided by the parent or parents which enables the Petitioner to act on behalf of the children: _____
_____.

These documents are attached to this Petition as Exhibit _____.

11. Petitioner is unable to obtain or undertake the following services or actions without an order of custody:

_____.

12. The Consents of Parent *{full legal name}* _____ **and/or** Parent *{full legal name}* _____ is/are attached to the Petition.

OR

{If applicable} The Consent of Parent *{full legal name}* _____ is

not attached because that parent is deceased. A certified copy of the proof of death is attached.

13. Petitioner requests concurrent custody be granted for the following period of time: _____

The reasons that support this request are: _____

14. It is in the best interests of the children that the Petitioner have concurrent custody of the children for the following reasons: _____

15. ORDER OF PROTECTION

a. _____ Petitioner **IS NOT** aware of any temporary or permanent order for protection entered on behalf of or against either parent, the Petitioner, or the children in Florida or any other jurisdiction.

OR

b. _____ Petitioner **IS** aware of the following temporary or permanent orders for protection entered on behalf of or against either parent, the Petitioner, or the children in Florida or any other jurisdiction. The court entering the order and the case number is: _____

16. TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS

a. _____ Petitioner **IS NOT** aware of any temporary or permanent orders for child support for the minor children.

OR

b. _____ Petitioner **IS** aware of the following temporary or permanent order for child support for the minor children. The court entering the order and the case number is: _____

17. _____ **CHILD SUPPORT (If Petitioner is seeking child support) {Choose *one* only}**

(You must have proof of service upon or waiver of process by the parent(s) or a Waiver of Service of Process and Consent for the court to consider an award for child support)

a. _____ Petitioner requests the court to order the parents to pay child support.

b. _____ Petitioner requests the court to redirect all or part of the parents' existing child support obligation(s) to the Petitioner.

c. _____ Petitioner requests the court to redirect all or part of the parents' existing child

support obligation(s) to the Petitioner, **and** to award the Petitioner retroactive child support.

18. Petitioner _____ requests _____ does not request that the court establish reasonable visitation or a time-sharing schedule with the parents.

19. Petitioner _____ requests _____ does not request additional provisions which are related to the children's best interest, including, but not limited to, a reasonable plan for transitioning custody. The additional provisions requested are: _____

_____.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner requests that this Court grant the Petitioner concurrent custody of the children subject to this proceeding; award the Petitioner other relief as requested; and award any other relief that the Court deems necessary.

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: _____

Signature of Petitioner
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me by means of {*choose one*} _____ physical presence or
_____ online notarization on _____ by {*name of person making statement*}
_____.

NOTARY PUBLIC OR DEPUTY CLERK

{*Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of
notary or deputy 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 Petitioner.

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 12.970(d),
WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR CONCURRENT
CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY
(06/21)**

This form is to be completed and signed by a parent who agrees to grant **concurrent custody** of a minor child or child(ren) to an **extended family member** and who agrees to waive **service** of process. Service of process occurs when a summons and a copy of the petition (or other pleading) that has been filed with the court are delivered by a deputy or private process server. "Concurrent custody" 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.

An **Extended Family Member** is:

A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent;

OR

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(ren)'s parents as an adverse party;

OR

An individual who qualifies as "fictive kin." As defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes, fictive kin means a person unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption who has an emotionally significant relationship, which possesses the characteristics of a family relationship, to a child.

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 for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(b) is filed and keep a copy for your records.

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.**

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 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 **must** also 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.

Instructions for Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(d), Waiver of Service of Process and Consent for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family (06/21)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: _____

IN RE: THE INTEREST OF

Division: _____

Children

_____,
Petitioner,
and
_____,
Respondent/_____,

_____,
Respondent/_____.

WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR CONCURRENT CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY

I, {full legal name}_____, the legal parent of {children's names}
_____, having received a copy of the Petition for
Concurrent Custody by Extended Family filed herein and waived service of process, freely and voluntarily
consent to the Petition filed by {Petitioner's Name}_____.

I realize that by signing this document, I am consenting to the Petitioner having temporary concurrent
custody of the minor children and that such concurrent custody is in the best interest of the children.
Upon entry of an Order, the Petitioner shall be able to:

1. Consent to all necessary and reasonable medical and dental care for the children, including
nonemergency surgery and psychiatric care;
2. Secure copies of the child(ren)'s records, held by third parties, that are necessary for the care of
the children, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Medical, dental, and psychiatric records;
 - b. Birth Certificates and other records; and
 - c. Educational records.
3. Enroll the children in school and grant or withhold consent for the children to be tested or placed
in special school programs, including exceptional education; and
4. Do all other things necessary for the care of the children.

I realize that the concurrent custody of my children by the Petitioner is temporary and that I may, at any time, petition the court to terminate the order granting concurrent custody. I understand and acknowledge that I may have to comply with a reasonable transition plan prior to the court returning full custody to me.

Dated: _____

Signature of Parent

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me by means of *{choose one}* _____ physical presence or
_____ online notarization on _____ by *{name of person making statement}*
_____.

NOTARY PUBLIC OR DEPUTY CLERK

*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or
deputy 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 12.970(d),
WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR CONCURRENT
CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY
(06/21)**

This form is to be completed and signed by a parent who agrees to grant **concurrent custody** of a minor child or child(ren) to an **extended family member** and who agrees to waive **service** of process. Service of process occurs when a summons and a copy of the petition (or other pleading) that has been filed with the court are delivered by a deputy or private process server. "Concurrent custody" 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.

An **Extended Family Member** is:

A relative of a minor child within the third degree by blood or marriage to the parent;

OR

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(ren)'s parents as an adverse party;

OR

An individual who qualifies as "fictive kin." As defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes, fictive kin means a person unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption who has an emotionally significant relationship, which possesses the characteristics of a family relationship, to a child.

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 for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(b) is filed and keep a copy for your records.

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.**

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 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 **must** also 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.

Instructions for Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.970(d), Waiver of Service of Process and Consent for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family (06/21)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: _____

IN RE: THE INTEREST OF

Division: _____

Children

_____,
Petitioner,
and
_____,
Respondent/_____,

_____,
Respondent/_____.

WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENT FOR CONCURRENT CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY

I, {full legal name}_____, the legal parent of {children's names}
_____, having received a copy of the Petition for
Concurrent Custody by Extended Family filed herein and waived service of process, freely and voluntarily
consent to the Petition filed by {Petitioner's Name}_____.

I realize that by signing this document, I am consenting to the Petitioner having temporary concurrent
custody of the minor children and that such concurrent custody is in the best interest of the children.
Upon entry of an Order, the Petitioner shall be able to:

1. Consent to all necessary and reasonable medical and dental care for the children, including
nonemergency surgery and psychiatric care;
2. Secure copies of the child(ren)'s records, held by third parties, that are necessary for the care of
the children, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Medical, dental, and psychiatric records;
 - b. Birth Certificates and other records; and
 - c. Educational records.
3. Enroll the children in school and grant or withhold consent for the children to be tested or placed
in special school programs, including exceptional education; and
4. Do all other things necessary for the care of the children.

I realize that the concurrent custody of my children by the Petitioner is temporary and that I may, at any time, petition the court to terminate the order granting concurrent custody. I understand and acknowledge that I may have to comply with a reasonable transition plan prior to the court returning full custody to me.

Dated: _____

Signature of Parent _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me by means of *{choose one}* _____ physical presence or
_____ online notarization on _____ by *{name of person making statement}*
_____.

NOTARY PUBLIC OR DEPUTY CLERK

*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or
deputy 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}* _____.