

PETITION  
TO  
DOMESTICATE  
OUT OF STATE  
ORDER/DECREE

## **FAMILY LAW FORMS, COMMENTARY, AND INSTRUCTIONS GENERAL INFORMATION FOR SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS (02/18)**

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

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

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

### **Commentary**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **FAMILY LAW PROCEDURES**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Each form that provides a blank space will have instructions on how to fill in the blank. Please follow all instructions which ask for specific information. Often these instructions appear in *italics*. [7]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Petitioner (2)  
Printed Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address: (3)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**  
[fill in all blanks] This form was prepared for the: {either Petitioner or Respondent; or Husband or Wife}  
This form was completed with the assistance of:

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

**Line 1**            The nonlawyer who helps you should type or print his or her name on line 1.  
**Lines 2–7**        The nonlawyer’s business name, address, (including street, city, state, zip code, and telephone number) should be typed or printed on lines 2–7.

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



## **FAMILY LAW GLOSSARY OF COMMON TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Delinquent** - late.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Original Petition** - see Petition.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



DO YOU HAVE LEGAL QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY COURT CASE – BUT  
NO ATTORNEY?

**FREE LEGAL CLINICS ARE AVAILABLE TO PRO SE LITIGANTS WHO HAVE A  
PENDING FAMILY LAW CASE, AND A COMBINED INCOME OF LESS THAN  
\$50,000 PER YEAR**

TO SIGN UP CONTACT (850) 595-4482

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES ALSO PROVIDES REDUCED FEE CONSULTATIONS: (850) 434-6009

***PLEASE NOTE: THE ATTORNEY WILL BE THERE TO HELP YOU WITH QUESTIONS, NOT TO HELP YOU  
COMPLETE THE PAPERWORK.***

## **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 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.

The personnel in this self-help program are not acting as your attorney or providing legal advice to you. Self-help personnel are not acting on behalf of the Court or any Judge. The presiding Judge in your case may require amendment of form(s) 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 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 personnel in this self-help program cannot tell you what your legal rights or remedies are, represent you in a court or tell you how to testify in court. Self-help services are available to all persons who are or will be parties to a family case. 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. If another person involved in your cases seeks assistance from this self-help program, that person will receive the same service provided to you.

**Clerk's Office Family Law Division: 850-981-5552**

**Family Pro Se Coordinator: 850-981-5588**

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodations in order to participate in this proceedings, 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@flcourts1.gov at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 day; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711



**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

Instructions for Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.928, Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases (02/24)

review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

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

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

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

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** 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 THE PETITION TO DOMESTICATE AN OUT OF STATE ORDER/DECREE**

## **THE FOLLOWING FORMS ARE FOR USE WHEN FILING TO DOMESTICATE AN OUT OF STATE ORDER/DECREE**

**Petition should be signed in the presence of a notary or court clerk  
Please bring photo identification with you as you will be sworn in if witnessed by  
a Court Clerk. There is a \$3.50 fee for this service.**

- Attach a **CERTIFIED** copy of the out of state order/decree that you wish to Domesticate to your petition. The Petition is required to file/open your case. The filing fee to open your case will be \$300.00.
- File your Petition with the Clerk's office. The locations are: Santa Rosa County Courthouse, Domestic Relations, 4025 Avalon Blvd., Milton, 32583, Florida ~~or~~ Southend Service Center, 5841 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, Florida.
- A Summons will be issued for the other party. The charge for a Summons is \$17.00
- Take the Summons Packet to the Sheriff for service (this packet will be prepared by the Clerk's Office. You will be responsible for coordinating the service with the Sheriff of the County/State that it is to be served in.

If the other party does not respond by the 20th day, you may file a Motion for Default and Default 12.922 (a) & (b) with a Request for Hearing.

Nothing in this packet is to modify or enforce the Out of State Order/Decree. You may find forms to modify/enforce the order at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) or at [www.santarosaclerk.com](http://www.santarosaclerk.com). Should you have questions about what to file, you may contact the Family Law Pro Se Coordinator at 850-981-5588.

The following can be used as a checklist for forms that should be filed with the court to proceed in this action:

\_\_\_\_ 12.928 Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases

\_\_\_\_ Petition to Domesticate Out of State Order/Decree

\_\_\_\_ 12.900 (h) Notice of Related Cases - Use this to notify the Court of any other cases you may have

\_\_\_\_ 12.902(d) Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Enforcement Act - To be used if the out of state order has to do with minor children

\_\_\_\_\_ **12.900 (a) Disclosure From Nonlawyer** - to be used if the person who helps you complete the forms is not a lawyer

\_\_\_\_\_ **12.915 Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address** - to be used to notify the court of your permanent mailing address and email address

\_\_\_\_\_ **Acceptance and Waiver of Service** - to be used if the other party will accept the summons without being served by service of process

\_\_\_\_\_ **Request for Hearing** - to be used to request a hearing date when your case is ready to set for hearing

\_\_\_\_\_ **12.910(b) Process Service Memorandum** - This is not to be filed with Clerk. This is to be completed and given to Sheriff's Civil Process when you are setting up for service of the summons.



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

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

CASE NO: \_\_\_\_\_

DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_

**VS**

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

**PETITION TO DOMESTICATE OUT-OF-STATE DECREE**

**COMES NOW**, the Petitioner, with this Petition to Domesticate Out-of-State Decree, and in support thereof states the following:

1. This action filed by the Petitioner requests this Court to recognize an out-of-state decree and is filed pursuant to Section 61, Part II, Florida Statutes (the " Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act" or UCCJEA).

2. Petitioner is the ( ✓ which one) \_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_ Father of the minor child(ren) below:

Names(s)	Place of Birth	Date of Birth
----------	----------------	---------------

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

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

(The Petitioner may attach a separate sheet to list this information, if necessary)

3. Respondent is the ( ✓ which one) \_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_ Father of the minor child(ren) above.

4. Petitioner lives at: (address, city, state):

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

5. Respondent lives at: (address, city, state):

---

---

6. An out-of-state decree/order was entered on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ from (county and state court) \_\_\_\_\_ . A certified copy of this decree/order is attached to this petition.

7. This Court can exercise jurisdiction over this case because:

\_\_\_\_\_ The child(ren) has/have lived in this county for at least the past six months;

8. It is in the best interests for this Court to exercise jurisdiction over this case and to accept the attached order accordingly.

9. Along with the acceptance of the attached custody decree/order, the Petitioner would request the following relief:

\_\_\_\_\_ Reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred in enforcing the attached order, including attorney's fees and court costs, pursuant to section 61.1332(2) Florida Statutes;

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

**WHEREFORE**, the Petitioner respectfully requests that the Court enter an order:

\_\_\_\_\_ Accepting the attached out-of-state custody/divorce decree;

\_\_\_\_\_ Awarding the Petitioner his/her fees for having to bring this action, including attorney's fees and court costs ;

\_\_\_\_\_ Any and all other relief deemed in the best interests of the minor child(ren).

---

Signature of Party

---

Printed Name

---

Address

---

City, State, Zip

STATE OF FLORIDA

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

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC/DEPUTY CLERK

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

\_\_\_\_ Personally known

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner

AND

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent

CASE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER ON PETITION TO DOMESTICATE OUT OF STATE ORDER/DECREE**

**THIS CAUSE** was heard by the Court upon the Petition to Domesticate Out of State Order/Decree. The Court, having reviewed the file and heard the testimony, and being more fully advised and informed, finds that this Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties.

**THEREFORE** it is **ORDERED** and **ADJUDGED**:

That the Judgment filed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, in the Circuit Court of Santa Rosa County, State of Florida, is hereby registered and enforceable as a Santa Rosa County, Florida Judgment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Circuit Judge

CC:

Petitioner:

Respondent:

**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](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MUST SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE CLERK.**

If a self-represented litigant has been excused from serving documents by e-mail and then elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once that election is made.

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

and

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

## DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS

I, {full legal name}, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that:

### **MAILING ADDRESS:**

My current mailing address is:

{Street or Post Office Box} \_\_\_\_\_

{Apartment, lot, etc.} \_\_\_\_\_

{City}, \_\_\_\_\_, {State}, \_\_\_\_\_, {Zip} \_\_\_\_\_.

{Telephone No.} \_\_\_\_\_ {Fax No.} \_\_\_\_\_.

### **E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

The following is/are my e-mail address(es) for purposes of serving and receiving documents:

Primary e-mail address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Secondary e-mail address No.1:

\_\_\_\_\_

Secondary e-mail address No. 2:

\_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I must keep the clerk's office and the opposing party or parties notified of my current mailing and e-mail address(es) and that all future papers in this lawsuit will be served at the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.**

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

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**I HAVE READ EVERY STATEMENT MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT AND EACH STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE STATEMENTS MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE BEING MADE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, PUNISHABLE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 837.02, FLORIDA STATUTES.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This form was completed with the assistance of:

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

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

{street} \_\_\_\_\_,

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

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.915

## DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS (08/23)

### When should this form be used?

This form should be used to inform the clerk and the other **party** of your current mailing and e-mail address(es) or **any change of address**. It is very important that the court and the other party in your case have your correct address.

A party not represented by an attorney is required to designate a primary e-mail address for **service** unless excused pursuant to Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516(b)(1)(D). A primary and up to two secondary e-mail addresses can be designated. If you do so and the other party is represented by an attorney or has also designated e-mail address(es) for service, e-mail will be the **exclusive means of service**.

If there is any change in your mailing or e-mail address(es), you must complete a new form, file it with the clerk, and serve a copy on any other party or parties in your case.

### What should I do next?

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records. A copy of this form must be served on any other party in your case. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

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

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all

documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration** and you **must** review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MUST SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE CLERK.**

If a self-represented litigant has been excused from serving documents by e-mail and then elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once that election is made.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

and

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

## DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS

I, {full legal name}, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that:

### **MAILING ADDRESS:**

My current mailing address is:

{Street or Post Office Box} \_\_\_\_\_

{Apartment, lot, etc.} \_\_\_\_\_

{City}, \_\_\_\_\_, {State}, \_\_\_\_\_, {Zip} \_\_\_\_\_.

{Telephone No.} \_\_\_\_\_ {Fax No.} \_\_\_\_\_.

### **E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

The following is/are my e-mail address(es) for purposes of serving and receiving documents:

Primary e-mail address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Secondary e-mail address No.1:

\_\_\_\_\_

Secondary e-mail address No. 2:

\_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I must keep the clerk's office and the opposing party or parties notified of my current mailing and e-mail address(es) and that all future papers in this lawsuit will be served at the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.**

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

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**I HAVE READ EVERY STATEMENT MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT AND EACH STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE STATEMENTS MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE BEING MADE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, PUNISHABLE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 837.02, FLORIDA STATUTES.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This form was completed with the assistance of:

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

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

{street} \_\_\_\_\_,

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

## 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](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the

A-Z Topical Index.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

and

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

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

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

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

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

Child's Full Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dates (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](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT**

**REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

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

### **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** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Vs.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Respondent**

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

***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 Relations

***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**