

DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

NO CHILDREN

PUBLICATION

(Packet #21)

USE THIS PACKET IF:

- 1) YOU ARE MARRIED AND ARE SEEKING A DIVORCE, and
- 2) NO CHILDREN HAVE BEEN BORN TO THE WIFE DURING THE MARRIAGE (even if they are not the Husband's children), or ALL OF THE CHILDREN BORN DURING THE MARRIAGE ARE OVER 18 AND ARE NOT DEPENDENT, and
- 3) YOUR SPOUSE LIVES OUT OF STATE OR IN ANOTHER COUNTRY or CANNOT BE FOUND AFTER A DILIGENT SEARCH.

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

If you do not know an attorney, you may call the Lawyer Referral Service at 221-7780. If you do not have the money to hire an attorney, you may apply to Bay Area Legal Services by calling 232-1343. You may also obtain legal information at the Legal Information Center at the George Edgecomb Courthouse (call 864-2280 for hours and information).

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

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

<u>FORMS CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET</u>	<u>FORM #</u>	<u>WHEN TO USE</u>
General Information for Self-Represented Litigants	Appendix C	For your information only
12 Rules of Courtroom Civility	12 Rules	Required to start case
Nonlawyer Disclosure	12.900(a)	Required if someone who is not a lawyer helps you with the forms
Civil Cover Sheet	12.928	Required to start case
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage	12.901(b)(2)	Required to start case
Financial Affidavit - Short Form	12.902(b)	Required if your income is less than \$50,000/year
Financial Affidavit - Long Form	12.902(c)	Required if your income is more than \$50,000/year
Affidavit of Corroborating Witness	12.902(i)	Required if you cannot prove your 6-month Florida residency with a current Driver's License, FL State ID, or Voter ID – cannot be signed before the date you file your case
Notice of Social Security Number	12.902(j)	Required to start case
Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage	12.913(a)	Required to start case
Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry	12.913(b)	Required to start case
Notice of Related Cases	12.900(h)	Required
Nonmilitary Affidavit	12.912(b)	Use only if the other party is NOT in the military and they do not file an answer
Motion for Default	12.922(a)	Use if no answer is filed within 20 days after service
Default	12.922(b)	Use if no answer is filed within 20 days after service
Fee Schedule for Family Law Cases	Fee	A schedule of fees for Family Law related cases
Office of Vital Statistics DH513	DH513	This form must be completed for submittal to the Office of Vital Statistics
Notice of Confidential Information Within Court Filing	2.40(d)(2)	Use to notify the clerk of documents containing confidential information

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

STEP ONE - Complete the forms to start the case and have them notarized

- 1) **FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED IN BLACK INK AND MOST MUST BE NOTARIZED.** The clerk's office will notarize documents and charge a fee (see attached schedule). Please bring a valid ID.
- 2) **Names must be written the same way on all documents (no full names on one document and initials on another).**
- 3) **Complete the following forms and notarize the ones with a notary signature line:**
 - A) Civil cover sheet - (does not need to be notarized)
 - B) 12 Rules of Courtroom Civility - (does not need to be notarized)
 - C) Petition for Dissolution of Marriage, Form 12.901(b)(2)
 - D) Financial Affidavit
 - Short form, Form 12.902(b), if you make \$50,000/year or less
 - or**
 - Regular form, Form 12.902(c), if you make more than \$50,000/year
 - E) Notice of Social Security Number, Form 12.902(j)
 - F) Proof that you have been a Florida resident for at least the last 6 months
 - Affidavit of Corroborating Witness, Form 12.902(i) (cannot be signed before the date you file your case)
 - or**
 - Current Florida Driver's license indicating you have been a Florida resident for at least the last 6 months
 - or**
 - Current Florida ID card indicating you have been a Florida resident for at least the last 6 months
 - or**
 - Current voter's registration card indicating you have been a Florida resident for at least the last 6 months
 - G) Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage, Form 12.913(a) - (needs to be signed by the clerk, not by you)
 - H) Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry, Form 12.913(b)
 - I) Notice of Related Cases, Form 12.900(h)
 - J) DH513 form for the Office of Vital Statistics to be filed with the Clerk.

STEP TWO – Make copies

After you have completed the forms and have signed and notarized them, make at least 1 complete copy of everything you have signed and a copy of your Driver's License. Copies can be obtained for a fee in the Court Business Center, on the 6th floor of the George Edgecomb Courthouse. You may also purchase copies for \$0.15 per page, before filing your case, from the Family Law Intake staff in room 101.

STEP THREE - Filing your case

- 1) Take the *original* set of completed and signed forms to the clerk on the 1st floor of the main courthouse and pay the filing fee. The clerk will assign a case number and division.
- 2) Notice of Action: The clerk will sign the Notice of Action and give it back to you.

STEP FOUR – Notifying your spouse

NOTICE OF ACTION – Take the Notice to the Hillsborough County newspaper in which it will be published and pay the fee for publication. A legal notice will run in the newspaper once a week for four consecutive weeks. The cost varies with the newspaper you choose. If you have filed an Application for Civil Indigency and the clerk has marked that you are indigent, the clerk will post the Notice of Action in the courthouse and you do not have to pay to have it published in a newspaper.

STEP FIVE – Obtain proof of service

NOTICE OF ACTION – The newspaper (or the clerk, if your notice was posted) should provide you with a copy of the ad. Tape the ad to a blank piece of paper. Write your name, your spouse’s name, and your case number at the top of the paper. File this with the clerk.

STEP SIX – Check for answer / default

- 1) Call the Clerk of the Circuit Court (276-8100 ext. 4358) after the date listed on the Notice of Action to see if your spouse filed an answer.
- 2) If no answer was filed and your spouse is not in the military, complete the following forms: Nonmilitary Affidavit - Form 12.912(b), Motion for Default - Form 12.922(a), and a Default - Form 12.922(b). Take the Nonmilitary Affidavit, Motion for Default, Default, and your proof of publication to the clerk.
- 3) If no answer was filed and your spouse is in the military STOP HERE and consult an attorney.
- 4) If an answer was filed, obtain a copy in Room 101 of the courthouse (if your spouse did not send you a copy).
- 5) If your spouse filed a counterpetition, you have 20 days to file a written answer to the counterpetition. You can use Form 12.903(d) – Answer to Counterpetition. File the original with the clerk, send a copy to your spouse, and keep a copy for your records.

STEP SEVEN – Mediation (only if your spouse files an answer denying any allegations or files a counterpetition)

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

STEP EIGHT – Preparing your case / gathering evidence (if you and your spouse do not agree and your case is contested)

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

Some discovery methods are:

1. Interrogatories – written questions you send to your spouse. See Forms 12.930(a), Notice of Service of Standard Family Law Interrogatories, and 12.930(b), Standard Family Law Interrogatories for Original Proceedings, and their instructions.
2. Notice of Production from Non-Party/Subpoena – a request to someone who is not a party in the case (not your spouse) to provide copies of documents to you or to produce documents to be copied by you. See Forms 12.931(a), Notice of Production from Non-Party, and 12.931(b), Subpoena for Production of Documents, and their instructions.
3. Depositions – taking someone’s testimony (a party or non-party) under oath before a court reporter.
4. Request for Production of Documents and Things – a written request that your spouse provide specified documents or things for you to copy or examine. See Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.350.

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

STEP NINE – Scheduling the final hearing

IF YOUR SPOUSE DOES NOT HAVE AN ATTORNEY

1. Contact the Case Management Unit (813-272-5173) to schedule the final hearing.
2. You will be contacted by mail regarding a court date.

IF YOUR SPOUSE IS REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY

1. Contact the judicial assistant (J.A.) for the Judge to whom your case is assigned and ask the J.A. for 3 possible hearing dates and times.
2. Call the opposing attorney and ask which of those dates and times is best for him/her.
3. Call the J.A. and tell her which date and time you have chosen.
4. Complete a Notice of Hearing, Form 12.923 (not included), with the place, date, and time of the hearing.
5. Sign the Notice of Hearing and complete the Certificate of Service part of the notice which states the date you are filing the notice and how you are providing a copy to the opposing attorney.
6. Make 3 copies of the Notice of Hearing.
7. File the original Notice of Hearing with the clerk.
8. Give a copy of the Notice of Hearing to the J.A., send a copy of the notice to your spouse's attorney, and keep a copy of the notice for your records.

COURT REPORTER?

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

STEP TEN – The final hearing

Normally the final hearing is when the divorce will be granted and all issues will be decided. If you do not go to the final hearing your case may be dismissed.

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

WHAT TO BRING

- 1) Your proof of residency
- 2) All evidence you want the court to consider in deciding your case, if your case is contested
- 3) A stamped envelope addressed to your spouse, if he/she will not be attending the hearing

WHAT TO EXPECT

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

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

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

Once both sides have presented their evidence, the judge will make a decision and sign your divorce judgment. The final judgment will contain all the details of your divorce and the court's decision, or will incorporate your Marital Settlement Agreement. Once the judge signs your divorce order, a copy will be given or mailed to you. The original order will go to the clerk's office to be recorded in the public records, and filed in your court file. When the judge signs the final judgment, your divorce will be final.

Family Forms and Packets - available for purchase at the Court Business Center

Form Packets with Instructions:

- 1) Complete packets with all forms and self-help instructions are priced individually and available at the Court Business Center (CBC), in Room 630 (6th Floor) of the George Edgecomb Courthouse, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, Florida.
- 2) Free online at:
 - a) www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Forms/pdfs/family/packetList.pdf
 - b) www.hillsclerk.com/publicweb/forms.aspx#FamilyLaw → then click on "Family Law"

Individual Forms (may not include necessary instructions):

- 1) For \$.10 per page at the Court Business Center (CBC), in Room 630 (6th Floor) of the George Edgecomb Courthouse, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, Florida.
- 2) Free online at: www.flcourts.org → then click on "Family Law Forms"

YOU MAY FILE FORMS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Tampa - George Edgecomb Courthouse – Main Location

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

Brandon – Brandon Regional Service Center

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

Plant City – Plant City Courthouse

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

Ruskin/Sun City – SouthShore Regional Service Center

Clerk of the Circuit Court, 410 30th Street SE, Ruskin, FL 33570

**CIRCUITO JUDICIAL NÚMERO TRECE
DIVISIÓN DE DERECHO DE FAMILIA**

**DISOLUCIÓN DE MATRIMONIO
SIN HIJOS
NOTIFICACIÓN POR PUBLICACIÓN
(Paquete #21)**

USE ESTE PAQUETE SI:

- 1) ESTÁ CASADO/A Y BUSCA UN DIVORCIO, y
- 2) NI UN SOLO HIJO NACIÓ DE LA ESPOSA DURANTE EL MATRIMONIO (incluyendo hijo(s) que no sea/n del Esposo), o TODOS LOS HIJOS NACIDOS DURANTE EL MATRIMONIO SON MAYORES DE 18 Y NO SON DEPENDIENTES, y
- 3) SU CÓNYUGE VIVE FUERA DEL ESTADO O EN OTRO PAÍS o NO HA PODIDO SER ENCONTRADO/A LUEGO DE UNA BÚSQUEDA DILIGENTE.

El matrimonio es una relación legal. Un caso (demanda) debe ser radicado en la corte para su terminación. Si usted decide representarse a usted mismo (*pro se*) en su divorcio, usted debe estar consciente de que deberá seguir las mismas reglas establecidas para las personas representadas por abogados. El juez asignado para su caso no necesariamente tendrá que otorgarle lo que usted solicite en un formulario. Es posible que usted no pueda modificar el resultado del caso si no está de acuerdo con este. Si tiene preguntas o inquietudes sobre su caso usted debe consultar un abogado.

Si no conoce a un abogado, puede comunicarse al Servicio de Remisión de Abogados (*Lawyer Referral Service*) al 221-7780. Si usted no tiene dinero para contratar a un abogado, puede solicitar asistencia a *Bay Area Legal Services* llamando al 232-1343. También puede solicitar información legal en el Centro de Información Legal (*Legal Information Center*) de la Corte George Edgecomb (llame al 864-2280 para horarios e información).

Todas las instrucciones y formularios distribuidos por el Circuito Judicial Número Trece son provistas como un servicio público para las personas que buscan representarse a sí mismas en la

corte sin la asistencia de un abogado. Estos documentos son solamente una guía y ayuda para los casos de los litigantes *pro se* (que se representan a sí mismos). El Circuito Judicial Número Trece no le garantiza que las instrucciones o las formas resultarán en el desenlace deseado para las partes ni que un juez en particular seguirá los procedimientos textualmente o que aceptará cada uno o la totalidad de los formularios tal y como fueron escritos. Cualquier persona que utilice estas instrucciones o formularios, lo hace bajo su propio riesgo y el Circuito Judicial Número Trece no se hará responsable por pérdidas ocasionadas a persona alguna que use estas instrucciones y/o formularios.

En ningún caso la Corte Suprema de la Florida, la Barra de Florida (*Florida Bar*), o cualquiera que contribuya a la creación de estos formularios, comentarios, y apéndices será responsable por el daño directo, indirecto o consecuencial que su uso pueda causar.

<u>FORMULARIOS INCLUIDOS EN ESTE PAQUETE</u>	<u>FORMULARIO #</u>	<u>CUANDO USARLO</u>
Información General para Personas que se representan a sí mismas	Apéndice C	Únicamente para su información
12 Reglas de Civismo en la Corte	12 Reglas	Necesarias para iniciar un proceso
Declaración de que no se es Abogado	12.900(a)	Necesaria si una persona que no es abogado le ayuda con los formularios
Carátula para Demandas Civiles	12.928	Necesaria para iniciar un proceso
Petición de Disolución de Matrimonio (<i>Petition for Dissolution of Marriage</i>)	12.901(b)(2)	Necesaria para iniciar un proceso
Affidávit Financiero - Formulario Corto	12.902(b)	Necesario si sus ingresos son inferiores a \$50,000/año
Affidávit Financiero - Formulario Largo	12.902(c)	Necesario si sus ingresos son superiores a \$50,000/Año

<u>FORMULARIOS INCLUIDOS EN ESTE PAQUETE</u>	<u>FORMULARIO #</u>	<u>CUANDO USARLO</u>
Affidávit del Testigo Corroborador	12.902(i)	Necesario si usted no puede probar los 6 meses requeridos de residencia en la Florida con una licencia de conducir actual, Identificación de la Florida, o Identificación de Votante - No puede ser firmada antes de radicar su caso.
Notificación del Número de Seguro Social	12.902(j)	Necesaria para iniciar un proceso
Notificación de Acción para la Disolución del Matrimonio <i>(Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage)</i>	12.913(a)	Necesaria para iniciar un proceso
Affidávit de Búsqueda e Investigación Diligente <i>(Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry)</i>	12.913(b)	Necesario para iniciar un proceso
Notificación de Caso Relacionado	12.900(h)	Necesaria
Affidávit de que no se es Militar <i>(Nonmilitary Affidavit)</i>	12.912(b)	Usar únicamente si la contraparte no está en el servicio militar y NO radica una respuesta
Moción de Incomparecencia <i>(Motion for Default)</i>	12.922(a)	Usar si no se ha radicado una respuesta dentro de los 20 días siguientes a la notificación
Incomparecencia <i>(Default)</i>	12.922(b)	Usar si no se ha radicado una respuesta dentro de los 20 días siguientes a la notificación
Lista de Tarifas para Casos de Derecho de Familia	Tarifas	Lista de Tarifas para Casos relacionados con derecho de familia.
Oficina de Estadísticas Vitales <i>(Office of Vital Statistics)</i> DH513	DH513	Este formulario debe ser completado para ser enviado al <i>Office of Vital Statistics</i>

<u>FORMULARIOS INCLUIDOS EN ESTE PAQUETE</u>	<u>FORMULARIO #</u>	<u>CUANDO USARLO</u>
Notificación de Información Confidencial contenida en documentos radicados.	2.40(d)(2)	Para alertar al escribano de la corte (<i>Clerk</i>) de la existencia de información confidencial.

INSTRUCCIONES PASO A PASO

PRIMER PASO - Completar los formularios para iniciar el proceso y adelantar trámite notarial

- 1) LOS FORMULARIOS DEBEN SER COMPLETADOS Y FIRMADOS EN TINTA NEGRA Y LA MAYORÍA DEBEN SURTIR TRÁMITE NOTARIAL.** La oficina del escribano (*clerk's office*) adelantará el trámite notarial por una tarifa (ver la lista de cargos anexa). Por favor lleve una identificación válida.
- 2) Los nombres deben ser escritos de la misma manera en todos los documentos (no nombres completos en una forma y las iniciales en otra).**
- 3) Complete las siguiente formas y adelante el trámite notarial en aquellas que provean una línea para la firma del notario:**
 - A) Carátula de Procesos Civiles - (no necesita el trámite notarial)
 - B) 12 Reglas de Civismo en la Corte (no es necesario el trámite notarial)
 - C) Petición para la Disolución del Matrimonio (*Petition for Dissolution of Marriage*), Formulario 12.910(b)(2)
 - D) Affidávit Financiero:
 - Formulario Corto, Formulario 12.902(b), si sus ingresos son iguales o inferiores a \$50,000/año
 - ó**
 - Formulario Normal, Formulario 12.902(c), si sus ingresos son superiores a \$50,000/año
 - E) Notificación del Número de Seguro Social, Formulario 12.902(j)
 - F) Prueba de que usted ha sido residente de la Florida por al menos los últimos 6 meses:
 - Affidávit del Testigo Corroborador, Formulario 12.902(i) (No puede ser firmada antes de radicar su caso)
 - ó**
 - Licencia de Conducir actual indicando que usted ha sido residente de la Florida durante los últimos 6 meses.
 - ó**

- Identificación de la Florida actual indicando que usted ha sido residente de la Florida durante los últimos 6 meses.

ó

- Registro de Votante actual indicando que usted ha sido residente de la Florida durante los últimos 6 meses

- G) Notificación de Acción para la Disolución del Matrimonio, Formulario 12.913(a) - (debe ser firmado por el escribano, no por usted.)
- H) Affidavit de Búsqueda e Investigación Diligente (*Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry*), Formulario 12.913(b)
- I) Notificación de Caso Relacionado, Formulario 12.900(h)
- J) Formulario DH513 para la Oficina de Estadísticas Vitales (*Office of Vital Statistics*) para ser radicado con el escribano (*clerk*)
- K) Notificación de Información Confidencial, Formulario 2.40(d)(2)

SEGUNDO PASO - Hacer las Copias

Después de completar las formas, firmarlas y completar el trámite notarial, haga por lo menos una copia completa de todo lo que haya firmado y una de su Licencia de Conducir. Las copias pueden ser obtenidas por una tarifa en el Centro de Negocios de la Corte (*Court Business Center*), en el sexto piso del la Corte George Edgecomb. También puede pagar \$0.15 por página, antes de radicar su caso, en la oficina 101 (*Family Law Intake*).

TERCER PASO - Radicar su Caso.

- 1) Lleve el paquete *original* completo y firmado a la oficina del escribano (*clerk*) en el 1er piso de la corte principal y pague los cargos. El escribano (*clerk*) le asignará un número y división.
- 2) Notificación de Acción: el escribano le firmará la notificación de acción y se la devolverá.

CUARTO PASO - Notificar a SU CÓNYUGE

NOTIFICACIÓN DE ACCIÓN: Lleve la Notificación al periódico del condado de Hillsborough en el que la va a publicar y pague la tarifa. Una notificación legal será publicada en el periódico una vez por semana por cuatro semanas consecutivas. El costo varia dependiendo del periódico que usted escoja. Si usted ha radicado una *Application for Civil Indigency*, y el escribano ha determinado que usted es indigente, el escribano publicará una Notificación de Acción en la corte y usted no tendrá que pagar para hacerla publicar.

QUINTO PASO - Obtener Prueba de la Notificación

NOTIFICACIÓN DE ACCIÓN- el periódico debe proveerle una copia del anuncio (Prueba de Publicación). Pegue el aviso a una hoja de papel en blanco. Escriba su nombre, el nombre del padre/madre y su número de caso en la parte superior de la hoja. Radique esta hoja con el escribano (*clerk*).

SEXTO PASO - REVISAR LA RESPUESTA/INCOMPARECENCIA

- 1) Llame a la oficina del escribano de la Corte del Circuito (*Clerk of the Circuit Court*) al (276-8100 ext. 4358) 21 días después de que su cónyuge haya sido notificado (a) para verificar si él o ella radicó una respuesta.
- 2) Si una respuesta no fue radicada y su cónyuge no está en el servicio militar, complete los siguientes formularios: Affidávit de que no se es Militar (*Nonmilitary Affidavit*) - Formulario 12.912(b), Moción de Incomparecencia - Formulario 12.922(a), e Incomparecencia (*Default*) - Formulario 12.922(b). Lleve al escribano (*clerk*), el Affidávit de que no se es militar, la Moción de Incomparecencia y la Incomparecencia (*Default*) y la prueba de notificación.
- 3) Si una respuesta no fue radicada y su cónyuge está en el servicio militar DETÉNGASE y consulte un abogado.
- 4) Si una respuesta fue radicada, obtenga una copia en la Oficina 101 de la corte (si la otra parte no le envió una copia).
- 5) Si su cónyuge radicó una contrademanda (*counterpetition*), usted tiene 20 días para radicar una respuesta escrita a la contrademanda. Puede utilizar el Formulario 12.903(d) - Respuesta a la Contrademanda (*Answer to Counterpetition*). Radique el original con el escribano (*clerk*), envíe una copia a la contraparte, y guarde una copia para su archivo personal.

SÉPTIMO PASO - Mediación (Únicamente si su cónyuge radicó una respuesta negando alguna de las pretensiones o si radica una contrademanda)

Si su cónyuge radicó una respuesta y está disputando alguna de las pretensiones de su petición, usted y su cónyuge deben intentar resolver los asuntos mediante mediación. Llame a la Oficina de *Mediation and Diversión* al 813-272-5642 y solicíteles que fijen una fecha para la mediación. Si su cónyuge no se pone en contacto con el departamento de mediación o los asuntos no pueden ser resueltos en mediación, una audiencia para su petición será fijada en el registro de asuntos controvertidos del juez.

OCTAVO PASO - Preparar su caso / reunir la evidencia (si usted y su cónyuge no llegan a un acuerdo y su caso es cuestionado).

Si su cónyuge está cuestionando asuntos en su divorcio, usted deberá estar preparado para presentar evidencia que apoye su posición ante el juez. El proceso de reunir la evidencia se llama descubrimiento -*Discovery*- . El Descubrimiento está gobernado por el *Florida Family Rules of Procedure* 12.280 - 12.410 y las *Florida Rules of Civil Procedure* 1.280 - 1.410. Algunos métodos de descubrimiento son:

1. Interrogatorios - Preguntas escritas que se envían a la contraparte. Ver formularios 12.930(a), *Notice of Service of Standard Family Law Interrogatories*, y 12.930(b), *Standards Family Law Interrogatories for Original Proceedings*, y sus instrucciones.
2. Notificación de Producción a un tercero / Comparendo (*Notice of Production from Non-Party/Subpoena*): es la solicitud a alguien que no es parte del proceso (no la contraparte) para que le entregue copias de los documentos o para que le preste los documentos para que usted los copie. Vea formularios 12.931 (a), *Notice of Production from Non-Party*, y 12.931 (b), *Subpoena for Production of Documents*, y sus instrucciones.
3. Testimonio: tomar el testimonio de alguien (parte o no parte) bajo juramento ante un reportero de la corte.

4. Solicitud para la Producción de Documentos y Cosas (*Request for Production of Documents and Things*). Es una solicitud escrita para que la contraparte le entregue documentos específicos o cosas para copiar o examinar. Ver *Florida Rule of Civil Procedure*, 1.350.

No toda la evidencia puede ser considerada por el juez. La evidencia debe estar acorde con las Reglas de Evidencia en el Capítulo 90 de los Estatutos de la Florida. El deber de establecer los hechos que quiere presentar en la corte, o la carga de la prueba, recae en USTED. Usted es responsable de presentarle al juez evidencia admisible para apoyar las solicitudes de su demanda y sus afirmaciones en corte.

NOVENO PASO: Programar la audiencia final

SI SU CÓNYUGE NO TIENE ABOGADO:

1. Contacte al *Case Management Unit* (813-272-5173) para fijar una audiencia final.
2. Usted será contactado (a) por correo sobre la fecha en la corte.

SI SU CÓNYUGE ESTÁ REPRESENTADO(A) POR UN ABOGADO:

1. Llame al asistente judicial (*J.A*) del magistrado general asignado a su caso y solicite 3 posibles fechas para la audiencia.
2. Llame al abogado de la contraparte y pregúntele cual de las 3 fechas y hora le conviene mas a él o ella.
3. Llame al asistente administrativo y e informe qué fecha y hora escogió.
4. Complete una Notificación de Audiencia (*Notice of Hearing*), Formulario 12.923, con el lugar, fecha, y hora de la audiencia (no incluida).
5. Firme la Notificación de Audiencia y complete el Certificado de Notificación en el que se establece la fecha en que está radicando la notificación y la manera como le va a hacer llegar una copia al abogado de la contraparte.
6. Haga 3 copias de la Notificación de Audiencia.
7. Radique el original de la Notificación de Audiencia con el escribano (*clerk*).
8. Entregue una copia de la Notificación de Audiencia al asistente administrativo, envíe una copia de la notificación al abogado de la contraparte, y guarde una copia para su archivo personal.

REPORTERO DE LA CORTE?

Si desea contar con un reportero de la corte durante la audiencia, usted debe hacer los arreglos pertinentes con anterioridad y pagar a la corte los honorarios del reportero. Si no hay registro de la audiencia y el juez falla en contra suya es posible que usted no pueda apelar la decisión.

DÉCIMO PASO - La audiencia final

Normalmente en la audiencia final es cuando se otorgará el divorcio y se decidirán todos los asuntos. Si usted no acude a la audiencia final su caso puede ser desestimado.

CÓMO VESTIRSE - Vístase apropiadamente. No use pantalones cortos (*shorts*), camisetas sin mangas (*tank tops*) o sandalias. No mastique chicle.

QUÉ TRAER

- 1) Prueba de residencia
- 2) Toda la evidencia que usted quiere que la corte tenga en cuenta, para la decisión de su caso, si su caso es cuestionado.
- 3) Un sobre estampillado dirigido a su cónyuge, si el/ella no va a asistir a la audiencia

QUÉ ESPERAR

La audiencia tendrá lugar en una sala de audiencia o sala de la corte. Usted no estará frente a un jurado, solamente frente a un magistrado general o juez. No interrumpa al magistrado o juez cuando el o ella hable. Cuando se dirija al magistrado o al juez, llámelo/a “Honorable” (“Your Honor”) o “Juez” (“Judge”).

Cada corte tiene por lo menos un alguacil que es un ayudante de sheriff y se encuentra allí para mantener el orden. Cuando usted llegue para la audiencia deje que el alguacil sepa que usted está presente y listo. El o ella anunciará su caso cuando llegue el momento de su audiencia y le informará donde sentarse y en donde acomodar sus pertenencias cuando entre a la sala de audiencias. Por lo general un alguacil permanecerá dentro de la sala durante su audiencia. Si se llaman testigos, el alguacil saldrá a buscarlos para traerlos a la sala de audiencia.

Durante su audiencia, esté preparado para discutir cualquiera de los asuntos de que trate la petición (y contrademanda si se radicó alguna) y esté listo para presentar pruebas de cualquiera de los hechos por medio de evidencias. Evidencias son pruebas presentadas durante una audiencia bajo la forma de testigos (personas), documentos (papeles), u objetos (cosas). Sin embargo, el juez no puede tener en cuenta toda la evidencia. Las pruebas deben estar conforme a las Reglas de Evidencia del Capítulo 90 de las Leyes de Florida para ser admisibles en corte. Recuerde que USTED tiene el deber de establecer los hechos que quiere presentar ante la corte. Usted debe presentarle al juez evidencia admisible como soporte de las reclamaciones en su petición y de sus afirmaciones en la corte. Contar su historia, simplemente, puede no ser suficiente para ganar su caso.

Una vez que ambas partes han presentado sus pruebas, el juez tomará una decisión y firmará su sentencia de divorcio. La decisión final contendrá todos los detalles de su divorcio y la decisión de la corte o incorporará su Acuerdo Marital. Una vez que el juez firme su orden de divorcio, le entregarán una copia o se la enviarán por correo. La orden original irá a la oficina del escribano (*clerk's office*) para formar parte de los registros públicos y ser archivado en su expediente. Cuando el juez firme la sentencia final su divorcio será definitivo.

Formularios y Paquetes de Familia - disponibles para compra en el Court Business Center
Paquetes de Formularios con Instrucciones:

- 1) Paquetes completos con todos los formularios e instrucciones de auto-ayuda se encuentran disponibles para compra, a precios individuales, en el Court Business Center (CBC), Oficina 630 (Piso 6°) de la corte George Edgecomb, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, Florida.
- 2) Gratis en línea en:
 - a) www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Forms/pdfs/family/packetList.pdf
 - b) www.hillsclerk.com/publicweb/forms.aspx#FamilyLaw → y luego clic en “Family Law”

Formularios Individuales (no siempre incluyen las instrucciones necesarias):

- 1) A 10 centavos por página en el Court Business Center (CBC), Oficina 630 (Piso 6°) de la corte George Edgecomb, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, Florida.
- 2) Gratis en línea en: www.flcourts.org → y luego clic en “Family Law Forms”

USTED PUEDE COMPRAR Y RADICAR LOS FORMULARIOS EN LAS SIGUIENTES LOCALIDADES:

Tampa - George Edgecomb Courthouse – Main Location

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

Brandon – Brandon Regional Service Center

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

Plant City – Plant City Courthouse

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

Ruskin/Sun City – SouthShore Regional Service Center

Clerk of the Circuit Court, 410 30th Street SE, Ruskin, FL 33570

FAMILY LAW FORMS, COMMENTARY, AND INSTRUCTIONS GENERAL INFORMATION FOR SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS (12/10)

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.

Once a case has been filed, a copy must be given to (served on) the respondent. 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.

Service. 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. 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. After initial service of the original or supplemental petition and summons by a deputy sheriff or private process server, service of most motions and other documents or papers filed in the case generally may be made by regular U.S. mail or hand delivery. However, service by

certified mail is required at other times so you have proof that the other party actually received the papers. The instructions with each form will advise you of the type of **service** required for that form. **If the other party is represented by an attorney, you should serve the attorney and send a copy to the other party, except for original or supplemental petitions, which must be personally served on the respondent.**

Other than the initial original or supplemental petitions, anytime 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. Service of additional documents is usually completed by U.S. mail. For more information, see the instructions for **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914.

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 the other party properly served. **If proper service is not obtained, the court cannot hear your case.**

Note: 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. For more information on constructive service, see **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a), and **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b). 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 service is very complex and you may wish to consult an attorney regarding these issues.

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) or **Safety-Focused Parenting Plan**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.995(b). 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.

Below are explanations of symbols or parts of different family law forms...

{specify}, {date}, {name(s)}, {street}, {city}, {state}, {phone}

Throughout these forms, you will find hints such as those above. These tell you what to put in the blank(s).

[one only] [all that apply]

These show how many choices you should check. Sometimes you may check only one, while other times you may check several choices. () This also shows an area where you must make a choice. Check the () in front of the choice that applies to you or your case.

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.

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)
	Signature of Petitioner
	Printed Name: _____
	(3)
	Address: _____
	(4)
	City, State, Zip: _____
	(5)
	Telephone Number: _____
	(6)
	Fax Number: _____
	(7)

Some forms require that your signature be witnessed. 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 & 3–7) 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.**

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 _____

DO NOT SIGN OR FILL IN THIS PART OF ANY FORM. This section of the form is to be completed by the notary public who is witnessing your signature.

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW: [fill in all blanks]

I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} _____
a nonlawyer, located at {street} _____ (2) _____, {city} _____
{state} _____ (4) _____, {phone} _____ (5) _____, helped {name} _____ (6) _____,
who is the petitioner, fill out this form.

This section 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.

- Line 1** The **nonlawyer** who helps you should type or print his or her name on line 1.
Lines 2–5 The nonlawyer’s address and telephone number should be typed or printed on lines 2–5.
Line 6 Your name should be typed or printed on line 6.

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.

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.

Central Governmental 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.

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. 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 Form 12.913(a).

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, they have a mental or physical disability that prevents them from supporting themselves, or they are in high school while between the ages of 18 and 19 and are performing in good faith with 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.

Electronic Communication – Contact, other than face-to-face contact, facilitated by tools such as telephones, electronic mail or e-mail, webcams, video-conferencing equipment and software or other wired or wireless technologies, or other means of communication to supplement 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.

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, 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 be paid at a specified, periodic rate until modified by a court order, the death of either party, or the remarriage of the Obligee, whichever occurs first.

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 files a petition that begins a court case.

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

Pro Se 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.

Respondent - the person who is served with a petition requesting some legal action against him or her.

Scientific Paternity Testing - a medical test to determine who is the father of a child.

Service - the delivery of legal documents to a party. This must be accomplished as directed by Florida Family Law Rules 12.070 and 12.080.

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.

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.

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 approved by the court, or established by the court if the parents cannot agree, or if their agreed-upon schedule is not approved by the court.

Trial - the final hearing in a contested case.

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

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

Case No.: _____

Division _____

_____ ,

Petitioner,

and

_____ ,

Respondent.

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

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

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

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

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

I have read and acknowledge my responsibilities as a litigant.

Signature of Petitioner

Date

Signature of Respondent

Date

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

Signature of Attorney

Date

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.900(a),
DISCLOSURE FROM NONLAWYER

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 and the nonlawyer must keep a copy in the person's file. The nonlawyer must keep copies for at least six 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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH 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 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. {Name} _____, may not help me fill in the form and may not complete the form for me. 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.

[**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: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.928, Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases (01/10)

When should this form be used?

The Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases and the information contained in it neither 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 simultaneously filing more than one type of proceeding against the same opposing party, such as a modification and an enforcement proceeding, 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) 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.
- (H) 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.
- (I) 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.
- (J) 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.
- (K) 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.
- (L) 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.
- (M) Name Change - all matters relating to name change, pursuant to section 68.07, Florida Statutes.
- (N) Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity – all matters relating to paternity pursuant to Chapter 742, Florida Statutes.
- (O) Juvenile Delinquency - all matters relating to juvenile delinquency pursuant to Chapter 985, Florida Statutes.
- (P) Petition for Dependency - all matters relating to petitions for dependency.
- (Q) Shelter Petition – all matters relating to shelter petitions pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (R) Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to termination of parental rights pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (S) Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to adoption pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (T) CINS/FINS – all matters relating to children in need of services (and families in need of services) pursuant to Chapter 984, Florida Statutes.

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.

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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH 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 simultaneously filing more than one type of proceeding against the same opposing party, such as a modification and an enforcement proceeding, 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) Support IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (H) Support Non-IV-D (**not** Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (I) UIFSA IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (J) UIFSA Non-IV-D (**not** Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
- (K) Other Family Court
- (L) Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 63
- (M) Name Change
- (N) Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity
- (O) Juvenile Delinquency
- (P) Petition for Dependency

- (Q) ___ Shelter Petition
- (R) ___ Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39
- (S) ___ Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39
- (T) ___ CINS/FINS

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)

_____ Date _____
 (Type or print name)

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS
BELOW: [fill in all blanks]

I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} _____, a nonlawyer,
 whose address is {street} _____, {city} _____,
 {state} _____, {phone} _____, helped {name} _____,
 who is the [choose one only] ___ petitioner or ___ respondent, fill out this form.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM
12.901(b)(2), PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE WITH PROPERTY BUT NO
DEPENDENT OR MINOR CHILD(REN)(05/12)**

When should this form be used?

This form may be used when a husband or wife is filing for a **dissolution of marriage**, and the husband and wife have **marital assets** and/or **marital liabilities** but they do not have any dependent children nor is the wife pregnant. You and/or your **spouse** must have lived in Florida for at least 6 months before filing for a dissolution in Florida. If you and your spouse agree on all issues and both can attend the hearing, you may want to file a **Petition for Simplified Dissolution of Marriage**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.901(a). However, you cannot file for a simplified dissolution of marriage if **any** of the following are true:

- You disagree about property, debts, or other matters and wish to have a judge settle them for you.
- Either you or your spouse is seeking support (**alimony**).
- You would like to ask questions and get documents concerning your spouse's income, expenses, assets, debts, or other matters before having a trial or settlement.
- You would like to reserve your rights to have any matters reconsidered or appeal the judge's decision.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where you live and keep a copy for your records. Because you are filing the **petition** in this proceeding, you may also be referred to as the **petitioner** and your spouse as the **respondent**.

What should I do next?

For your case to proceed, you must properly notify your spouse of the **petition**. If you know where he or she lives, you should use **personal service**. If you absolutely do not know where he or she lives, you may use **constructive service**. You may also be able to use constructive service if your spouse resides in another state or country. However, if constructive service is used, other than granting a divorce, the court may only grant limited relief which cannot include spousal support (alimony). 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), and **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b). If your spouse 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) and **Affidavit of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(b). In sum, the law regarding constructive service and service on an individual in the military service is very complex and you may wish to consult an attorney regarding these issues.

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

DEFAULT... If after 20 days, your spouse has not filed an answer, you may file a **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a), with the clerk of court. Then, if you have filed all of the required papers, you may call the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to set a final hearing. You must notify your spouse of the hearing by using a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, or other appropriate notice of hearing form.

UNCONTESTED... If your spouse files an answer that agrees with everything in your petition or an answer and waiver, **and** you have complied with mandatory disclosure and filed all of the required papers, you may call the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to set a final hearing. You must notify your spouse of the hearing by using a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, or other appropriate notice of hearing form.

CONTESTED... If your spouse files an answer or an answer and counterpetition, which disagrees with or denies anything in your petition, **and** you are unable to settle the disputed issues, you should file a **Notice for Trial**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.924, after you have complied with mandatory disclosure and filed all of the required papers. Some circuits may require the completion of mediation before a final hearing may be set. You should contact the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant for instructions on how to set your case for trial (final hearing). If your spouse files an answer and counterpetition, you should answer the counterpetition within 20 days using an **Answer to Counterpetition**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.903(d).

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

If you want to keep your address confidential because you are the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence, do not enter the address, telephone, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file a **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h).

With this form, you must also file the following:

- **Affidavit of Corroborating Witness**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(i) **OR** photocopy of current Florida driver’s license, Florida identification card, or voter’s registration card (issue date of copied document must be at least six months before date case is actually filed with the clerk of the circuit court).
- **Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with No Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(2), if you and your spouse have reached an agreement on any or all of the issues.

- **Notice of Social Security Number**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j).
- **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c). (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on the respondent, if not filed at the time of the petition.)
- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on the respondent, if not filed at the time of the petition, unless you and your spouse have agreed not to exchange these documents.)

Alimony... Alimony may be awarded to a spouse if the judge finds that he or she has an actual need for it and also finds that the other spouse has the ability to pay. **If you want alimony, you must request it in writing in the original petition or counterpetition. If you do not request alimony in writing before the final hearing, it is waived (you may not request it later).** You may request permanent alimony, bridge-the-gap alimony, durational alimony, lump sum alimony, or rehabilitative alimony.

Marital/Nonmarital Assets and Liabilities... Florida law requires an **equitable distribution** of marital assets and marital liabilities. “Equitable” does not necessarily mean “equal.” Many factors, including alimony awards, may lead the court to make an unequal (but still equitable) distribution of assets and liabilities. Nonmarital assets and nonmarital liabilities are those assets and liabilities which the parties agree or the court determines belong to, or are the responsibility of, only one of the parties. If the parties agree or the court finds an asset or liability to be nonmarital, the judge will not consider it when distributing marital assets and liabilities.

Temporary Relief... If you need temporary relief regarding temporary use of assets, temporary responsibility for liabilities, or temporary alimony, you may file a **Motion for Temporary Support with No Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.947(c). For more information, see the instructions for that form.

Marital Settlement Agreement... If you and your spouse are able to reach an agreement on any or all of the issues, you should file a **Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with Property But No Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(2). Both husband and wife must sign this agreement before a notary public or deputy clerk. Any issues on which you are unable to agree will be considered contested and settled by the judge at the final hearing.

Final Judgment Form... These family law forms contain a **Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage with Property but No Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.990(c)(2), which the judge may use if your case is contested. If you and your spouse reach an agreement on all of the issues, the judge may use a **Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage with Property but No Dependent or Minor Child(ren) (Uncontested)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.990(b)(2). You should check with the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to see if you need to bring a final judgment with you to the hearing. If so, you should type or print the heading, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the parties’ names, and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete at your hearing or trial.

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 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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: _____

Division: _____

In re: the Marriage of:

_____,
Husband,

and

_____,
Wife.

**PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE WITH PROPERTY
BUT NO DEPENDENT OR MINOR CHILD(REN)**

I, {full legal name} _____, the
[Choose **one** only] () Husband () Wife, being sworn, certify that the following statements are true:

1. JURISDICTION/RESIDENCE

() Husband () Wife () Both has (have) lived in Florida for at least 6 months before the filing of this Petition for Dissolution of Marriage.

2. The husband [Choose **one** only] () is () is not a member of the military service.

The wife [Choose **one** only] () is () is not a member of the military service.

3. MARRIAGE HISTORY

Date of marriage: {month, day, year} _____

Date of separation: {month, day, year} _____ [___ Indicate if approximate]

4. THERE ARE NO MINOR (under 18) OR DEPENDENT CHILD(REN) COMMON TO BOTH PARTIES AND THE WIFE IS NOT PREGNANT.

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

6. THIS PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE SHOULD BE GRANTED BECAUSE:

[Choose **one** only]

a. ___ The marriage is irretrievably broken.

b. ___ One of the parties has been adjudged mentally incapacitated for a period of 3 years before the filing of this petition. A copy of the Judgment of Incapacity is attached.

SECTION I. MARITAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

[Choose **one** only]

- 1. There are no marital assets or liabilities.
- 2. There are marital assets or liabilities. All marital and nonmarital assets and liabilities are (or will be) listed in the financial affidavits, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), to be filed in this case.

[Choose **all** that apply]

- a. All marital assets and debts have been divided by a written agreement between the parties, which is attached to be incorporated into the final judgment of dissolution of marriage. (The parties may use Marital Settlement Agreement for Simplified Dissolution of Marriage, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(f)(3) or Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with No Dependent or Minor Child(ren), Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(2)).
- b. The Court should determine how the assets and liabilities of this marriage are to be distributed, under section 61.075, Florida Statutes.
- c. [Choose **one** only] Husband Wife should be awarded an interest in the other spouse's property because: _____

 _____.

SECTION II. SPOUSAL SUPPORT (ALIMONY)

- 1. Husband Wife forever gives up his/her right to spousal support (alimony) from the other spouse.

OR

- 2. Husband Wife requests that the Court order the other spouse to pay the following spousal support (alimony) and claims that he or she has an actual need for the support that he or she is requesting **and that the other spouse has the ability to pay that support**. Spousal support (alimony) is requested in the amount of \$ _____ every () week () other week () month, beginning {date} _____ and continuing until {date or event} _____.

Explain why the Court should order Husband Wife to pay and any specific request(s) for type of alimony (temporary, permanent, bridge-the-gap, durational, rehabilitative, and/or lump sum):

- 3. Other provisions relating to alimony including any tax treatment and consequences: _____

4. () ___ Husband ___ Wife requests life insurance on the other spouse's life, provided by that spouse, to secure such support.

SECTION III. OTHER

1. ___ Wife requests to be known by her former name, which was *{full legal name}*.
_____.
2. Other relief *{specify}*: _____.

_____.

SECTION IV. REQUEST (This section summarizes what you are asking the Court to include in the final judgment of dissolution of marriage.)

___ Husband ___ Wife requests that the Court enter an order dissolving the marriage **and**:

[Choose **all** that apply]

1. ___ distributing marital assets and liabilities as requested in Section I of this petition;
2. ___ awarding spousal support (alimony) as requested in Section II of this petition;
3. ___ restoring Wife's former name as requested in Section III of this petition;
4. ___ awarding other relief as requested in Section III of this petition; and any other terms the Court deems necessary.

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

Dated: _____

Signature of () HUSBAND () WIFE

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

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 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}* () Husband () Wife

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 12.902(b), FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (SHORT FORM) (01/15)

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when you are involved in a family law case which requires a financial affidavit and your individual gross income is **UNDER \$50,000 per year** unless:

- (1) You are filing a simplified dissolution of marriage under rule 12.105 and both parties have waived the filing of a financial affidavit;
- (2) You have no minor children, no support issues, and have filed a written settlement agreement disposing of all financial issues; or
- (3) The court lacks jurisdiction to determine any financial issues.

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

What should I do next?

A copy of this form must be served on the other party in your case within 45 days of being served with the petition, if it is not served on him or her with your initial papers. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms. The words that are in **“bold underline”** in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285.

Special notes...

If you want to keep your address confidential because you are the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence, do not enter the address, telephone, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h).

The affidavit must be completed using **monthly** income and expense amounts. If you are paid or your bills are due on a schedule which is not monthly, you must convert those amounts. Hints are provided below for making these conversions.

Instructions to Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b), Family Law Financial Affidavit (Short Form) (01/15)

Hourly - If you are paid by the hour, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Hourly amount x Hours worked per week = Weekly amount

Weekly amount x 52 Weeks per year = Yearly amount

Yearly amount ÷ 12 Months per year = **Monthly Amount**

Daily - If you are paid by the day, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Daily amount x Days worked per week = Weekly amount

Weekly amount x 52 Weeks per year = Yearly amount

Yearly amount ÷ 12 Months per year = **Monthly Amount**

Weekly - If you are paid by the week, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Weekly amount x 52 Weeks per year = Yearly amount

Yearly amount ÷ 12 Months per year = **Monthly Amount**

Bi-weekly - If you are paid every two weeks, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Bi-weekly amount x 26 = Yearly amount

Yearly amount ÷ 12 Months per year = **Monthly Amount**

Semi-monthly - If you are paid twice per month, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Semi-monthly amount x 2 = **Monthly Amount**

Expenses may be converted in the same manner.

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

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

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (SHORT FORM)

(Under \$50,000 Individual Gross Annual Income)

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

My Occupation: _____ Employed by: _____

Business Address: _____

Pay rate: \$ _____ () every week () every other week () twice a month () monthly
() other: _____

___ Check here if unemployed and explain on a separate sheet your efforts to find employment.

SECTION I. PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME:

All amounts must be MONTHLY. See the instructions with this form to figure out money amounts for anything that is NOT paid monthly. Attach more paper, if needed. Items included under "other" should be listed separately with separate dollar amounts.

1. \$ _____ Monthly gross salary or wages
2. _____ Monthly bonuses, commissions, allowances, overtime, tips, and similar payments
3. _____ Monthly business income from sources such as self-employment, partnerships, close corporations, and/or independent contracts (gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses required to produce income) (Attach sheet itemizing such income and expenses.)
4. _____ Monthly disability benefits/SSI
5. _____ Monthly Workers' Compensation
6. _____ Monthly Unemployment Compensation
7. _____ Monthly pension, retirement, or annuity payments
8. _____ Monthly Social Security benefits
9. _____ Monthly alimony actually received (Add 9a and 9b)
 - 9a. From this case: \$ _____
 - 9b. From other case(s): _____
10. _____ Monthly interest and dividends
11. _____ Monthly rental income (gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses)

required to produce income) (Attach sheet itemizing such income and expense items.)

- 12. _____ Monthly income from royalties, trusts, or estates
- 13. _____ Monthly reimbursed expenses and in-kind payments to the extent that they reduce personal living expenses
- 14. _____ Monthly gains derived from dealing in property (not including nonrecurring gains)
- 15. _____ Any other income of a recurring nature (list source) _____
- 16. _____
- 17. \$ _____ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME** (Add lines 1–16)

PRESENT MONTHLY DEDUCTIONS:

- 18. \$ _____ Monthly federal, state, and local income tax (corrected for filing status and allowable dependents and income tax liabilities)
 - a. Filing Status _____
 - b. Number of dependents claimed _____
- 19. _____ Monthly FICA or self-employment taxes
- 20. _____ Monthly Medicare payments
- 21. _____ Monthly mandatory union dues
- 22. _____ Monthly mandatory retirement payments
- 23. _____ Monthly health insurance payments (including dental insurance), excluding portion paid for any minor children of this relationship
- 24. _____ Monthly court-ordered child support actually paid for children from another relationship
- 25. _____ Monthly court-ordered alimony actually paid (Add 25a and 25b)
 - 25a. from this case: \$ _____
 - 25b. from other case(s):\$ _____
- 26. \$ _____ **TOTAL DEDUCTIONS ALLOWABLE UNDER SECTION 61.30, FLORIDA STATUTES**
(Add lines 18 through 25).
- 27. \$ _____ **PRESENT NET MONTHLY INCOME** (Subtract line 26 from line 17)

SECTION II. AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENSES

Proposed/Estimated Expenses. If this is a dissolution of marriage case **and** your expenses as listed below do not reflect what you actually pay currently, you should write "estimate" next to each amount that is estimated.

A. HOUSEHOLD:

Mortgage or rent \$ _____
 Property taxes \$ _____
 Utilities \$ _____
 Telephone \$ _____
 Food \$ _____
 Meals outside home \$ _____
 Maintenance/Repairs \$ _____
 Other: _____ \$ _____

B. AUTOMOBILE

Gasoline \$ _____
 Repairs \$ _____
 Insurance \$ _____

C. CHILD(REN)'S EXPENSES

Day care \$ _____
 Lunch money \$ _____
 Clothing \$ _____
 Grooming \$ _____
 Gifts for holidays \$ _____
 Medical/Dental (uninsured) \$ _____
 Other: _____ \$ _____

D. INSURANCE

Medical/Dental (if not listed on lines 23 or 45) \$ _____
 Child(ren)'s medical/dental \$ _____
 Life \$ _____
 Other: _____ \$ _____

E. OTHER EXPENSES NOT LISTED ABOVE

Clothing \$ _____
 Medical/Dental (uninsured) \$ _____
 Grooming \$ _____
 Entertainment \$ _____
 Gifts \$ _____
 Religious organizations \$ _____
 Miscellaneous \$ _____
 Other: _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____

F. PAYMENTS TO CREDITORS

CREDITOR:	MONTHLY PAYMENT
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

28. \$ _____ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES** (add **ALL** monthly amounts in A through F above)

SUMMARY

29. \$ _____ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY NET INCOME** (from line 27 of SECTION I. INCOME)

30. \$ _____ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES** (from line 28 above)

31. \$ _____ **SURPLUS** (If line 29 is more than line 30, subtract line 30 from line 29. This is the amount of your surplus. Enter that amount here.)

32. (\$ _____) **(DEFICIT)** (If line 30 is more than line 29, subtract line 29 from line 30. This is the amount of your deficit. Enter that amount here.)

SECTION III. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Use the nonmarital column only if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage and you believe an item is “nonmarital,” meaning it belongs to only one of you and should not be divided. You should indicate to whom you believe the item(s) or debt belongs. (Typically, you will only use this column if property/debt was owned/owed by one spouse before the marriage. See the **“General Information for Self-Represented Litigants”** found at the beginning of these forms and section 61.075(1), Florida Statutes, for definitions of “marital” and “nonmarital” assets and liabilities.)

A. ASSETS:

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S). List a description of each separate item owned by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). LIST ONLY LAST 4 DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check the line next to any asset(s) which you are requesting the judge award to you.	Current Fair Market Value	Nonmarital (check correct column)	
		husband	wife
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash (on hand)	\$		
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash (in banks or credit unions)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Stocks, Bonds, Notes			
<input type="checkbox"/> Real estate: (Home)			
<input type="checkbox"/> (Other)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Automobiles			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other personal property			
<input type="checkbox"/> Retirement plans (Profit Sharing, Pension, IRA, 401(k)s, etc.)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if additional pages are attached.			
Total Assets (add next column)	\$		

B. LIABILITIES:

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S). List a description of each separate debt owed by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). LIST ONLY LAST 4 DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check the line next to any debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible.	Current Amount Owed	Nonmarital (check correct column)	
		husband	wife
<input type="checkbox"/> Mortgages on real estate: First mortgage on home	\$		
<input type="checkbox"/> Second mortgage on home			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other mortgages			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Auto loans			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Charge/credit card accounts			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if additional pages are attached.			
Total Debts (add next column)	\$		

C. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:

INSTRUCTIONS: If you have any **POSSIBLE assets** (income potential, accrued vacation or sick leave, bonus, inheritance, etc.) or **POSSIBLE liabilities** (possible lawsuits, future unpaid taxes, contingent tax liabilities, debts assumed by another), you must list them here.

Contingent Assets Check the line next to any contingent asset(s) which you are requesting the judge award to you.	Possible Value	Nonmarital (check correct column)	
		husband	wife
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$		
<input type="checkbox"/>			
Total Contingent Assets	\$		

Contingent Liabilities Check the line next to any contingent debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible.	Possible Amount Owed	Nonmarital (check correct column)	
		husband	wife
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$		
<input type="checkbox"/>			
Total Contingent Liabilities	\$		

SECTION IV. CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET

(Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, MUST be filed with the court at or prior to a hearing to establish or modify child support. This requirement cannot be waived by the parties.)

[Check **one** only]

_____ **A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS or WILL BE filed in this case.** This case involves the establishment or modification of child support.

_____ **A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS NOT being filed in this case.** The establishment or modification of child support is not an issue in this case.

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

Other party or his/her attorney:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Fax Number: _____
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: _____
Fax Number: _____
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 _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULE OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.902(c), FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (LONG FORM)(01/15)

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when you are involved in a family law case which requires a **financial affidavit** and your individual gross income is \$50,000 OR MORE per year unless:

- (1) You are filing a simplified dissolution of marriage under rule 12.105 and both parties have waived the filing of financial affidavits;
- (2) you have no minor children, no support issues, and have filed a written settlement agreement disposing of all financial issues; or
- (3) the court lacks jurisdiction to determine any financial issues.

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

What should I do next?

A copy of this form must be served on the other **party** in your case within 45 days of being served with the petition, if it is not served on him or her with your initial papers. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms. The words that are in “**bold underline**” in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285.

Special notes...

If you want to keep your address confidential because you are the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence do not enter the address, telephone, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h).

The affidavit must be completed using **monthly** income and expense amounts. If you are paid or your bills are due on a schedule which is not monthly, you must convert those amounts. Hints are provided below for making these conversions.

Hourly - If you are paid by the hour, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Hourly amount	x	Hours worked per week	=	Weekly amount
Weekly amount	x	52 Weeks per year	=	Yearly amount
Yearly amount	÷	12 Months per year	=	Monthly Amount

Daily - If you are paid by the day, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Daily amount	x	Days worked per week	=	Weekly amount
Weekly amount	x	52 Weeks per year	=	Yearly amount
Yearly amount	÷	12 Months per year	=	Monthly Amount

Weekly - If you are paid by the week, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Weekly amount	x	52 Weeks per year	=	Yearly amount
Yearly amount	÷	12 Months per year	=	Monthly Amount

Bi-weekly - If you are paid every two weeks, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Bi-weekly amount	x	26	=	Yearly amount
Yearly amount	÷	12 Months per year	=	Monthly Amount

Semi-monthly - If you are paid twice per month, you may convert your income to monthly as follows:

Semi-monthly amount	x	2	=	Monthly Amount
---------------------	---	---	---	-----------------------

Expenses may be converted in the same manner.

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

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

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

Petitioner,

and

Respondent.

FAMILY LAW FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT (LONG FORM)
($\$50,000$ or more Individual Gross Annual Income)

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

SECTION I. INCOME

1. My age is: _____
2. My occupation is: _____
3. I am currently

*[Check **all** that apply]*

- a. Unemployed

Describe your efforts to find employment, how soon you expect to be employed, and the pay you expect to receive: _____

- b. Employed by: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip code: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Pay rate: \$ _____ () every week () every other week () twice a month
() monthly () other: _____

If you are expecting to become unemployed or change jobs soon, describe the change you expect and why and how it will affect your income: _____

_____.

Check here if you currently have more than one job. List the information above for the second job(s) on a separate sheet and attach it to this affidavit.

c. _____ Retired. Date of retirement: _____
 Employer from whom retired: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip code: _____ Telephone Number: _____

LAST YEAR'S GROSS INCOME:

	Your Income	Other Party's Income (if known)
YEAR _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME:

All amounts must be MONTHLY. See the instructions with this form to figure out money amounts for anything that is NOT paid monthly. Attach more paper, if needed. Items included under "other" should be listed separately with separate dollar amounts.

1. \$ _____ Monthly gross salary or wages
2. _____ Monthly bonuses, commissions, allowances, overtime, tips, and similar payments
3. _____ Monthly business income from sources such as self-employment, partnerships, close corporations, and/or independent contracts (Gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses required to produce income.)(Attach sheet itemizing such income and expenses.)
4. _____ Monthly disability benefits/SSI
5. _____ Monthly Workers' Compensation
6. _____ Monthly Unemployment Compensation
7. _____ Monthly pension, retirement, or annuity payments
8. _____ Monthly Social Security benefits
9. _____ Monthly alimony actually received (Add 9a and 9b)
 - 9a. From this case: \$ _____
 - 9b. From other case(s): _____
10. _____ Monthly interest and dividends
11. _____ Monthly rental income (gross receipts minus ordinary and necessary expenses required to produce income) (Attach sheet itemizing such income and expense items.)
12. _____ Monthly income from royalties, trusts, or estates
13. _____ Monthly reimbursed expenses and in-kind payments to the extent that they reduce personal living expenses (Attach sheet itemizing each item and amount.)
14. _____ Monthly gains derived from dealing in property (not including nonrecurring gains)
 Any other income of a recurring nature (identify source)
15. _____
16. _____
17. \$ _____ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY GROSS INCOME** (Add lines 1 through 16).

PRESENT MONTHLY DEDUCTIONS:

All amounts must be MONTHLY. See the instructions with this form to figure out money amounts for anything that is NOT paid monthly.

18. \$ _____ Monthly federal, state, and local income tax (corrected for filing status and allowable dependents and income tax liabilities)
 - a. Filing Status _____
 - b. Number of dependents claimed _____
19. _____ Monthly FICA or self-employment taxes
20. _____ Monthly Medicare payments

21. _____ Monthly mandatory union dues
22. _____ Monthly mandatory retirement payments
23. _____ Monthly health insurance payments (including dental insurance), excluding portion paid for any minor children of this relationship
24. _____ Monthly court-ordered child support actually paid for children from another relationship
25. _____ Monthly court-ordered alimony actually paid (Add 25a and 25b)
 - 25a. from this case: \$ _____
 - 25b. from other case(s): _____

26. \$ _____ **TOTAL DEDUCTIONS ALLOWABLE UNDER SECTION 61.30, FLORIDA STATUTES**
(Add lines 18 through 25).

27. \$ _____ **PRESENT NET MONTHLY INCOME**
(Subtract line 26 from line 17).

SECTION II. AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENSES

Proposed/Estimated Expenses. If this is a dissolution of marriage case **and** your expenses as listed below do not reflect what you actually pay currently, you should write "estimate" next to each amount that is estimated.

HOUSEHOLD:

1. \$ _____ Monthly mortgage or rent payments
 2. _____ Monthly property taxes (if not included in mortgage)
 3. _____ Monthly insurance on residence (if not included in mortgage)
 4. _____ Monthly condominium maintenance fees and homeowner's association fees
 5. _____ Monthly electricity
 6. _____ Monthly water, garbage, and sewer
 7. _____ Monthly telephone
 8. _____ Monthly fuel oil or natural gas
 9. _____ Monthly repairs and maintenance
 10. _____ Monthly lawn care
 11. _____ Monthly pool maintenance
 12. _____ Monthly pest control
 13. _____ Monthly misc. household
 14. _____ Monthly food and home supplies
 15. _____ Monthly meals outside home
 16. _____ Monthly cable t.v.
 17. _____ Monthly alarm service contract
 18. _____ Monthly service contracts on appliances
 19. _____ Monthly maid service
- Other:
20. _____
 21. _____
 22. _____
 23. _____
 24. _____
25. \$ _____ **SUBTOTAL** (add lines 1 through 24).

AUTOMOBILE:

- 26. \$ _____ Monthly gasoline and oil
- 27. _____ Monthly repairs
- 28. _____ Monthly auto tags and emission testing
- 29. _____ Monthly insurance
- 30. _____ Monthly payments (lease or financing)
- 31. _____ Monthly rental/replacements
- 32. _____ Monthly alternative transportation (bus, rail, car pool, etc.)
- 33. _____ Monthly tolls and parking
- 34. _____ Other: _____
- 35. \$ _____ **SUBTOTAL** (add lines 26 through 34)

MONTHLY EXPENSES FOR CHILDREN COMMON TO BOTH PARTIES:

- 36. \$ _____ Monthly nursery, babysitting, or day care
- 37. _____ Monthly school tuition
- 38. _____ Monthly school supplies, books, and fees
- 39. _____ Monthly after school activities
- 40. _____ Monthly lunch money
- 41. _____ Monthly private lessons or tutoring
- 42. _____ Monthly allowances
- 43. _____ Monthly clothing and uniforms
- 44. _____ Monthly entertainment (movies, parties, etc.)
- 45. _____ Monthly health insurance
- 46. _____ Monthly medical, dental, prescriptions (nonreimbursed only)
- 47. _____ Monthly psychiatric/psychological/counselor
- 48. _____ Monthly orthodontic
- 49. _____ Monthly vitamins
- 50. _____ Monthly beauty parlor/barber shop
- 51. _____ Monthly nonprescription medication
- 52. _____ Monthly cosmetics, toiletries, and sundries
- 53. _____ Monthly gifts from child(ren) to others (other children, relatives, teachers, etc.)
- 54. _____ Monthly camp or summer activities
- 55. _____ Monthly clubs (Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.)
- 56. _____ Monthly time-sharing expenses
- 57. _____ Monthly miscellaneous
- 58. \$ _____ **SUBTOTAL** (add lines 36 through 57)

MONTHLY EXPENSES FOR CHILD(REN) FROM ANOTHER RELATIONSHIP

(other than court-ordered child support)

- 59. \$ _____
- 60. _____
- 61. _____
- 62. _____
- 63. \$ _____ **SUBTOTAL** (add lines 59 through 62)

MONTHLY INSURANCE:

64. \$ _____ Health insurance (if not listed on lines 23 or 45)

65. _____ Life insurance

66. _____ Dental insurance.

Other:

67. _____

68. _____

69.. \$ _____ **SUBTOTAL** (add lines 66 through 68, exclude lines 64 and 65)

OTHER MONTHLY EXPENSES NOT LISTED ABOVE:

70. \$ _____ Monthly dry cleaning and laundry

71. _____ Monthly clothing

72. _____ Monthly medical, dental, and prescription (unreimbursed only)

73. _____ Monthly psychiatric, psychological, or counselor (unreimbursed only)

74. _____ Monthly non-prescription medications, cosmetics, toiletries, and sundries

75. _____ Monthly grooming

76. _____ Monthly gifts

77. _____ Monthly pet expenses

78. _____ Monthly club dues and membership

79. _____ Monthly sports and hobbies

80. _____ Monthly entertainment

81. _____ Monthly periodicals/books/tapes/CDs

82. _____ Monthly vacations

83. _____ Monthly religious organizations

84. _____ Monthly bank charges/credit card fees

85. _____ Monthly education expenses

86. _____ Other: (include any usual and customary expenses not otherwise mentioned in the items listed above) _____

87. _____

88. _____

89. _____

90. \$ _____ **SUBTOTAL** (add lines 70 through 89)

MONTHLY PAYMENTS TO CREDITORS: (only when payments are currently made by you on outstanding balances). List only last 4 digits of account numbers.

MONTHLY PAYMENT AND NAME OF CREDITOR(S):

91. \$ _____

92. _____

93. _____

94. _____

95. _____

96. _____

97. _____

98. _____

99. _____

100. _____

101. _____

102. _____

103. _____

104. \$ _____ **SUBTOTAL** (add lines 91 through 103)

105. \$ _____ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES:**

(add lines 25, 35, 58, 63, 69, 90, and 104 of Section II, Expenses)

SUMMARY

106. \$ _____ **TOTAL PRESENT MONTHLY NET INCOME** (from line 27 of SECTION I. INCOME)

107. \$ _____ **TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES** (from line 105 above)

108. \$ _____ **SURPLUS** (If line 106 is more than line 107, subtract line 107 from line 106. This is the amount of your surplus. Enter that amount here.)

109. (\$ _____) **(DEFICIT)** (If line 107 is more than line 106, subtract line 106 from line 107. This is the amount of your deficit. Enter that amount here.)

SECTION III. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

A. ASSETS (This is where you list what you OWN.)

INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1: In column A, list a description of each separate item owned by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). Blank spaces are provided if you need to list more than one of an item.

STEP 2: If this is a petition for dissolution of marriage, check the line in Column A next to any item that you are requesting the judge award to you.

STEP 3: In column B, write what you believe to be the current fair market value of all items listed.

STEP 4: Use column C only if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage and you believe an item is "nonmarital," meaning it belongs to only one of you and should not be divided. You should indicate to whom you believe the item belongs. (Typically, you will only use Column C if property was owned by one spouse before the marriage. See the "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms and section 61.075(1), Florida Statutes, for definitions of "marital" and "nonmarital" assets and liabilities.)

A ASSETS: DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S) LIST ONLY LAST FOUR DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check the line next to any asset(s) which you are requesting the judge award to you.	B Current Fair Market Value	C Nonmarital (Check correct column)	
		husband	wife
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash (on hand)	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash (in banks or credit unions)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Stocks/Bonds		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Notes (money owed to you in writing)			
	Money owed to you (not evidenced by a note)			
	Real estate: (Home)			
	(Other)			
	Business interests			
	Automobiles			
	Boats			
	Other vehicles			
	Retirement plans (Profit Sharing, Pension, IRA, 401(k)s, etc.)			
	Furniture & furnishings in home			
	Furniture & furnishings elsewhere			
	Collectibles			

A LIABILITIES: DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S) LIST ONLY LAST FOUR DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check the line next to any debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible.		B Current Amount Owed	C Nonmarital (Check correct column)	
			husband	wife
	Mortgages on real estate: First mortgage on home	\$		
	Second mortgage on home			
	Other mortgages			
	Charge/credit card accounts			
	Auto loan			
	Auto loan			
	Bank/Credit Union loans			
	Money you owe (not evidenced by a note)			
	Judgments			
	Other:			
Total Debts (add column B)		\$		

C. NET WORTH (excluding contingent assets and liabilities)

\$ _____ **Total Assets** (enter total of Column B in Asset Table; Section A)

\$ _____ **Total Liabilities** (enter total of Column B in Liabilities Table; Section B)

\$ _____ **TOTAL NET WORTH (Total Assets minus Total Liabilities)**
(excluding contingent assets and liabilities)

D. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

INSTRUCTIONS:

If you have any **POSSIBLE assets** (income potential, accrued vacation or sick leave, bonus, inheritance, etc.) or **POSSIBLE liabilities** (possible lawsuits, future unpaid taxes, contingent tax liabilities, debts assumed by another), you must list them here.

A Contingent Assets Check the line next to any contingent asset(s) which you are requesting the judge award to you.		B Possible Value	C Nonmarital (Check correct column)	
			husband	wife
		\$		
Total Contingent Assets		\$		

A Contingent Liabilities Check the line next to any contingent debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible.		B Possible Amount Owed	C Nonmarital (Check correct column)	
			husband	wife
		\$		
Total Contingent Liabilities		\$		

E. CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET. Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, MUST be filed with the court at or prior to a hearing to

establish or modify child support. This requirement cannot be waived by the parties.

[Check **one** only]

A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS or WILL BE filed in this case. This case involves the establishment or modification of child support.

A Child Support Guidelines Worksheet IS NOT being filed in this case. The establishment or modification of child support is not an issue in this case.

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

Other party or his/her attorney:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Fax Number: _____
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: _____
Fax Number: _____
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 YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

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

{name of individual} _____
{name of business} _____
{address} _____
{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.902(i),
AFFIDAVIT OF CORROBORATING WITNESS

When should this form be used?

This form may be used to prove residency in a **dissolution of marriage** proceeding. To get a divorce in Florida, either the husband or the wife must have lived in Florida for at least 6 months before filing the petition. Residency may be proved by a valid Florida's driver's license, Florida identification card, or voter's registration card (issue date of document must be at least 6 months before the date the case is actually filed with the clerk of the circuit court), or the testimony or **affidavit** of someone other than you or your spouse. This form is used to prove residency by affidavit. The person signing this form must know that you have lived in the State of Florida for at least 6 months before the date you filed your **petition** for dissolution of marriage.

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

What should I do next?

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

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms. The words that are in "**bold underline**" in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see section 61.021, Florida Statutes or section 61.052(2), 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 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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF CORROBORATING WITNESS

I, *{full legal name}* _____, being sworn, certify that the following statements are true: I have known *{name}* _____ since *{approximate date}* _____; to the best of my understanding the petition in this action was filed on *{date}* _____; and I know of my own personal knowledge that this person has resided in the State of Florida for at least 6 months immediately before *{date}* _____.

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 Corroborating Witness
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

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]**

I, *{full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer}* _____,
a nonlawyer, located at *{street}* _____, *{city}* _____,
{state} _____, *{phone}* _____, helped *{name}* _____,
who is the affiant, fill out this form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.902(j),
NOTICE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

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.

What should I do next?

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

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 61.052 and 61.13, 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, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file **Petitioner’s 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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH 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 in section
61.052(7), sections 61.13(9) or (10), section 742.031(3), sections 742.032(1)–(3), and/or sections 742.10(1)–
(2), Florida Statutes. My date of birth is _____.

[**one** only]

1. This notice is being filed in a dissolution of marriage case in which the parties have **no** minor children 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 children in common. The minor 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
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

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: [~~do not~~ fill in **all** blanks]

I, *{full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer}* _____,
a nonlawyer, located at *{street}* _____, *{city}* _____,
{state} _____, *{phone}* _____, helped *{name}* _____,
who is the [**one** only] ___ petitioner **or** ___ respondent, fill out this form.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY
LAW FORM 12.913(a)(1), NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF
MARRIAGE (NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)
(01/12)**

When should this form be used?

This form may be used to obtain **constructive service** (also called service by publication) in a **dissolution of marriage** case that does not involve a minor child or financial support if you do not know where your **spouse** lives or if your spouse lives outside Florida and you are unable to obtain **personal service**. Constructive notice will allow the court to dissolve the marriage, but personal service is required before a court can order payment of financial support, such as **spousal support (alimony)** or costs. If you are asking the court to decide how real or personal property located in Florida should be divided, the **Notice of Action** must include a specific description of the property. If you use constructive service, the court can grant only limited relief because its jurisdiction is limited. This is a complicated area of the law and you should consult an attorney before using constructive service.

You should complete this form by typing or printing the appropriate information in black ink. You should insert your spouse's name and last known address and then **file** this form with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your petition for dissolution of marriage was filed. You must also complete and file an **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b). You should keep a copy for your records.

After the **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b), is filed, the clerk will sign this form. The form must then be given to a qualified local newspaper in the county where the case is pending to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks. When in doubt, ask the clerk which newspapers in your area are "qualified." The newspaper will charge you for this service. If you cannot afford to pay the cost of publication of this notice in a qualified newspaper, you may ask the clerk to post the notice at a place designated for such postings. You will need to file an **Application for Determination of Civil Indigent Status**, which you can obtain from the clerk. If the clerk determines that you cannot afford these costs, the clerk will post the notice of action.

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 12.070, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, and chapter 49, Florida Statutes.

Special notes...

If the other party fails to respond to your **petition** within the time limit stated in the notice of action that is published or posted, you are entitled to request a **default**. (See **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).)

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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner

and

_____,
Respondent.

**NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE
(NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)**

TO: *{name of Respondent}* _____
{Respondent's last known address} _____

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on *{name of Petitioner}*

_____,
whose address is _____,
on or before *{date}* _____, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 800 E. Twiggs Street, Room 101, Tampa, Florida 33602 or P.O. Box 3450, Tampa, Florida 33601-4358, before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. **If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.**

The action is asking the court to decide how the following real or personal property should be divided: *{insert "none" or, if applicable, the legal description of real property, a specific description of personal property, and the name of the county in Florida where the property is located}*

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 Notice of Current 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.

Dated: _____.

PAT FRANK
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: _____

Deputy Clerk

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW: [fill in all blanks]
I, *{full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer}* _____,
a nonlawyer, located at *{street}* _____, *{city}* _____, *{state}* _____,
{phone} _____, helped *{name}* _____, who is the petitioner, fill out this form.

Name of Newspaper: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.913(b), AFFIDAVIT OF DILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY (01/12)

When should this form be used?

This form is to be used with **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage (No Child or Financial Support)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(1) and **Notice of Action For Family Cases With Minor Child(ren)**, Form 12.913(a)(2), to obtain **constructive service** (also called service by publication).

The other party is entitled to actual notice of the proceedings when possible. When it is necessary to use constructive notice, it must be given in a way that is likely to provide actual notice. You must disclose the last known address of the other party. A last known address cannot be unknown. This form includes a checklist of places you can look for information on the location of the other party. While you do not have to look in all of these places, the court must believe that you have made a very serious effort to get information about the other party's location and that you have followed up on any information you received.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should **file** the original and a **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage (No Child or Financial Support)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(1), or **Notice of Action For Family Cases With Minor Child(ren)**, Form 12.913(a)(2), with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your petition is filed. You should keep a copy for your records.

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 12.070, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure and chapter 49, 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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner,

and

Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF DILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY

I, *{full legal name}* _____, being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

1. I have made diligent search and inquiry to discover the name and current residence of Respondent: *{Specify details of search}* **Refer to checklist below and identify all actions taken (any additional information included such as the date the action was taken and the person with whom you spoke is helpful) (attach additional sheet if necessary):**

[Check **all** that apply]

- _____ United States Post Office inquiry through Freedom of Information Act for current address or any relocations.
- _____ Last known employment of Respondent, including name and address of employer. You should also ask for any addresses to which W-2 Forms were mailed, and, if a pension or profit-sharing plan exists, then for any addresses to which any pension or plan payment is and/or has been mailed.
- _____ Unions from which Respondent may have worked or that governed his or her particular trade or craft.
- _____ Regulatory agencies, including professional or occupational licensing.
- _____ Names and addresses of relatives and contacts with those relatives, and inquiry as to Respondent's last known address. You are to follow up any leads of any addresses where Respondent may have moved. Relatives include, but are not limited to: parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, grandparents, great-grandparents, former in-laws, stepparents, stepchildren.
- _____ Information about the Respondent's possible death and, if dead, the date and location of the death.
- _____ Telephone listings in the last known locations of Respondent's residence.
- _____ Internet at <http://www.switchboard.com> or other Internet databank locator service. Please indicate if a public library assisted you in your search.
- _____ Law enforcement arrest and/or criminal records in the last known residential area of Respondent.
- _____ Highway Patrol records in the state of Respondent's last known address.
- _____ Department of Motor Vehicle records in the state of Respondent's last known address.
- _____ Department of Corrections records in the state of Respondent's last known address.

- _____ Title IV-D (child support enforcement) agency records in the state of Respondent's last known address.
- _____ Hospitals in the last known area of Respondent's residence.
- _____ Utility companies, which include water, sewer, cable TV, and electric, in the last known area of Respondent's residence.
- _____ Letters to the Armed Forces of the U.S. and their response as to whether or not there is any information about Respondent. (See Memorandum for Certificate of Military Service, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(a)).
- _____ Tax Assessor's and Tax Collector's Office in the area where Respondent last resided.
- _____ Other: *{explain}* _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

2. The age of Respondent is [Choose only **one**] () known *{enter age}* _____ or () unknown.

3. Respondent's current residence

[Choose only **one**]

- a. _____ Respondent's current residence is unknown to me.
- b. _____ Respondent's current residence is in some state or country other than Florida.
- _____
- c. _____ The Respondent, having residence in Florida, has been absent from Florida for more than 60 days prior to the date of this affidavit, or conceals him (her)self so that process cannot be served personally upon him or her, and I believe there is no person in the state upon whom service of process would bind this absent or concealed Respondent.

4. **Respondent's last known address** as of *{date}* _____, was:

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone No. _____ Fax No. _____.

Respondent's last known employment, as of *{date}* _____, was

Name of Employer _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone No. _____ Fax No. _____.

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: _____

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]

I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} _____,
a nonlawyer, located at {street} _____ {city} _____,
{state} _____, {phone} _____, helped {name} _____,
who is the petitioner, fill out this form.

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 _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner,
and

Respondent.

NOTICE OF RELATED CASES

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

[check **one** only]

There are no related cases.

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

Related Case No. 1

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

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

Dissolution of Marriage

Paternity

Custody

Adoption

Child Support

Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings

Juvenile Dependency

Juvenile Delinquency

Termination of Parental Rights

Criminal

Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat

Mental Health

Violence or Stalking Injunctions

Other {specify} _____

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

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

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

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

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

pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;

may affect court's jurisdiction;

order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;

order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 2

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

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

Dissolution of Marriage

Paternity

Custody

Adoption

Child Support

Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings

Juvenile Dependency

Juvenile Delinquency

Termination of Parental Rights

Criminal

Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat

Mental Health

Violence or Stalking Injunctions

Other {specify} _____

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

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

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

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

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;

- may affect court's jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 3

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

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

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

2. [check **one** only]

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

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

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

_____ Assignment to one judge

_____ Coordination of existing cases

will conserve judicial resources and promote an efficient determination of these 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 FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM
12.912(b),
NONMILITARY AFFIDAVIT

When should this form be used?

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.
- You **ABSOLUTELY KNOW FOR CERTAIN** that the other person is **NOT** in the military service.

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.

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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

NONMILITARY AFFIDAVIT

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

[all that apply]

___ 1. I know of my own personal knowledge that Respondent is not on active duty in the
armed services of the United States.

___ 2. I have inquired of the armed services of the United States and the U.S. Public Health
Service to determine whether the Respondent is a member of the armed services and am
attaching certificates stating that Respondent is not now in the armed services.

**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: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

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]

I, *{full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer}* _____,
a nonlawyer, located at *{street}* _____, *{city}* _____,
{state} _____, *{phone}* _____, helped *{name}* _____,
who is the petitioner, fill out this form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORMS
12.922(a), MOTION FOR DEFAULT, and
12.922(b), DEFAULT

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.

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 or hand-delivered to each party in the case. **You must send a notice of final hearing to the defaulted party.**

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 1.500, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, concerning defaults and rule 1.140, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, concerning the time within which a party can file an answer or other responsive pleading to a petition. See also rule 12.080, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure.

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 THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

MOTION FOR DEFAULT (D1270)

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 [**one** only] () 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: _____

Dated: _____

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE
BLANKS BELOW:** [✍ fill in **all** blanks]

I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} _____,
a nonlawyer, located at {street} _____, {city} _____,
{state} _____, {phone} _____, helped {name} _____,
who is the petitioner, fill out this form.

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

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

DEFAULT (D1271)

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 [**one** only] () 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: _____

Dated: _____

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

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

BLANKS BELOW: [✍ fill in **all** blanks]

I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} _____,

a nonlawyer, located at {street} _____, {city} _____,

{state} _____, {phone} _____, helped {name} _____,

who is the petitioner, fill out this form.

Fee Schedule For Family Law Cases

(These fees are effective June 1, 2009)

Clerk fees (payable to The Clerk of the Circuit Court):

Type	Fee	Statute Reference
Adoption *	\$442.00	63.102 & 28.241(1)(a)
Termination of Parental Rights *	\$442.00	63.087 & 28.241(1)(a)
Delayed Birth Certificate *	\$442.00	682.0195 & 28.241(1)(a)
Disabilities of nonage; removed (Emancipation) *	\$400.00	743.015 & 28.241(1)(a)
Temporary Custody by Extended Family Member *	\$400.00	751.03 & 28.241(1)(a)
Name Change *	\$414.00	68.07 & 28.241(1)(a)
Counter Petition <i>for case indicated with *</i>	\$395.00	28.101 & 28.241(1)(c)
Dissolution of Marriage **	\$408.00	28.241 & 28.101
All other Family Law actions not listed above **	\$300.00	28.241(1)(a)
Counter Petition <i>for case indicated with **</i>	\$295.00	28.101 & 28.241(1)(c)
Sealing Fee	\$42.00	28.24(25)
Attorney appearing Pro Hac Vice	\$100.00	28.241(6)
Notice of Appeal <i>(Requires 2 separate checks: (1) \$300.00 made payable to the <u>Second District Court of Appeals</u>; (2) \$100.00 +\$1.00 per page of entire Notice of Appeal and \$2.00 for certifying made payable to Clerk of the Circuit Court)</i>	\$300.00 (Second DCA) \$100.00 plus copy and certification fee (Clerk)	28.241(2); 28.24(3); 28.24(5)(a); 35.22
Reopen fee	\$50.00	28.241(1)(b)
Writ of Garnishment issued	\$188.00	28.241(1)(a)
Issuing a Summons (Initial, Alias, and Pluries)	\$10.00	28.241(1)(d)
Issue & filing a subpoena	\$7.00	28.241(18)(a)
Signing and sealing a subpoena	\$2.00	28.24(18)(b)
Copies	\$1.00 (per page)	28.24(5)(a)
Certification	\$2.00	28.24(3)
Notary fee	\$10.00 (each)	117.05(2)(a)
Approving Bond	\$8.50	28.24(19)
Administering oath	\$3.50	38.25(13)
Exemplified certificate	\$7.00	28.24(16)
Clerk Certificate	\$7.00	28.24(8)
<i>Child Support Fees</i>		
Judgment payoff statement (Child Support)	\$25.00	61.14(6)(f)1
Payment History (Child Support, Alimony)	\$1.00 - \$2.00 per year	28.24(5)(a)
Affidavit of Delinquency	\$7.00	28.24(8)
Notice of Delinquency fee	\$25.00	61.14(6)(b)1.b.
Driver License/Non Payment of Child Support	\$25.00	61.14(6)(f)1.
Verification form	\$7.00	28.24(8)

Mediation (payable to The Clerk of the Circuit Court)

Family income greater than \$50,000 but less than \$100,000 per year	\$120.00	44.108(2)(b)
Family income less than \$50,000 per year	\$60.00	44.108(2)(b)

Clerk of the Circuit Court
Hillsborough County

A DH513 Form must be completed each time a Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage or Annulment is entered. The DH513 Form must be submitted to the Office of Vital Statistics. To assist our office in completing this process please complete the below information sheet and submit it at the time of filing your petition.

Style of Case: _____ VS _____ Case Number: _____

Husband's Information:

Legal Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

City State Zip

Wife's Information:

Legal Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

City State Zip

Maiden Name: _____ Was Maiden name restored? Yes ___ No ___

Place of Marriage: _____
(County) (State)

Date of Marriage: _____
(Month) (Date) (Year)

Number of Children: _____ Under 18yrs. of age: _____

Attorney Information:

Legal Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

City State Zip

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW
FORM 12.915,
DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND EMAIL ADDRESS (09/12)**

When should this form be used?

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

A party not represented by an attorney may choose to designate e-mail address(es) for **service**. A primary and up to two secondary e-mail addresses can be designated. If you do so and the other party is represented by an attorney or has also designated e-mail address(es) for service, e-mail will be the **exclusive means of service**.

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

What should I do next?

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

Where can I look for more information?

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

Special notes...

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

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

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner,

and

Respondent.

DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS

I, {full legal name} _____, being sworn, certify that
my current mailing address is: {Street} _____
{City} _____, {State} _____ {Zip} _____ {Telephone No.} _____
{Fax No.} _____.

I designate as my current e-mail address(es): _____

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

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

Other party or his/her attorney:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address(es): _____

Dated: _____

Signature of Party

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} _____,

{street} _____,

{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

IN THE _____ COURT, 13TH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: _____

Plaintiff/Petitioner,

v.

Defendant/Respondent.

_____/

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION WITHIN COURT FILING

Pursuant to Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.420(d)(2), I hereby certify:

() (1) I am filing herewith a document containing confidential information as described in Rule 2.420(d)(1)(B) and that:

(a) The title/type of document is _____, and:

(b) () the entire document is confidential, or

() the confidential information within the document is precisely located at:

_____.

OR

() (2) A document was previously filed in this case that contains confidential information as described in Rule 2.420(d)(1)(B), but a Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing was not filed with the document and the confidential information was not maintained as confidential by the clerk of the court. I hereby notify the clerk that this confidential information is located as follows:

(a) Title/type of document: _____;

(b) Date of filing (if known): _____;

(c) Date of document: _____;

(d) Docket entry number: _____;

(e) () Entire document is confidential, or

() Precise location of confidential information in document: _____

_____.

Filer's Signature

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished by _____ on: _____

_____ on _____, 20____.

Name
Address
Phone
Florida Bar No. (if applicable)
E-mail address

Note: The clerk of court shall review filings identified as containing confidential information to determine whether the information is facially subject to confidentiality under subdivision (d)(1)(B). The clerk shall notify the filer in writing within 5 days if the clerk determines that the information is NOT subject to confidentiality, and the records shall not be held as confidential for more than 10 days, unless a motion is filed pursuant to subdivision (d)(3) of the Rule. Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.420(d)(2).