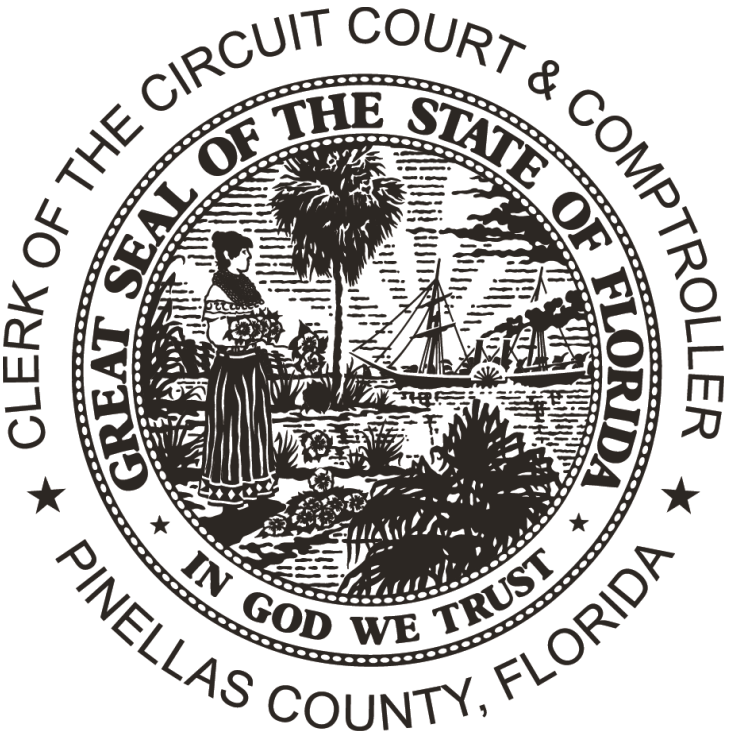
# KEN BURKE, C.P.A:

## CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER
## PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

www.mypinellasclerk.org




Package 951(a)

PACKAGE FEE: $13.80

# PETITION TO DISESTABLISH PATERNITY AND/OR TERMINATE CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION

Please contact the Clerk's Office at (727) 464-7000 or visit us online at www.mypinellasclerk.org for additional information.

# PETITION TO DISESTABLISH PATERNITY AND/OR TERMINATE CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION

| | |
|---|---|
| **FILING FEE:** | $300.00 |
| **SUMMONS ISSUANCE FEE:** | $10.00 per summons |
| **COPIES REQUIRED:** | Originals to the Clerk.<br>1 Set of copies for service.<br>1 Set of copies for your records. |
| **ADDITIONAL COSTS:** | $3.50 per Acknowledgement<br>(If you do not have your signature notarized in the required spaces prior to filing, the Deputy Clerk can do this for you. Please DO NOT SIGN until a notary or Deputy Clerk instructs you to do so.) |
| **SERVICE FEE:** | You must contact a private process server, or persons allowed to do service, in the county where service is to be done to obtain their service fees. You can get a list of local process servers from the sheriff by accessing a link through our website at www.MyPinellasClerk.org |

KEN BURKE, CPA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
& COMPTROLLER
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

# SELF HELP CENTER

The Self Help Centers are the result of a collaborative effort between the Clerk's Office, the Sixth Judicial Circuit, the Community Law Program and the Clearwater Bar Association.

**The purpose of the Clerk's Legal Self Help Centers is to assist citizens representing themselves in court (sometimes referred to as pro se persons) who do NOT have a private attorney. C**itizens who represent themselves in court and do not already have a private attorney representing them, can now get affordable legal assistance.

**OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:**

- Schedule an appointment to consult with an attorney for a minimum of $15.00*****
  *(***Attorneys may assist with Family Law, Small Claims and Landlord/Tenant matters ONLY***.)*
- Purchase forms and packets for the civil court actions listed above
- Have documents notarized
- Make copies

**Open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.:**

- **The Clearwater Self Help Center**
  The New Courthouse
  315 Court Street
  Clearwater, FL 33756
  Phone: (727) 464-5150
  Fax: (727) 453-3423

  - Appointments may be scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday and/or Friday.
  - A Spanish interpreter provided by the Hispanic Outreach Center is available by appointment at the Clearwater location

- **The St. Petersburg Self Help Center**
  The St. Petersburg Judicial Building
  545 First Avenue North, Room 103
  St Petersburg, FL 33701
  Phone: (727) 582-7941
  Fax: (727) 582-7945

  - Appointments may be scheduled for Monday, Wednesday, and/or Friday.

- **The North County Branch Self Help Center**
  29582 U.S. 19 North
  Clearwater, FL 33761
  Phone: (727) 464-5150
  Fax: (727) 453-3423

  - Attorney appointments may be scheduled for Tuesday **only** at this office.

**Self Help Center Now Offering Online Scheduling** of attorney consultation appointments for pro se litigants that do not already have an attorney. To schedule an appointment online using a credit card, please visit www.mypinellasclerk.org and click on the SELF HELP CENTER link in the top menu.

*Attorney appointments may only be scheduled for a minimum of 15 minutes to a maximum of one hour. All appointments must be scheduled in 15-minute increments, i.e., 15, 30, 45 or 60 minutes at a rate of $1 (one dollar) per minute, therefore payments will be $15, $30, $45 or $60 accordingly.

Attorney consultation fees must be paid when the appointment time is scheduled. Payments must be by cash, check, money order or credit card. Refunds will not be issued for missed appointments.

# CASE PROGRESSION CHECKLIST
# ORIGINAL PETITIONS

This checklist has been prepared to assist you with the necessary procedure for bringing your case to final hearing. This checklist lists the minimum requirements and, even though fairly specific, may not be all-inclusive for every case. **It is not intended, and should not be substituted for proper legal advice from an attorney.** You should, however, find that making sure all necessary steps noted below are followed would reduce procedural difficulties and time delays.

I. INITIAL FILING

A. Required Forms

Petition (check one):

_____ Petition for Support Unconnected with Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren) – Form 12.904(a)(1)

_____ Petition for Support and Parenting Plan Unconnected with Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren) – Form 12.904(a)(2)

_____ Petition for Support Unconnected with Dissolution of Marriage with No Dependent or Minor Child(ren) – Form 12.904(b)

_____ Petition to Determine Paternity and for Related Relief – Form 12.983(a)

_____ Petition for Change of Name (Adult) – Form 12.982(a)

_____ Petition for Change of Name (Minor Child/Children) – Form 12.982(c)

_____ Petition for Change of Name (Family) – Form 12.982(f)

_____ Joint Petition to Determine Paternity and for Related Relief – Form FFLF-L

_____ Petition to Disestablish Paternity and /or Terminate Child Support Obligation – Form 12.951(a)

Forms Filed with Initial Petition (not all forms are required for all case types):

_____ Civil Cover Sheet (local requirement)

_____ Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Affidavit (UCCJEA) – Form 12.902(d)

_____ Notice of Social Security Number – Form 12.902(j)

_____ Notice of Related Cases - Form 12.900(h)

_____ Supplemental Information Regarding Parties (local requirement)

_____ Financial Affidavit – Form 12.902(b) **or** 12.902(c). This must be filed within 45 days of service of petition on the Respondent, if not filed at time of the petition. (Financial Affidavit cannot be waived)

_____ Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure – Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on the Respondent, if not filed at the time of the petition)
**-OR-**
_____ Waiver of Mandatory Disclosure signed by both parties (cannot waive Financial Affidavit)

_____ Parenting Plan – Form 12.995(a)
**-OR-**
_____ Supervised/Safety-Focused Parenting Plan – Form 12.995(b)

_____ Child Support Guidelines Worksheet – Form 12.902(e), if you are asking that child support be ordered in the Final Judgment. (If you do not know your spouse's income, you may file this worksheet after his or her financial affidavit has been served to you)

_____ Affidavit of Corroborating Witness – Form 12.902(i), or photocopy of current Florida driver's license, Florida identification card or voter's registration card (issued date of copied document must be at least six months before date case is actually filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court)

_____ Disclosure from Non-Lawyer (This form is used when someone other than a Lawyer or Paralegal assists you with completing your documents)

_____ Summons: Personal Service on an Individual - Form 12.910(a)

_____ Process Service Memorandum - Form 12.910(b)

B. Required Fees

_____ Filing fee paid or waiver granted by Clerk or Court

_____ Fees for process service paid directly to a Process Server. The cost for service is set by the process server, the filing party must obtain service procedures including fees from the process server. A complete list of Pinellas County process servers can be obtained online at www.MyPinellasClerk.org

C. Required Course

_____ Completion of approved Parenting Education and Family Stabilization Course. If one party resides in another Florida County or out of state, the party must receive court approval to take the class available in their area of residence.

II. SERVICE OF PROCESS

A. Personal Service

_____ Summons returned "served" and filed by Clerk – Form 12.910(a)

_____ After 20 days have passed from the day Respondent was served, check to see whether Respondent filed an answer or any paper within the 20 day period. If yes, you may check this item

**(If both checked, skip to Section III; if no answer filed, go to "B")**

_____ Summons returned "not served" and filed by Clerk – Form 12.910(a)

_____ Request Clerk issue an alias summons, if address is known

**(If proper service is not obtained, the court cannot hear your case.)**

_____ Constructive service also known as "service by publication." This can be used only if you do not know where the other party is. This can be a very complicated area of the law.

_____ Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry – Form 12.913(b)

_____ Affidavit of Diligent Search – Form 12.913(c)

_____ Notice of Action appropriate to the type of case being filed. You will need to find an appropriate form in the law library or seek legal advice to draw up the appropriate form yourself.

**If constructive service is used, other than granting a dissolution, the court may grant only limited relief. This is a complicated area of the law and you may wish to consult with an attorney before using constructive service.**

B. Default

_____ Respondent failed to answer or file any paper after service

_____ Motion for Default filed with Clerk – Form 12.922(a) (no sooner than 20 days after date of Service),
_____ Default entered by Clerk – Form 12.922(b),
And
_____ Affidavit of Military Service – Form 12.912(b)

_____ Respondent filed a form but not an <u>answer</u> you will need to motion the court to enter default and set a hearing on your motion.

**<u>Only now is the case potentially ready for setting trial/final hearing.</u>**

## III. SETTING A HEARING

<u>After Answer is filed or Clerk enters default:</u>

_____ Call Family Law at (727)582-7200 to request final hearing. Your court records will be checked for completeness and you will either be given a court calendar date or you will be given further instructions for setting your final hearing. If the other party filed a counter-petition you are required to respond.

_____ Depending upon which Judge your case is assigned to, you may be required to prepare the Notice of Hearing. The original Notice of Hearing will be filed with the Clerk's Office. You will need to provide a copy to the other party. The copy must be received no later than 5 days prior to the hearing.

If you do not properly complete this step, your hearing could be delayed.

Please make arrangements for child care if applicable. Children are not allowed to attend without prior Order, per Fla.Fam.L.R.P. 12.407

# 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 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.*[

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

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

**_____(5)_____ ,**
**Petitioner,**
**and**

**_____(6)_____,**
**Respondent.**

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

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

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

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

Dated: _____(1)

_____(2)_____ (2)

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name:

_____(3)_____

Address:

_____(4)_____

City, State, Zip: _____(5)_____

Telephone Number: _____(6)_____

Fax Number: _____(7)_____

Designated E-mail Address(es): __(8)_____

_____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

_____

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

_____

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

_____ Personally known

_____ Produced identification

Type of identification produced _____

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

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

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

This form was completed with the assistance of:

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

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

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

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

# FAMILY LAW GLOSSARY OF COMMON TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Delinquent** - late.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Administrative Office of the Courts**
**The Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida**
**(727)582-7200**

# *How can I keep my address confidential in a court case if I am in fear of domestic violence?*

***Question:*** I am in fear of domestic violence from my spouse or another party in my court case. What do I have to do if I want to keep my address confidential?

***Answer:*** In a domestic or repeat violence injunction case, the clerk of court has procedures in place to keep your address confidential. If a party in the injunction case properly files their pleadings at the domestic violence desk, the clerk will send you the copies of their pleadings so that you are properly notified of the filing and the hearing.

***In most types of proceedings, the confidential address procedure through the clerk is not available*** because parties are required to copy other parties with pleadings filed in the case. In addition to sending copies of all pleadings, the moving party must prepare a notice of hearing and send it to all parties in the case.

If you do not want the other party(s) to have your home address you can consider the following:

1. Obtain a post office box. The post office cannot reveal the true address of a post office box owner, who is a private person and not a business, without a court order.

2. Ask your employer if you may use your work address to receive mail on your court case and as your service address for personal service.

3. If you are a victim of domestic violence or the guardian of an adult, minor child or impaired person who is a victim of domestic violence, you may inquire about the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) with the Florida Attorney General's Office. You will be interviewed for acceptance into the program. Please call the Florida Attorney General at 1-800-226-6667 (local # 850-414-3300, TDD/TTY users may use the Florida Relay service at 1-800-955-8771) for information on setting up the interview.

   ***How the program works:*** If you are accepted into the ACP program you will be given a substitute address to use for your mailing and legal process service address. The Attorney General will be the only one who has your real address. All first class mail sent, or legal process served, to the substitute ACP address will be forwarded to you by the Attorney General's Office. Your acceptance into the program is for a set period of time, is revocable, and must be renewed upon expiration. If you are accepted into the ACP program you will be given an identification card. It is your responsibility to determine who will get your actual address and who will get your ACP address. Government agencies are required to accept your ACP address but if you have previously given your actual address, they may not have to replace it with your substitute address.

   The courts may order you to reveal your true address during a court case. Be aware that many government agencies share information and if you have given your true address to one, it may be shared with other agencies. Federal agencies and private businesses are not required to accept your ACP address but many will do so. Certain agencies, such as law enforcement, have the right to access your true address for certain reasons. A false or incorrect application under this program constitutes a second degree misdemeanor.

| **South Pinellas County(St. Petersburg)** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name | Address | Telephone Number(s) or other information |
| Courts Information and Resource Center | Family law procedural assistance & information on approved forms. | 727-582-7200 (walk-in assistance is not available)<br>Office hours 8 a.m .to Noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. |
| Lawyer Referral Service | | 727-821-5450 (30 min. consultation with a lawyer for a small fee) |
| Legal Aid<br>St. Petersburg | Bay Area Legal Services-West<br>2600-9th Street North, Ste. 401<br>St. Petersburg, FL 33704 | Bay Area Legal Services-West: 727-490-4040<br>Gulfcoast Legal Services: 727-821-0726<br>Community Law Program: 727-582-7402 |
| St. Petersburg Courthouse | 545-1st Avenue North<br>St. Petersburg, FL 33701 | Clerk of Court: **727-464-7000**<br>Child Support Automated Information Line: 727-464-4845 |
| Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs | Court ordered civil mediation and arbitration services. | Mediation/Arbitration: 727-464-4943, Family Mediation: 727-464-4947 |
| Clerk of Court Self Help Center (St. Petersburg) | Legal assistance by appointment for a fee | St. Petersburg Courthouse, 545-1st Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33701 phone: **727-582-7941** , call for information. |
| **North Pinellas County(Clearwater)** | | |
| Clearwater Courthouse | 315 Court Street<br>Clearwater, FL 33756 | Clerk of Court: **727-464-7000**<br>Child Support Automated Information Line: 727-464-4845 |
| Courts Information and Resource Center | Family law procedural assistance & information on approved forms. | 727-582-7200 (walk-in assistance is not available)<br>Office hours 8 a.m. to Noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. |
| Lawyer Referral Service | | 727-461-4880 (30 minute consultation for a small fee) |
| Legal Aid<br>Clearwater | Gulfcoast Legal Services<br>2189 Cleveland St., Bldg G, Ste.210<br>Clearwater, FL 33765 | 727-443-0657 |
| Pinellas County Information | 315 Court Street<br>Clearwater, FL 33756 | 727-464-3000 |
| Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs | Court ordered mediation and arbitration services. | Mediation/Arbitration: 727-464-4943, Family Mediation: 727-464-4947 |
| Clerk of Court Self Help Center (Clearwater) | Legal assistance by appointment for a fee | Clearwater Courthouse, 315 Court Street, Clearwater, FL 33756 phone: 727-464-5150 call for information. |
| **Pasco County (New Port Richey & Dade City)** | | |
| Clerk of Court-Civil<br>(New Port Richey) | 7530 Little Road<br>New Port Richey, FL 34654 | 727-847-8176<br>727-847-2411 |
| Clerk of Court-Civil<br>(Dade City) | 38053 Live Oak Avenue<br>Dade City, FL 33523-3805 | 352-521-4517 |
| Legal Aid-Pasco | Bay Area Legal Services<br>Offices in New Port Richey and Dade City | New Port Richey: 727-847-5494<br>Dade City: 352-567-9044 |
| Pasco County General Information | 38053 Live Oak Avenue<br>Dade City, FL 33523-3805 | 352-521-4274 |
| **Miscellaneous** | | |
| Florida Dept. of Revenue | Many offices statewide | Child Support Enforcement: 850-488-5437 |
| 211 | Information and referral for a variety of state, local and private services. | Dial 211 (24 hours per day, 7 days per week)<br>Multilingual Internet page: http://www.211tampabay.com |
| Internet Pages | Florida Supreme Court http://www.flcourts.org,<br>Pinellas County Clerk of Court http://**www.mypinellasclerk.org**<br>Sixth Judicial Circuit Court http://www.jud6.org,<br>Sixth Judicial Circuit Family Division<br>http://www.jud6.org/GeneralInfo/AboutTheCircuit/AOC/Courtprograms/familyLaw/familylaw.htm | |
| State of Florida FLSDU | SDU<br>P.O. Box 8500<br>Tallahassee, FL 32314-8500 | For income deducted support payments<br>1-877-769-0251 Toll free (you will need your case number and social security number) |

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.951(a)

# PETITION TO DISESTABLISH PATERNITY AND/OR TERMINATE CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION (06/18)

## When should this form be used?

This form should be used by a man who wishes to disestablish paternity or terminate a child support obligation because he is not the biological father of the child(ren). The petition must be **filed**

- in the circuit court having jurisdiction over the child support obligation; or
- if the child support was determined administratively and has not been ratified by a court, in the circuit court in which the mother or legal guardian or custodian of the child(ren) resides; or
- if the mother or legal guardian or custodian no longer resides in the state, in the circuit court in the county in which the petitioner resides.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing the form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk.**

A copy of any judgment or order regarding paternity or child support and a copy of any scientific test results showing that you cannot be the father of the child(ren) must be attached to the petition and filed with the court.

## 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?

The petition must be served on the mother or legal guardian or custodian of the child(ren). If the child support obligation was determined administratively and has not been ratified by a court, the petition must also be served on the Department of Revenue.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

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

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

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms.** For further information, see Section 742.18, Florida Statutes.

## 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 6TH _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR PINELLAS _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

DISESTABLISHMENT OF PATERNITY PROCEEDINGS

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

# PETITION TO DISESTABLISH PATERNITY AND/OR TERMINATE CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION

I, *{full legal name}* _____, Petitioner, certify that the following information is true.

1. **Paternity.** My paternity of the child(ren), *{name(s) and birth date(s)}* _____
_____
_____ was established by *{Choose only **one**}*

   a. _____ operation of law because I was married to the child(ren)'s other parent .

   b._____ adjudication of paternity, entered by *{court}*_____on *{date}* _____.

   c. _____acknowledgment of paternity executed on *{date}* _____.

   d._____ other: *{specify}* _____.

A copy of any judgment is attached.

2. **Child support.** My child support obligation for the child(ren), *{name(s) and birth date(s)}*, _____
_____
_____ was established by *{Choose only **one**}*

   a. _____a final judgment of dissolution of marriage, entered by *{court}*_____ on *{date}* _____ .

   b._____ an administrative proceeding to establish child support in *{location}* _____on *{date}* _____.

c. _____a paternity proceeding in *{court}* _____ on *{date}* _ _____.

d.____other *{specify}* _____.

A copy of any judgment is attached.

3. **Newly discovered evidence.** Newly discovered evidence concerning the paternity of this/these child(ren) has come to my knowledge since the initial paternity determination or establishment of the child support obligation. *{Explain}*
_____
_____
_____.

4. **Scientific tests.**

a._____ The results of scientific tests that are generally acceptable within the scientific community to show a probability of paternity, administered within 90 days prior to the filing of this petition, indicate that I cannot be the father of the child(ren) for whom support is required. A copy of the test results is attached.

b._____ I did not have access to the child(ren) to have scientific testing performed before the filing of this petition and I request that the court order the child(ren) to be tested.

5. **Fulfillment of child support obligation.**
*{Choose only **one**}*
a._____ I am current on all child support payments for the child(ren) for whom relief is sought.

b._____I have substantially complied with my child support obligation for the child(ren) and any delinquency in my child support obligation for the child(ren) arose from my inability for just cause to pay the delinquent child support when the delinquent child support became due.

I ask the court to enter an order to:

*{Indicate **all** that apply}*
a.____ disestablish my paternity to *{name(s) of child(ren)}* _____
_____

b.____ terminate my obligation to pay child support for *{name(s) of child(ren)}*:_____
_____

c.____ other: _____
_____
_____.

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

**Respondent 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 petition and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.**

Dated: _____

_____
Signature of Petitioner
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
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 deputy clerk.]*

_____ Personally known
_____ Produced identification
Type of identification produced _____

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOUR FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**
[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the Petitioner.
This form was completed with the assistance of:
*{name of individual}*_____
*{name of business}* _____
*{address}* _____
*{city}* _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}*_____, *{telephone number}* _____.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.928
# COVER SHEET FOR FAMILY COURT CASES (11/20)

## 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 61, Florida Statutes, other than simplified dissolution.

(C) Domestic Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against domestic violence pursuant to section 741.30, Florida Statutes.

(D) Dating Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against dating violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.

(E) Repeat Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against repeat violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.

(F) Sexual Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against sexual violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.

(G) Stalking-all matters relating to injunctions for protection against stalking pursuant to section 784.0485, Florida Statutes

(H) 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.

(I) 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.

(J) 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.

(K) 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.

(L) 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.

(M) 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.

(N) Name Change - all matters relating to name change, pursuant to section 68.07, Florida Statutes.

(O) Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity – all matters relating to paternity pursuant to Chapter 742, Florida Statutes.

(P) Juvenile Delinquency - all matters relating to juvenile delinquency pursuant to Chapter 985, Florida Statutes.

(Q) Petition for Dependency - all matters relating to petitions for dependency.

(R) Shelter Petition – all matters relating to shelter petitions pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.

(S) Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to termination of parental rights pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.

(T) Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to adoption pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.

(U) CINS/FINS – all matters relating to children in need of services (and families in need of services) pursuant to Chapter 984, Florida Statutes.

(V) Petition for Temporary or Concurrent Custody by Extended Family-all matters relating to petitions for temporary or concurrent custody pursuant to Chapter 751.
(W) 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 Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by 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 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 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR PINELLAS 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) ____ Other Family Court
(M) ____ Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 63
(N) ____ Name Change
(O) ____ Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity
(P) ____ Juvenile Delinquency

(Q) ____ Petition for Dependency
(R) ____ Shelter Petition
(S) ____ Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39
(T) ____ Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39
(U) ____ CINS/FINS
(V) ____ Petition for Temporary or Concurrent Custody by Extended Family
(W) ____ Emancipation of a Minor

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

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

**ATTORNEY OR PARTY SIGNATURE**

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

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

_____ _____
(Type or print name) (E-mail Address(es))

_____
Date

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:** [fill in **all** blanks]
This form was prepared for the: *{choose only **one**}* _ _Petitioner _ _ Respondent
This form was completed with the assistance of:
*{name of individual}*_____,
*{name of business}* _____,
*{address}*_____ ,
*{city}* _____, *{state}* ____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

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

## When should this form be used?

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

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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

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

## What should I do next?

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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

A-Z Topical Index.

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

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

## Where can I look for more information?

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

## Special notes…

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

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

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

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR PINELLAS 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:*
a. Name of each child: _____
b. Type of proceeding: _____
c. Court and state: _____
d. 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:*
a. Name of each child involved in said litigation: _____
b. Type of proceeding: _____
c. Court and state: _____
d. Date of court order or judgment (if any): _____
e. 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 12.902(j), NOTICE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (06/18)

## When should this form be used?

This form must be completed and filed by each party in all **paternity**, **child support**, and **dissolution of marriage** cases, regardless of whether the case involves a minor child(ren) and/or property.

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

## CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Under Rule 2.420 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, Social Security Numbers are confidential; however, this information is required by the Florida Statutes. A Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing must be filed with the Notice of Social Security Number. This Notice is an appendix to rule 2.420.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

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

## What should I do next?

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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

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

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

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

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **"bold underline"** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see chapter 61, Florida Statutes.

## Special notes...

**If this is a domestic violence case and you want to keep your address confidential for safety reasons, do not enter the address, telephone, fax, or e-mail information at the bottom of this form.** Instead, file a **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(i).

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____
Petitioner,

and

_____
Respondent.

# NOTICE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

I, *{full legal name}* _____, certify that my social security number is _____, as required by the applicable section of the Florida Statutes. My date of birth is _____.

*[Choose **one** only]*

_____ 1. This notice is being filed in a dissolution of marriage case in which the parties have **no** minor or dependent child(ren) in common.

_____ 2. This notice is being filed in a paternity or child support case, or in a dissolution of marriage in which the parties have minor or dependent children in common. The minor or dependent child(ren)'s name(s), date(s) of birth, and social security number(s) is/are:

| **Name** | **Birth date** | **Social Security Number** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

*{Attach additional pages if necessary.}*

**Disclosure of social security numbers shall be limited** to the purpose of administration of the Title IV-D program for child support enforcement.

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

Dated: _____

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

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on by _____.

Date:_____

_____
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

_____
*[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk]*

___Personally known
___Produced identification
Type of identification produced

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**
[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only **one**}* _____ Petitioner _____ Respondent
This form was completed with the assistance of:
*{name of individual}*_____,
*{name of business}* _____,
*{address}*_____,
*{city}* _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}*_____, *{telephone number}* _____

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.900(h), NOTICE OF RELATED CASES (11/13)

## When should this form be used?

Florida Rule of 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 judges, 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 Judicial Administration 2.516.

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in "**bold underline"** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Rule of 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 _____6TH_____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____PINELLAS_____ 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 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
   ☐ Custody
   ☐ Child Support
   ☐ Juvenile Dependency
   ☐ Termination of Parental Rights
   ☐ Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat Violence or Stalking Injunctions
   ☐ Paternity
   ☐ Adoption
   ☐ Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings
   ☐ Juvenile Delinquency
   ☐ Criminal
   ☐ Mental Health
   ☐ 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]

_____ Dissolution of Marriage
_____ Custody
_____ Child Support
_____ Juvenile Dependency
_____ Termination of Parental Rights
_____ Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat Violence or Stalking Injunctions
_____ Paternity
_____ Adoption
_____ Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings
_____ Juvenile Delinquency
_____ Criminal
_____ Mental Health
_____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]

____ Dissolution of Marriage
____ Custody
____ Child Support
____ Juvenile Dependency
____ Termination of Parental Rights
____ Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat Violence or Stalking Injunctions
____ Paternity
____ Adoption
____ Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings
____ Juvenile Delinquency
____ Criminal
____ Mental Health
____ 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 cases 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:_____
Fax 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 THE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REGARDING PARTIES FORM

The Supplemental Information Regarding Parties form will aid the Court and the Clerk of the Circuit Court in identifying related cases. This will help ensure that your related cases are heard before the same judge at the same time and reduce the number of times you have to appear in court.

**When should this form be filed?**
The Supplemental Information Regarding Parties form only needs to be completed and filed in civil domestic violence cases, dissolution cases, paternity cases, or child support actions.

**Who should complete and file the form?**
The Supplemental Information Regarding Parties form must be completed and filed by the Petitioner with the case-initiating documents. The Respondent may choose to complete and file the form at a later date.

**How should the form be completed?**
The person completing the Supplemental Information Regarding Parties form should answer the questions relating to them thoroughly and accurately. The person should also make a good faith effort to complete the portion of the form relating to the opposing party.

**What should I do next?**
The Supplemental Information Regarding Parties form must be served on the opposing party. Service must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516, except that the Petitioner may choose to serve the form along with the case-initiating documents.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,**
**IN AND FOR PASCO/PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

_____
Petitioner,
and

_____
Respondent.
_____/

Case No.: _____
Section: _____

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REGARDING PARTIES

The information provided in this form will assist the court and the Clerk of the Circuit Court in identification of related cases pursuant to Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545.

1. **Petitioner's Information:**
   a. Full Legal Name: _____
   b. Previous Names: _____
   (Maiden names, previous married or legal names, aliases (AKA's))
   c. Date of Birth: _____ PID/SPN: _____
   d. Information on Children:
      i. ☐ Petitioner does not have any minor children.
      ii. ☐ Petitioner has a minor child(ren) **in common** with Respondent.
      (If you have checked this line, please complete page 2.)
      iii. ☐ Petitioner has a minor child(ren) **NOT in common** with Respondent.
      (If you have checked this line, please complete page 3.)

2. **Respondent's Information:**
   a. Full Legal Name: _____
   b. Previous Names: _____
   (Maiden names, previous married or legal names, aliases (AKA's))
   c. Date of Birth: _____ PID/SPN: _____
   d. Information on Children:
      i. ☐ Respondent does not have any minor children.
      ii. ☐ Respondent has a minor child(ren) **in common** with Petitioner.
      (If you have checked this line, please complete page 2.)
      iii. ☐ Respondent has a minor child(ren) **NOT in common** with Petitioner.
      (If you have checked this line, please complete page 3.)

Case Number:
Section:

3. **<u>Minor Child(ren) In Common</u>:** The number of minor children **In Common** is _____.

**Information about child #1:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ___ Yes ___No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____

**Information about child #2:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ___ Yes ___No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____

**Information about child #3:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ___ Yes ___No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____

**Information about child #4:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ___ Yes ___No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____

**Information about child #5:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ___ Yes ___No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____

**Information about child #6:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ___ Yes ___No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____

*If additional space is needed, please use another sheet of paper and attach it to this form.*

Case Number:
Section:

4. **<u>Minor Child(ren) NOT In Common:</u>** The number of minor children **NOT In Common** is _____.

**Information about child #1:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____
This is the child of *(please check one)*: ☐ Petitioner ☐ Respondent

**Information about child #2:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____
This is the child of *(please check one)*: ☐ Petitioner ☐ Respondent

**Information about child #3:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____
This is the child of *(please check one)*: ☐ Petitioner ☐ Respondent

**Information about child #4:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____
This is the child of *(please check one)*: ☐ Petitioner ☐ Respondent

**Information about child #5:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____
This is the child of *(please check one)*: ☐ Petitioner ☐ Respondent

**Information about child #6:** Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____
Child's Full Legal Name: _____
Has the child's name ever been changed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the child's name before it was changed: _____
This is the child of *(please check one)*: ☐ Petitioner ☐ Respondent

*If additional space is needed, please use another sheet of paper and attach it to this form.*

Case Number:
Section:

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

Dated: _____

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

If a nonlawyer helped you fill out this form, he/she must fill in **ALL** the blanks below:
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 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 ____6TH____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____PINELLAS_____ 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 FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.910(a) SUMMONS: PERSONAL SERVICE ON AN INDIVIDUAL (11/20)

## When should this form be used?

This form should be used to obtain **personal service** on the other **party** when you begin your lawsuit. **Service** is required for **all** documents filed in your case. Service means giving a copy of the required papers to the other party using the procedure that the law requires. Generally, there are two ways to make service: (1) personal service, or (2) service by email, mail, or hand delivery. A third method for service is called **constructive service**; however, the relief a court may grant may be limited in a case where constructive service has been used.

The law requires that certain documents be served by **personal service** if personal service is possible. **Personal service** means that a summons (this form) and a copy of the forms you are filing with the court that must be personally served are delivered by a deputy sheriff or private process server

a. directly to the other party, **or**
b. to someone over the age of fifteen with whom the other party lives.

Personal service is required for **all petitions**, including petitions for modification. You cannot serve these papers on the other party yourself or by mail or hand delivery. Personal service must be made by the sheriff's department in the county where the other party lives or works or by a private process server certified in the county where the other party lives or works.

In many counties, there are private process servers who, for a fee, will personally serve the summons and other documents that require personal service. You should look under **process servers** in the yellow pages of the telephone book for a list of private process servers in your area. You may use a private process server to serve any paper required to be personally served in a family law case **except** a petition for injunction for protection against domestic or repeat violence.

## How do I start?

When you begin your lawsuit, you need to complete this form (summons) and a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b). The forms should be typed or printed legibly in black ink. Next, you will need to take these forms and, if you have not already done so, **file** your petition with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where you live. You should keep a copy of the forms for your records. The clerk will sign the summons, and then the summons, a copy of the

papers to be served, and the process service memorandum must be delivered to the appropriate sheriff's office or to a private process server for service on the other party.

**IF THE OTHER PARTY LIVES IN THE COUNTY WHERE SUIT IS FILED:** Ask the clerk in your county about any local procedures regarding service. Generally, if the other party lives in the county in which you are filing suit and you want the sheriff's department to serve the papers, you will file the summons along with a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b), with the clerk and the clerk will forward those papers to the sheriff for service. Make sure that you attach a copy of the papers you want personally served to the summons. You may also need to provide the sheriff with a stamped envelope addressed to you. This will allow the sheriff to send the proof of service to you, after the sheriff serves your papers on the other party. However, in some counties the sheriff may send the proof of service directly to the clerk. If you are instructed to supply a self-addressed, stamped envelope and you receive the proof of service, you should file the proof of service with the clerk after you receive it from the sheriff. Also, you will need to find out how much the sheriff charges to serve the papers. Personal checks are not accepted. You should attach to the summons a cashier's check or money order made payable to the sheriff, and either give it to the clerk for delivery to the sheriff or send all of the paperwork and the fee to the sheriff yourself. The clerk will tell you which procedure to use. The costs for service may be waived if you are indigent.

If you want a private process server to serve the other party, you should still bring the summons to the clerk's office and have the clerk sign it for you. You should deliver the summons, along with the copy of your initial petition and any other papers to be served, and a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b), to the private process server. The private process server will charge you a fee for serving the papers. After service is complete, proof of service by the private process server must be filed with the clerk. You should discuss how this will occur with the private process server.

**IF THE OTHER PARTY LIVES IN ANOTHER COUNTY:** If the other party lives in another county, service needs to be made by a sheriff in the county where the other party lives or by a private process server certified in the county where the other party lives. Make sure that you attach a copy of the papers you want personally served to the summons as well as the **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b). If you want the sheriff to serve the papers, the clerk may send your papers to that sheriff's office for you, or you may have to send the papers yourself. The clerk will tell you which procedure to use. Either way, you will need to provide the sheriff with a stamped envelope addressed to you. This will allow the sheriff to send the proof of service to you, after the sheriff serves your papers on the other party. You should file the proof of service with the clerk after you receive it from the sheriff. Also, you will need to find out how much the sheriff charges to serve the papers. Personal checks are not accepted. You should attach to the summons a cashier's check or money order made payable to the sheriff, and either give it to the clerk for delivery to the sheriff or send all of the paperwork and the fee to the sheriff yourself. The clerk will tell you which procedure to use. The costs for service may be waived if you are indigent.

If you want a private process server to serve the other party, you should still bring the summons to the clerk's office where the clerk will sign it for you. You should deliver the summons, along with the copy of your initial petition and any other papers to be served, and a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b), to the private process server. The private process server will charge you a fee for serving the papers. After service is complete, proof of service by the

private process server must be filed with the clerk. You should discuss how this will occur with the private process server.

**IF THE OTHER PARTY CANNOT BE LOCATED OR DOES NOT LIVE IN FLORIDA:** If, after you have made a diligent effort to locate the other party, you absolutely cannot locate the other party, you may serve the other party by publication. Service by publication is also known as **constructive service**. You may also be able to use constructive service if the other party does not live in Florida. **However, Florida courts have only limited jurisdiction over a party who is served by constructive service and may have only limited jurisdiction over a party living outside of Florida regardless of whether that party is served by constructive or personal service**; that is, the judge's power to order the other party to do certain things may be limited. For example, the judge may be able to grant your request for a divorce, but the judge may not be able to address issues such as child support, spousal support (alimony), or division of property or debts.

Regardless of the type of service used, if the other party once lived in Florida but is living outside of Florida now, you should include in your petition a statement regarding the length of time the party lived in Florida, if any, and when. For example: "Respondent last lived in Florida from *{date}* _____ to *{date}* _____."

**This area of the law is very complex and you may need to consult with an attorney regarding the proper type of service to be used in your case if the other party does not live in Florida or cannot be located.**

## What happens when the papers are served on the other party?

The date and hour of service are written on the original summons and on all copies of it by the person making the service. The person who delivers the summons and copies of the petition must file a proof of service with the clerk or provide a proof of service to you for filing with the court. **It is your responsibility to make sure the proof of service has been returned to the clerk and placed in your case file.**

## What should I do next?

A copy of this form must be filed with the court and served on the other party or his or her attorney. The copy you are serving to the other party must be either mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to the opposing party or his or her attorney on the same day indicated on the certificate of service. If it is mailed, it must be postmarked on the date indicated in the certificate of service. Service must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by 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 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 regarding service of process, see chapters 48 and 49, Florida Statutes, and Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.070, as well as the instructions for **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 Service 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).

## Special notes. . .

If you have been unable to obtain proper service on the other party within **120 days** after filing your lawsuit, the court will dismiss your lawsuit against the other party unless you can show the court a good reason why service was not made within **120 days**. For this reason, if you had the local sheriff serve the papers, you should check with the clerk every couple of weeks after completing the service papers to see if service has been completed. You may need to supply the sheriff with a new or better address. If you had a private process server or a sheriff in another county serve the papers, you should be in contact with

that person or sheriff until you receive proof of service from that person or sheriff. You should then file the proof of service with the clerk immediately.

If the other party fails to respond, i.e., fails to file a written response with the court, within **20 days** after the service of the summons, you are entitled to request a **default**. See the instructions to **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922 (a), and **Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(b), for further information. You will need to file an **Affidavit of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(b), before a default may be granted.

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 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,

IN AND FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,

Petitioner,

and

_____,

Respondent.

**SUMMONS: PERSONAL SERVICE ON AN INDIVIDUAL**

**ORDEN DE COMPARECENCIA: SERVICIO PERSONAL EN UN INDIVIDUO**

**CITATION: L'ASSIGNATION PERSONAL SUR UN INDIVIDUEL**

TO/PARA/A: *{enter other party's full legal name}* _____,

*{address (including city and state)/location for service}* _____.

**IMPORTANT**

A lawsuit has been filed against you. You have **20 calendar days** after this summons is served on you to file a written response to the attached complaint/petition with the clerk of this circuit court, located at:

*{street address}* _____.

A phone call will not protect you. Your written response, including the case number given above and the names of the parties, must be **filed** if you want the Court to hear your side of the case.

**If you do not file your written response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money, and property may be taken thereafter without further warning from the Court.** There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call

an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

If you choose to file a written response yourself, at the same time you file your written response to the Court, you must also serve a copy of your written response on the party serving this summons at:

*{Name and address of party serving summons}* _____

_____.

**If the party serving summons has designated email address(es) for service or is represented by an attorney, you may designate email address(es) for service by or on you. Service must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.**

**Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents, upon request.**

**You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and Email Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.**

**WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.**

## IMPORTANTE

Usted ha sido demandado legalmente. Tiene veinte (20) dias, contados a partir del recibo de esta notificacion, para contestar la demanda adjunta, por escrito, y presentarla ante este tribunal. Localizado en: _____. Una llamada telefonica no lo protegera. Si usted desea que el tribunal considere su defensa, debe presentar su respuesta por escrito, incluyendo el numero del caso y los nombres de las partes interesadas. Si usted no contesta la demanda a tiempo, pudiese perder el caso y podria ser despojado de sus ingresos y propiedades, o privado de sus derechos, sin previo aviso del tribunal. Existen otros requisitos legales. Si lo desea, usted puede consultar a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a una de las oficinas de asistencia legal que aparecen en la guia telefonica.

Si desea responder a la demanda por su cuenta, al mismo tiempo en que presente su respuesta ante el tribunal, usted debe enviar por correo o entregar una copia de su respuesta a la persona denominada abajo.

Si usted elige presentar personalmente una respuesta por escrito, en el mismo momento que usted presente su respuesta por escrito al Tribunal, usted debe enviar por correo o llevar una copia de su respuesta por escrito a la parte entregando esta orden de comparencencia a:

Nombre y direccion de la parte que entrega la orden de comparencencia: _____

_____.

**Copias de todos los documentos judiciales de este caso, incluyendo las ordenes, estan disponibles en la**

**oficina del Secretario de Juzgado del Circuito [Clerk of the Circuit Court's office]. Estos documentos pueden ser revisados a su solicitud.**

**Usted debe de manener informada a la oficina del Secretario de Juzgado del Circuito de su direccion actual. (Usted puede presentar ____ el Formulario: Ley de Familia de la Florida 12.915, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, [Designation of Current Mailing and Email Address].) Los papelos que se presenten en el futuro en esta demanda judicial seran env ados por correo a la direccion que este registrada en la oficina del Secretario.**

**ADVERTENCIA: Regla 12.285 (Rule 12.285), de las Reglas de Procedimiento de Ley de Familia de la Florida [Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure], requiere cierta revelacion automatica de documentos e informacion. El incumplimient, puede resultar en sanciones, incluyendo la desestimacion o anulacion de los alegatos.**

**IMPORTANT**

Des poursuites judiciaries ont ete entreprises contre vous. Vous avez 20 jours consecutifs a partir de la date de l'assignation de cette citation pour deposer une reponse ecrite a la plainte ci-jointe aupres de ce tribunal. Qui se trouve a: *{L'Adresse}* _____. Un simple coup de telephone est insuffisant pour vous proteger; vous etes obliges de deposer votre reponse ecrite, avec mention du numero de dossier ci-dessus et du nom des parties nommees ici, si vous souhaitez que le tribunal entende votre cause. Si vous ne deposez pas votre reponse ecrite dans le delai requis, vous risquez de perdre la cause ainsi que votre salaire, votre argent, et vos biens peuvent etre saisis par la suite, sans aucun preavis ulterieur du tribunal. Il y a d'autres obligations juridiques et vous pouvez requerir les services immediats d'un avocat. Si vous ne connaissez pas d'avocat, vous pourriez telephoner a un service de reference d'avocats ou a un bureau d'assistance juridique (figurant a l'annuaire de telephones).

Si vous choisissez de deposer vous-meme une reponse ecrite, il vous faudra egalement, en meme temps que cette formalite, faire parvenir ou expedier une copie au carbone ou une photocopie de votre reponse ecrite a la partie qui vous depose cette citation.

Nom et adresse de la partie qui depose cette citation: _____

**Les photocopies de tous les documents tribunals de cette cause, y compris des arrets, sont disponible au bureau du greffier. Vous pouvez revue ces documents, sur demande.**

**Il faut aviser le greffier de votre adresse actuelle. (Vous pouvez deposer Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, Designation of Current Mailing and Email Address.) Les documents de l'avenir de ce proces seront envoyer a l'adresse que vous donnez au bureau du greffier.**

**ATTENTION: La regle 12.285, des regles de procedure du droit de la famille de la Floride exige que l'on remette certains renseignements et certains documents a la partie adverse. Tout refus de les fournir pourra donner lieu a des sanctions, y compris le rejet ou la suppression d'un ou de plusieurs actes de procedure.**

THE STATE OF FLORIDA

TO EACH SHERIFF OF THE STATE: You are commanded to serve this summons and a copy of the complaint in this lawsuit on the above-named person.

DATED: _____

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

(SEAL)

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.910(b), PROCESS SERVICE MEMORANDUM (11/15)

## When should this form be used?

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

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your petition was filed and attach a copy to the **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a). You should also keep a copy for your records.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

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

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** You should read the instructions for **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a), for additional information.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

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

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

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

## Special notes…

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

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____6TH_____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____PINELLAS_____ 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}* _____

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORMS 12.922(a), MOTION FOR DEFAULT, AND 12.922(b), DEFAULT (11/15)

## When should these forms be used?

If the other **party** has failed to **file** or **serve** any documents within 20 days after the date of service of your **petition**, you may ask the **clerk of the circuit court** to enter a **default** against him or her by filling out this form and filing it with the court. Generally, a default allows you to obtain an earlier **final hearing** to finish your case. Once the default is signed by the clerk, you can request a **trial** or final hearing in your case.

To obtain a default, you will need to complete **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a). You will then need to file your motion for default along with the **Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(b), so that the clerk can enter a default for you if your motion is proper.

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 you filed your petition 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?

After the default has been entered, you must ask for a hearing, so that the **judge** can consider your petition. To do this, you must contact the clerk's office, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** to schedule a hearing and file a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, with the clerk. A copy of the notice of hearing must be mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to each party in the case. **You must send a notice of final hearing to the defaulted party.**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must**

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

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

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

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** For further information, see Florida Rules of Civil Procedure 1.500, concerning defaults and Rule 1.140, concerning the time within which a party can file an answer or other responsive pleading to a petition. See also Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.080.

## 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 _____6TH_____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____PINELLAS_____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent,

# MOTION FOR DEFAULT

TO THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT:

**PLEASE ENTER A DEFAULT AGAINST RESPONDENT WHO HAS FAILED TO RESPOND TO THE PETITION.**

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

**Other party or his/her attorney**:
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es):_____
_____

_____
Signature of Party
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}* _____,
*{address}* _____,
*{city}* _____, *{state}* ____, *{zip code}*_____,*{telephone number}* _____.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____6TH_____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____PINELLAS_____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent,

# DEFAULT

A default is entered in this action against Respondent for failure to serve or file a response or any paper as is required by law.

Dated:_____

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

(SEAL)

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

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

**Other party or his/her attorney**:
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es):_____
_____

_____
Signature of Party
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}* _____,
*{address}* _____,
*{city}* _____, *{state}* ____, *{zip code}*_____,*{telephone number}* _____.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.912(b), AFFIDAVIT OF MILITARY SERVICE (11/15)

## When should this form be used?

An Affidavit of Military Service is required in every case where the Respondent has not filed an answer or appearance. The purpose is to protect the men and women serving in the U.S. military from having a court judgment entered against them without first receiving notice of the lawsuit and a chance to defend the case.

## You should use this form when ALL of the following statements are true:

- The other person in your case has been served, whether by **personal service** or **constructive service**.
- The other person in your case has not responded to your petition.
- You are requesting that the court enter a default judgment against the other person.

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 must **file** the original of this form with the **clerk of the circuit court** when you file your **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a). You must also attach copies of all verifications of nonmilitary service that you received from each branch of the United States' military service. You should keep a copy for your records.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

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 _____6TH_____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____PINELLAS_____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent,

# AFFIDAVIT OF MILITARY SERVICE

I, *{full legal name}* _____, am the Petitioner in this case. To support my application for a default judgment and to comply with the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) (formerly known as Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940), I swear or affirm that the following information is true:
*{**Please choose only one**}*

1. _____ I know of my own personal knowledge that the Respondent **IS** on active duty in the military service of the United States.

2. _____ I know of my own personal knowledge that Respondent **IS NOT** now on active duty in the military service of the United States, nor has the Respondent been on active military service of the United States within a period of thirty (30) days immediately before this date. "Active Service" includes reserve members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Marines who have been ordered to report for active duty and members of the Florida National Guard who have been ordered to report to active duty for a period of more than thirty (30) days.

3. _____ I have contacted the military services of the United States and the U.S. Public Health Service and have obtained certificates showing that the Respondent is not on active duty status. These certificates are attached.

4. _____ I have attempted to determine the military status of the Respondent, but do not have sufficient information. This is what I have done to determine whether or not Respondent is on active duty in the United States military:
_____
_____
_____
_____

I have no reason to believe that s/he is on active duty at this time.

**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 Petitioner
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 Petitioner.
This form was completed with the assistance of:
*{name of individual},* _____,
{name of business}_____,
{address} _____,
{city}_____,{state} _____, {zip code}_____,{telephone number}_____.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.923, NOTICE OF HEARING (GENERAL) (11/15)

## When should this form be used?

Anytime you have set a hearing before a **judge**, you must send notice of the **hearing** to the other party.

**IMPORTANT**: If your hearing has been set before a general magistrate, you should use **Notice of Hearing Before General Magistrate**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.920(c). If your hearing has been set before a child support enforcement hearing officer, you should use **Notice of Hearing (Child Support Hearing Officer)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.921.

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

## 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 a **default** has been entered, you must still send this form to the other party to notify the other party of the **final hearing**.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

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

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

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

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** For further information on serving notices of hearing, see rule 1.090(d), Florida Civil Rules of Procedure.

## Special notes…

To set a hearing date and time, you will usually have to make a good-faith effort to coordinate a mutually convenient date and time for you, the other parties in the case, and the judge, except in certain emergency situations. Some circuits may have additional procedural requirements that you must follow when you notify the court and other parties of your scheduled hearing. Therefore, before you complete this form, you should contact the clerk's office, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** for information regarding the proper procedure to follow.

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 _____6TH_____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____PINELLAS_____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent,

# NOTICE OF HEARING (GENERAL)

[fill in **all** blanks]
TO: *{name of other party}*: _____
There will be a hearing before Judge *{name}*_____,
on *{date}* _____ at *{time}* _____ m., in Room _____ of the _____
County Courthouse, on the following issues: _____
_____
_____
_____.
_____ hour(s)/ _____ minutes have been reserved for this hearing.

**This part is to be filled out by the court or to be filled in with information you obtained from the court:**

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

_____
***{identify applicable court personnel by name, address, and telephone number}* 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 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**

If you are represented by an attorney or plan to retain an attorney for this matter, you should notify the attorney of this hearing.

If this matter is resolved, the moving party shall contact the judge's office to cancel this hearing.

I certify that a copy of this document was (  ) 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: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es): _____
_____

_____
Signature of Party
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
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} _____,
{address} _____,
{city} _____, {state} _____, {zip code} _____, {telephone number} _____

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

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

# ORDER DISESTABLISHING PATERNITY AND/OR TERMINATING CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION

This cause came before the court on *{date}*_____ on *{full legal name}* _____'s petition to *{Indicate **all** that apply}*

_____ Disestablish paternity to *{child(ren)'s names and birth date(s)}* _____
_____
_____

_____ Terminate a child support obligation for *{child(ren)'s names and birth date(s)}* _____
_____
_____

The court having been fully advised in the premises FINDS all of the following:

1. Newly discovered evidence relating to the paternity of the child(ren) has come to the petitioner's knowledge since the initial _____ paternity determination ____ establishment of a child support obligation.

2. Scientific tests that are generally acceptable within the scientific community to show a probability of paternity showing that the petitioner cannot be the father of the children were properly conducted.

3. The petitioner
   *{Choose only **one**}*
   _____is current on all child support payments for the child(ren).

   _____has substantially complied with his child support obligation for the applicable child(ren) and any delinquency in his child support obligation arose from his inability for just cause to pay the delinquent child support when it became due.

4. The petitioner has not adopted the child.

5. The child(ren) was/were not conceived by artificial insemination while the petitioner and the child(ren)'s other parent were married.

6. The petitioner did not act to prevent the biological father of the child(ren) from asserting his paternal rights with respect to the child(ren).

7. The child(ren) was/were younger than 18 years of age when the petition was filed.

8. Since learning that he is not the biological father of the child(ren), the petitioner has not:

    a. married the child(ren)'s other parent while known as the reputed father in accordance with section 742.091, Florida Statutes, and voluntarily assumed the parental obligation and duty to pay child support;

    b. acknowledged paternity in a sworn statement;

    c. consented to be named as the child(ren)'s biological father on the child(ren)'s birth certificate(s);

    d. voluntarily promised in writing to support the child(ren) and was required to support the child(ren) based on that promise;

    e. received written notice from any state agency or any court directing him to submit to scientific testing which he disregarded; or

    f. signed a voluntary acknowledgment of paternity as provided by section 742.10(4), Florida Statutes.

It is therefore ORDERED AND ADJUDGED:

*{Indicate **all** that apply}*

_____Petitioner's, *{full legal name}* _____
paternity of *{name(s) of child(ren)* _____ _____
_____ is disestablished.

_____Petitioner's, *{full legal name}* _____
child support obligation to *{name(s) of child(ren)}* _____
_____ is terminated.

**DONE AND ORDERED** on _____ in _____, Florida.

_____
CIRCUIT JUDGE

I certify that a copy of the Order Disestablishing Paternity and/or Terminating Child Support Obligation was _____ mailed _____ faxed and mailed _____e-mailed _____ hand-delivered to the parties and any entities listed below on *{date}* _____.

_____
*{Clerk of court, designee, or Judicial Assistant}*

Petitioner (or his or her attorney)
Respondent (or his or her attorney)
Department of Revenue
Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics
Court depositor/State Disbursement Unit
Other _____

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.999 FINAL DISPOSITION FORM (03/17)

## When should this form be used?

This form is filed by the **petitioner** or **respondent** for the use of the **clerk of the court** for the purpose of reporting judicial workload data under section 25.075, Florida Statutes. When your case is completed, the petitioner or respondent must complete this form and file it with the clerk.

## What should I do next?

This form must be typed or printed in black ink. After completing and signing this form, you should then **file** it and keep a copy for your records.

A copy of this form must be e-mailed, mailed, or hand delivered to the other party(ies) in your case.

## Instructions for completing this form

**I. Case Style.** Enter the name of the court, the case number assigned at the time of the filing of the petition, counterpetition, or motion, the name of the judge assigned, and the names of the petitioner and respondent.

**II. Means of Final Disposition.** Place an "x" on the appropriate line before the major category and the appropriate subcategory, if applicable. The following are the definitions of the disposition categories.

A. Dismissed Before **Hearing** or **Trial.** The case is settled, voluntarily dismissed, or otherwise disposed of before a hearing or trial is held.

B. Dismissed Under Settlement, Before Hearing or Trial. Before hearing or trial, the case is voluntarily dismissed by the petitioner, respondent, or movant after a settlement.

C. Dismissal Under Mediated Settlement, Before Hearing or Trial. The case is voluntarily dismissed by the petitioner or respondent after a settlement is reached with mediation before a hearing or trial is held.

D. Other, Before Hearing or Trial. The case is dismissed before a hearing or trial in an action that does not fall into one of the other disposition categories on this form.

E. Dismissal Before Hearing or Trial. The case is dismissed by a judge voluntarily after a hearing or trial is held.

F. Dismissed Under a Settlement, After Hearing or Trial. The case is voluntarily dismissed by the petitioner, respondent, or movant after a settlement is reached without mediation after a hearing or trial is held.

G. Dismissal Under a Mediated Settlement, After Hearing or Trial. The case is voluntarily dismissed by the petitioner, respondent, or movant after a settlement is reached with mediation after a hearing or trial.

H. Other, After Hearing or Trial. The case is dismissed after hearing in an action that does not fall into the categories listed on this form.

I. Disposed by **Default.** A respondent chooses not to or fails to contest the petitioner's allegations and a judgment against the respondent is entered by the court.

J. Disposed by Judge. A judgment or disposition is reached by the judge in a case that is not dismissed and in which no trial has been held. Includes stipulations by the parties, conditional judgments, summary judgment after hearing, and any manner in which a judgment is entered, excluding cases disposed of by default as in category I. above.

K. Disposed by Nonjury Trial. The case is disposed as a result of a contested trial in which there is no jury and in which the judge determines both the issues of fact and the law in the case.

L. Disposed by Jury Trial. Any part of the case is disposed as a result of a jury trial (considered the beginning of a jury trial to be when the jurors and alternates are selected and sworn).

M. Other. The case is consolidated, submitted to mediation or arbitration, transferred, or otherwise disposed of by any other means not listed in categories (A) to (L).

## 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.

# FINAL DISPOSITION FORM

**I. Case Style**

***{Name of Court}*** PINELLAS

*{Petitioner}*_____ *{Case number}*_____

*{Judge}* _____

*{Respondent}*_____

**II. Means of Final Disposition**

Place an "x" on the line for the major category and one subcategory, f applicable only.

_____ Dismissed before hearing/trial
- _____ Dismissed pursuant to settlement, before hearing or trial
- _____ Dismissed under a mediated settlement before hearing or trial
- _____ Other, before hearing or trial

_____ Dismissed after hearing or trial
- _____ Dismissed pursuant to a settlement, after hearing or trial
- _____ Dismissed pursuant to a mediated settlement, after hearing or trial
- _____ Other after hearing or trial

_____ Disposed by default

_____ Disposed by judge

_____ Disposed by nonjury trial

_____ Disposed by jury trial

_____ Other *{specify}*_____.

Date: _____

_____
Signature of Attorney or Party
Printed Name:_____
Address:_____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number:_____
E-mail address(es): _____
Fax 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}*_____.