

**ANSWER**  
**TO PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE**  
**NO CHILDREN**

**(Packet #22)**

**USE THIS PACKET IF:**

- 1) YOU ARE MARRIED AND YOUR SPOUSE IS 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 HAS SERVED YOU WITH DIVORCE PAPERS TO ANSWER.

**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.**

<b><u>FORMS CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET</u></b>	<b><u>FORM #</u></b>	<b><u>WHEN TO USE</u></b>
General Information for Self-Represented Litigants	Appendix C	For your information only
12 Rules of Courtroom Civility	12 Rules	Required
Nonlawyer Disclosure	12.900(a)	Required if someone who is not a lawyer helps you with the forms
Answer, Waiver, and Request For Copy of Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage	12.903(a)	Use if you don't want to contest anything in the petition and you don't want to be notified of further proceedings
<b>or</b>	<b>or</b>	
Answer to Petition For Dissolution of Marriage	12.903(b)	Use if you want to file an answer but not a counterpetition
<b>or</b>	<b>or</b>	
Answer to Petition and Counterpetition For Dissolution of Marriage	12.903(c)(2)	Use if you want to file a counterpetition which tells the court what you want ordered
Financial Affidavit - Short Form	12.902(b)	Required if your income is less than \$50,000/yr
<b>or</b>	<b>or</b>	
Financial Affidavit - Long Form	12.902(c)	Required if your income is more than \$50,000/yr
Notice of Social Security Number	12.902(j)	Required
Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure	12.932	Required unless both parties agree in writing to waive Mandatory Disclosure
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 required forms and have them notarized**

- 1) **FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED IN BLACK INK AND MOST MUST BE NOTARIZED.** The clerk's office will notarize documents and charge a fee (see attached schedule). Please bring a valid ID.
- 2) **Names must be written the same way on all documents (no full names on one document and initials on another).**
- 3) **Your CASE NUMBER AND DIVISION must be written on all documents.**
- 4) **Within 20 calendar days from the date of service, complete the following forms and notarize the ones with a notary signature line:**
  - A) 12 Rules of Courtroom Civility - (does not need to be notarized)
  - B) Answer
    - Answer, Waiver, and Request For Copy of Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage, Form 12.903(a), if you don't want to contest anything in the petition and you don't want to be notified of further proceedings
    - or**
    - Answer to Petition For Dissolution of Marriage, Form 12.903(b), if you want to file an answer but not a counterpetition
    - or**
    - Answer to Petition and Counterpetition For Dissolution of Marriage, Form 12.903(c)(2), if you want to file a counterpetition asking for what you want the court to order
  - C) 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
  - D) Notice of Social Security Number, Form 12.902(j)
  - E) DH513 form for the Office of Vital Statistics to be filed with the Clerk.
- 5) **Within 45 calendar days from the date of service, complete the following forms and notarize the ones with a notary signature line:**
  - A) Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure, Form 12.932

## **STEP TWO – Make copies**

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

Take the *original* set of completed and signed forms to the clerk on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the main courthouse. Make sure the case number is written on all forms.

## **STEP FOUR – Notifying your spouse**

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

## **STEP FIVE – Mandatory Disclosure**

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

- 1) Complete and sign the Certificate of Compliance With Mandatory Disclosure, Form 12.932, indicating which documents you are sending to your spouse. Also indicate the date you are sending them and how you are delivering them (by mail, fax and mail, or hand-delivery).
- 2) Make 2 copies of the documents you will be sending to your spouse and 2 copies of the completed and signed Certificate of Compliance. One copy is for your records.
- 3) Send 1 copy of the documents and 1 copy of the Certificate of Compliance to your spouse.
- 4) File the original Certificate of Compliance with the clerk.

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

If you filed an answer and dispute any of the allegations in the petition, you and 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 SEVEN – Preparing your case / gathering evidence** (if you and your spouse do not agree and your case is contested)

If you are 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 EIGHT – Scheduling the final hearing**

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

### **COURT REPORTER?**

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

## **STEP NINE – The final hearing**

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

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

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

### **WHAT TO EXPECT**

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](http://www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Forms/pdfs/family/packetList.pdf)
  - b) [www.hillsclerk.com/publicweb/forms.aspx#FamilyLaw](http://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](http://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**

**CONTESTACIÓN A  
SOLICITUD DE DISOLUCIÓN DE MATRIMONIO  
SIN HIJOS  
(Paquete #22)**

**USE ESTE PAQUETE SI:**

- 1) ESTÁ CASADO/A Y SU CÓNYUGE ESTÁ SOLICITANDO EL 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 LE HA HECHO LLEGAR LOS DOCUMENTOS DEL DIVORCIO  
PARA SU CONTESTACIÓN.

**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 caso, 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.**

<b><u>FORMULARIOS INCLUIDOS EN ESTE PAQUETE</u></b>	<b><u>FORMULARIO #</u></b>	<b><u>CUANDO USARLO</u></b>
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
Contestación, Renuncia y Requerimiento de Copia de la Sentencia Final de la Disolución del Matrimonio	12.903(a)	Utilizar si usted no desea contestar nada en la petición y no quiere ser notificado/a de procedimientos futuros
<b>ó</b>	<b>ó</b>	
Contestación a la Petición de Disolución de Matrimonio	12.903(b)	Utilizar si usted desea contestar pero no contrademandar
<b>ó</b>	<b>ó</b>	
Contestación a la Petición y Contrademanda de Disolución de Matrimonio	12.903(c)(2)	Utilizar si usted desea radicar una contrademanda que diga a la corte lo que usted desea que ésta ordene

<b><u>FORMULARIOS INCLUIDOS EN ESTE PAQUETE</u></b>	<b><u>FORMULARIO #</u></b>	<b><u>CUANDO USARLO</u></b>
Affidávit Financiero - Formulario Corto	12.902(b)	Necesario si sus ingresos son inferiores a \$50,000/año
<b>ó</b>	<b>ó</b>	
Affidávit Financiero - Formulario Largo	12.902(c)	Necesario si sus ingresos son superiores a \$50,000/Año
Notificación del Número de Seguro Social	12.902(j)	Necesario
Certificado de Cumplimiento de la Revelación Obligatoria	12.932	Necesaria a menos que ambas partes expresen de mutuo acuerdo y por escrito, que renuncian a la Revelación obligatoria
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 completarse para radicar en la Oficina de Estadísticas Vitales ( <i>Office of Vital Statistics</i> )
Notificación de Información Confidencial contenida en documentos radicados.	2.40(d)(2)	Para alertar al escribano de la corte (Clerk) de la existencia de información confidencial.

## INSTRUCCIONES PASO A PASO

### **PRIMER PASO - Complete los formularios para iniciar el proceso y adelante 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) **EI NÚMERO DE SU CASO Y DIVISIÓN deben estar escritos en todos los documentos.**

**4) Dentro de los 20 días calendario siguientes a la fecha de notificación, completar las siguiente formas y adelantar el trámite notarial en aquellas provean una línea para la firma del notario:**

A) 12 Reglas de Civismo en la Corte (el trámite notarial no es necesario)

B) Contestación

- Contestación, Renuncia y Requerimiento de Copia de la Sentencia Final de la Disolución del Matrimonio, Formulario 12.903(a), si usted no desea contestar a nada de lo que aparece en la petición y no quiere ser notificado/a de procedimientos futuros

ó

- Contestación a la Petición de Disolución de Matrimonio, Formulario 12.903(b), si usted desea contestar pero no contrademandar

ó

- Contestación a la Petición y Contrademanda de Disolución de Matrimonio, Formulario 12.903(c)(2), si desea radicar una contrademanda que diga a la corte lo que usted desea que ésta ordene

C) 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

D) Notificación del Número de Seguro Social, Formulario 12.902(j)

E) Formulario DH513 de la Oficina de Estadísticas Vitales (*Office of Vital Statistics*) a radicar con el escribano (*Clerk*).

F) Notificación de Información Confidencial, Formulario 2.40(d)(2)

**5) Dentro de los 45 días calendario siguientes a la fecha de la notificación, completar las siguiente formas y adelantar el trámite notarial en aquellas que proveen una línea para la firma del notario:**

A) Certificado de Cumplimiento de la Revelación Obligatoria, Formulario 12.932

**SEGUNDO PASO - Hacer las Copias**

Después de completar las formas, firmarlas y completar el trámite notarial, haga dos copias de todo lo que haya firmado (una es para su archivo). 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**

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. Asegúrese de que el número de su caso esté escrito en todos los formularios.

#### **CUARTO PASO - Notificar a su Cónyuge**

Mande por correo o entregue personalmente una copia del paquete a su cónyuge en la dirección establecida en la Orden (*Summons*).

#### **QUINTO PASO: Revelación Obligatoria**

Usted tiene 45 días contados a partir de la fecha en que su cónyuge haya sido notificado(a) para enviarle a él o ella todos los documentos financieros requeridos por la Regla de Revelación Obligatoria - *Mandatory Disclosure Rule* - (*Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285*). Usted debe enviar copia de estos documentos a su cónyuge. **No está obligado a radicarlos en la corte.** La lista de los documentos que está obligado a enviar se encuentra en el Formulario 12.932 - Certificado de Cumplimiento de la Revelación Obligatoria (*Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure*).

- 1) Complete y firme el Certificado de Cumplimiento de la Revelación Obligatoria, Formulario 12.932, indicando qué documentos le está enviado a su cónyuge. También indique la fecha en que los está enviando y la forma de envío (por correo, fax y correo, o entrega personal).
- 2) Haga dos copias de los documentos que enviará a su cónyuge y 2 copias del Certificado de Cumplimiento, completo y firmado. Una copia es para su archivo personal.
- 3) Envíe una copia de los documentos y una copia del Certificado de Cumplimiento a su cónyuge.
- 4) Radique el original del Certificado de Cumplimiento con el escribano (*clerk*).

**SEXTO PASO - Mediación** (si usted ha radicado una contestación negando cualquiera de las alegaciones o ha radicado una contrademanda)

Si usted ha radicado una contestación y disputa cualquiera de las alegaciones contenidas en la petición, usted y su cónyuge deberán atender una mediación para ver si pueden resolver alguna o algunas de las discrepancias. Llame a la Oficina de *Mediation and Diversion* 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.

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

Si usted está cuestionando asuntos en su divorcio, usted deberá estar preparado para presentar al juez evidencia que apoye su posición. El proceso de reunir la evidencia se llama descubrimiento -*Discovery*- . Las reglas de procedimiento, *Florida Family Rules of Procedure* 12.280 - 12.410 y las *Florida Rules of Civil Procedure* 1.280 - 1.410, rigen el proceso de descubrimiento. 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.

### **OCTAVO PASO - Programando la audiencia final**

La fecha de la audiencia final le será notificada por correo en cuanto sea fijada.

#### 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.

### **NOVENO PASO - La audiencia final**

Normalmente en la audiencia final es cuando se otorgará el divorcio y se decidirán todos los asuntos.

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

**QUE TRAER** - Toda la evidencia que usted desee que la corte considere en la decisión de su caso, si su caso es controvertido.

#### 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](http://www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Forms/pdfs/family/packetList.pdf)
  - b) [www.hillsclerk.com/publicweb/forms.aspx#FamilyLaw](http://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](http://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**

# 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) <span style="float: right;">(2)</span>
	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: \_\_\_\_\_

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.903(a), ANSWER, WAIVER, AND REQUEST FOR COPY OF FINAL JUDGMENT OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (05/12)

## When should this form be used?

This form should be used when you have been served with a **petition** for **dissolution of marriage** and you do not wish to **contest** it or appear at a **hearing**. If you file this form, you are admitting all of the allegations in the **petition**, saying that you do not need to be notified of or appear at the **final hearing**, and that you would like a copy of the **final judgment** mailed to you.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink, and your signature should be witnessed by a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a notary public. 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. The person filing the **petition** in a dissolution of marriage proceeding is also referred to as the **petitioner** and his or her **spouse** as the **respondent**.

## What should I do next?

You have 20 days to **answer** after being **served** with your spouse's petition. A copy of this form, along with all of the other forms required with this **answer** and **waiver**, must be mailed or hand delivered to your spouse.

## 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...

With this form, you must also file the following:

- **Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), if the case involves a dependent or minor child(ren).
- **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), if the case involves a dependent or minor child(ren). (If you do not know the other party's income, you may file this worksheet after his or her financial affidavit has been served on you).
- **Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(1), 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), if you 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 you, if not filed at the time you file this answer.)

Instructions for Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.903(a), Answer, Waiver, and Request for Copy of Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage (05/12)

- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on you, if not filed at the time you file this answer, unless you and the other party have agreed not to exchange these documents.)

**Parenting Plan and Time-Sharing...** By filing this answer and waiver, you are agreeing to any parenting plan and time-sharing requests in the petition. The judge may request a **parenting plan recommendation** or appoint a **guardian ad litem** in your case. This means that a neutral person will review your situation and report to the judge concerning parenting issues. The purpose of such intervention is to be sure that the best interests of the child(ren) is (are) being served. For more information, you may consult section 61.13, Florida Statutes.

A **parenting course** must be completed prior to entry of a final judgment. You should contact the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant about requirements for parenting courses where you live.

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

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

**Child Support...** By filing this answer and waiver, you are agreeing to any child support requests in the petition. The court may order one parent to pay **child support** to assist the other parent in meeting the child(ren)'s material needs. **Both parents are required to provide financial support**, but one parent may be ordered to pay a portion of his or her support for the child(ren) to the other parent. Florida has adopted guidelines for determining the amount of child support to be paid. These guidelines are based on the combined income of **both** parents and take into account the financial contributions of both parents. You must file a **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), and your spouse will be required to do the same. From your financial affidavits, you should be able to calculate the amount of child support that should be paid using the **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e). Because the child support guidelines take several factors into consideration, change over time, and vary from state to state, your child support obligation may be more or less than that of other people in seemingly similar situations.

**Alimony...** By filing this answer and waiver, you are agreeing to any alimony requests in the petition. Alimony may be awarded to one 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 a counterpetition and should not use this form. 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 child support, time-sharing and 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. By filing this answer and waiver, you are agreeing to any requests in the petition regarding division of assets and liabilities.

**Final Judgment...** You should receive a copy of the Final Judgment in the mail. If, for some reason you do not, you should call the clerk’s office to request a copy. It is important for you to review a copy of the Final Judgment in your case to see what happened and to know what you must do and what you are entitled to receive.

**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.

**ANSWER, WAIVER, AND REQUEST FOR COPY OF FINAL JUDGMENT OF  
DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE**

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

1. I answer the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage filed in this action and admit all the allegations. By admitting all of the allegations in the petition, I agree to all relief requested in the petition including any requests regarding parenting and time-sharing, child support, alimony, distribution of marital assets and liabilities, and temporary relief.
2. I hereby waive notice of hearing as well as all future notices in connection with the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage, as filed and also waive my appearance at the final hearing.
3. I request that a copy of the Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage entered in this case be provided to me at the address below.
4. If this case involves minor child(ren), a completed Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), is filed with this answer.
5. A completed Notice of Social Security Number, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j), is filed with this answer.
6. A completed Family Law Financial Affidavit, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), ( ) is filed with this answer ( ) will be timely filed.

I certify that a copy of this document was [Choose only **one**] ( ) 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ( ) 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 SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.903(b), ANSWER TO PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (12/10)

## When should this form be used?

This form should be used when you are responding to a **petition** for **dissolution of marriage** and you wish to admit or deny all of the allegations in the petition but you do not plan to file a **counterpetition** seeking relief. You can use this form to answer any petition for dissolution of marriage, whether or not there are minor child(ren).

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for your records. This must be done within 20 days of receiving the petition.

## What should I do next?

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

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

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

## Where can I look for more information?

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

defined there. See chapter 61, Florida Statutes, for more information.

### Special notes...

With this form, you must also file the following:

- **Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), if the case involves a dependent or minor child(ren).
- **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), if the case involves a dependent or minor child(ren). (If you do not know the other party's income, you may file this worksheet after his or her financial affidavit has been served on you).
- **Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(1), or **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), if you 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 you, if not filed at the time you file this answer.)
- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on you, if not filed at the time you file this answer, unless you and the other party have agreed not to exchange these documents.)

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

The judge may request a parenting plan recommendation or appoint a guardian ad litem in your case. This means that a neutral person will review your situation and report to the judge concerning parenting issues. The purpose of such intervention is to be sure that the best interests of the child(ren) is (are) being served. For more information, you may consult section 61.13, Florida Statutes.

A parenting course must be completed prior to the entry of a final judgment. You should contact the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant about requirements for parenting courses where you live.

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

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

**Child Support...** The court may order one parent to pay **child support** to assist the other parent in meeting the child(ren)'s material needs. **Both parents are required to provide financial support**, but one parent may be ordered to pay a portion of his or her support for the child(ren) to the other parent. Florida has adopted guidelines for determining the amount of child support to be paid. These guidelines are based on the combined income of **both** parents and take into account the financial contributions of both parents and the number of overnights the child(ren) spend with each parent. You must file a **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), and your spouse will be required to do the same. From your financial affidavits, you should be able to calculate the amount of child support that should be paid using the **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e). Because the child support guidelines take several factors into consideration, change over time, and vary from state to state, your child support obligation may be more or less than that of other people in seemingly similar situations.

**Alimony...** Alimony may be awarded to a spouse if the judge finds that he or she needs it and that the other spouse has the ability to pay it. **If you want alimony, you must request it in writing in a counterpetition.** Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.903(c)(1) (with dependent or minor child(ren)), or Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.903(c)(2) (no dependent or minor child(ren)). **If you do not request alimony in writing before the final hearing, it is waived (you may not request it later).**

**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 child support, any parenting plan and time-sharing schedule, and 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, parental responsibility and time-sharing with child(ren), temporary child support, or temporary alimony, you may file a **Motion for Temporary Support and Time-Sharing with Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.947(a), or, if there are no dependent or minor child(ren), **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 these forms.

**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 Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(1), 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). Both parties 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 Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.990(c)(1), and **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 **Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren) (Uncontested)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.990(b)(1), **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), or **Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage with No Property and No Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.990(b)(3). 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

and

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

**ANSWER TO PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE**

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

1. I **agree** with Petitioner as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **admit** those allegations: *{indicate section and paragraph number}*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. I **disagree** with Petitioner as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **deny** those allegations: *{indicate section and paragraph number}*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. I currently am unable to admit or deny the allegations raised in the following paragraphs due to lack of information: *{indicate section and paragraph number}* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. If this case involves a dependent or minor child(ren), a completed Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(d), is filed with this answer.
5. If this case involves a dependent or minor child(ren), a completed Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), is [ Choose **one** only] ( ) filed with this answer or ( ) will be filed after the other party serves his or her financial affidavit.
6. If necessary a completed Notice of Social Security Number, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j), is filed with this answer.
7. A completed Family Law Financial Affidavit, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), [ Choose only one] ( ) is filed with this answer or ( ) will be timely filed.

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} \_\_\_\_\_.

**Petitioner or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Respondent  
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 respondent, fill out this form.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.903(c)(2), ANSWER TO PETITION AND COUNTERPETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE WITH PROPERTY BUT NO DEPENDENT OR MINOR CHILD(REN)(05/12)

## When should this form be used?

This form should be used when you are responding to a **petition** for **dissolution of marriage** with property but no dependent or minor child(ren) and you are asking the court for something not contained in the petition. The **answer** portion of this form is used to admit or deny the allegations contained in the petition, and the **counterpetition** portion of this form is used to ask for whatever you want the court to do for you.

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. The person filing the **petition** in a dissolution of marriage proceeding is also referred to as the **petitioner** and his or her **spouse** as the **respondent**. The person filing the **counterpetition** is referred to as the **counterpetitioner** and his or her spouse as the **counterrespondent**.

## What should I do next?

You have 20 days to answer after being served with your spouse's petition. A copy of this form must be mailed **or** hand delivered to your spouse. After you file an answer and counterpetition your case will then generally proceed as follows:

Your spouse is required to answer your counterpetition within 20 days using an **Answer to Counterpetition**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.903(d).

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

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

## Where can I look for more information?

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

### Special notes...

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 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 you, if not filed at the time you file this answer.)
- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of **service** of the petition on you, if not filed at the time you file this answer, unless you and the other party have agreed not to exchange these documents.)

**Alimony...** **Alimony** may be awarded to one 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 your 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 No Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(2). Both of

you must sign this agreement before a notary public. Any issues on which you are unable to agree will be considered **contested** and settled by the judge at the final hearing.

**Final Judgment Forms...** 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.

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

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

**ANSWER TO PETITION**

1. I **agree** with the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **admit** those allegations: {indicate section and paragraph number} \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. I **disagree** with the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Petition and, therefore, **deny** those allegations: {indicate section and paragraph number} \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. I currently am unable to admit or deny the following paragraphs due to lack of information: {indicate section and paragraph number} \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

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

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. Petitioner [Choose only one] ( ) is ( ) is not a member of the military service.  
Respondent [Choose only one] ( ) is ( ) is not a member of the military service.
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 counterpetition.

6. This counterpetition for dissolution of marriage should be granted because:

[Choose only one]

- a.  The marriage is irretrievably broken.
- b.  One of the parties has been adjudged mentally incapacitated for a period of 3 years prior to the filing of this counterpetition. A copy of the Judgment of Incapacity is attached.

**SECTION I. MARITAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

[Choose only one]

- 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 liabilities 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 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.  Husband  Wife should be awarded an interest in the other spouse's property because:

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**SECTION II. SPOUSAL SUPPORT (ALIMONY)**

[Choose only one]

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

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): \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Other provisions relating to alimony including any tax treatment or consequences:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. [Indicate if applicable] ( ) 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 certify that a copy of this document was [Choose one only] ( ) mailed ( ) faxed and mailed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on *{date}*\_\_\_\_\_.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ( ) 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.			
<b>Total Assets</b> (add next column)	\$		

**B. LIABILITIES:**

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S). List a description of each separate debt owed by you (and/or your spouse, if this is a petition for dissolution of marriage). LIST ONLY LAST 4 DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check the line next to any debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible.	Current Amount Owed	Nonmarital (check correct column)	
		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.			
<b>Total Debts</b> (add next column)	\$		

**C. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:**

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

Contingent Assets 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"/>			
<b>Total Contingent Assets</b>	\$		

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"/>			
<b>Total Contingent Liabilities</b>	\$		

**SECTION IV. CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET**

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

[Check **one** only]

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

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

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

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
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	=	<b>Monthly Amount</b>

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

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

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

Weekly amount	x	52 Weeks per year	=	Yearly amount
Yearly amount	÷	12 Months per year	=	<b>Monthly Amount</b>

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

Bi-weekly amount	x	26	=	Yearly amount
Yearly amount	÷	12 Months per year	=	<b>Monthly Amount</b>

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

Semi-monthly amount	x	2	=	<b>Monthly Amount</b>
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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: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>LAST YEAR'S GROSS INCOME:</b>	Your Income	Other Party's Income ( <i>if known</i> )
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).

<b>SECTION II. AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>
---

**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			



<b>A</b> <b>LIABILITIES: DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S)</b> <b>LIST ONLY LAST FOUR DIGITS OF ACCOUNT NUMBERS.</b> <b>Check the line next to any debt(s) for which you believe you should be responsible.</b>		<b>B</b> <b>Current Amount Owed</b>	<b>C</b> <b>Nonmarital (Check correct column)</b>	
			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:			
<b>Total Debts</b> (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
		\$		
<b>Total Contingent Assets</b>		\$		

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
		\$		
<b>Total Contingent Liabilities</b>		\$		

**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(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:** [ ✍ 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 FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.932, CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATORY DISCLOSURE (09/12)

## When should this form be used?

**Mandatory disclosure** requires each **party** in a **dissolution of marriage** case to provide the other party with certain financial information and documents. These documents must be served on the other party within 45 days of **service** of the petition for **dissolution of marriage** or supplemental petition for modification on the **respondent**. The mandatory disclosure rule applies to all original and **supplemental** dissolution of marriage cases, except simplified dissolution of marriage cases and cases where the respondent is served by **constructive service** and does not answer. You should use this form to notify the court and the other party that you have complied with the mandatory disclosure rule.

Each party must provide the other party with the documents listed in section 2 of this form if the relief being sought is permanent regardless of whether it is an initial or supplemental proceeding. **ONLY THE ORIGINAL OF THE COMPLETED FORM IS FILED WITH THE COURT. EXCEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT AND CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET, NO DOCUMENTS SHALL BE FILED IN THE COURT FILE WITHOUT A PRIOR COURT ORDER. THE DOCUMENTS LISTED ON THE FORM ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE OTHER PARTY.** If your individual gross annual income is under \$50,000, you should complete the **Family Law Financial Affidavit (Short Form)**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b). If your individual gross annual income is \$50,000 or more, you should complete the **Family Law Financial Affidavit (Long Form)**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c).

In addition, there are separate mandatory disclosure requirements that apply to **temporary financial hearings**, which are listed in section 1 of this form. The party seeking temporary financial relief must serve these documents on the other party with the notice of temporary financial hearing. The responding party must serve the required documents on the party seeking temporary relief. Service by e-mail or mail shall be at least 7 days before the temporary financial relief hearing. Service by delivery shall be no later than 5:00 p.m., 2 business days before the hearing. Any documents that have already been served under the requirements for temporary or initial proceedings do not need to be reserved again in the same proceeding. If a supplemental petition is filed, seeking modification, then the mandatory disclosure requirements begin again.

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.

## What should I do next?

After you have provided the other party all of the financial information and documents and have filed this form certifying that you have complied with this rule, you are under a continuing duty to promptly give the other party any information or documents that change your financial status or that make the information already provided inaccurate. You should not file with the clerk any of the documents listed in the certificate of compliance other than the financial affidavit and the child support guidelines worksheet. Refer to the instructions regarding the petition in your case to determine how you should proceed after filing this form.

## Where can I look for more information?

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

## Special notes...

You may provide copies of required documents; however, the originals must be produced for inspection if the other party requests to see them.

Although the financial affidavits are based on individual gross income, either party may ask the other party to complete the **Family Law Financial Affidavit (Long Form)**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c), by serving the appropriate interrogatory form. (See **Standard Family Law Interrogatories**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.930(b) (original proceedings) or (c) (modification proceedings)).

Any portion of the mandatory disclosure rule may be modified by order of the judge or agreement of the parties. Therefore, you and your spouse may agree that you will not require each other to produce the documents required under the mandatory disclosure rule. This exception does **not** apply to the **Financial Affidavit**, Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), which is required in all cases and cannot be waived.

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

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

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

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

and

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

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATORY DISCLOSURE**

**ONLY THE ORIGINAL OF THIS COMPLETED FORM IS  
FILED WITH THE COURT. EXCEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL  
AFFIDAVIT AND CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET,  
NO DOCUMENTS SHALL BE FILED IN THE COURT FILE  
WITHOUT A PRIOR COURT ORDER. THE DOCUMENTS  
LISTED BELOW ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE OTHER PARTY.**

I, {full legal name} \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I have complied  
with the mandatory disclosure required by Florida Family Law Rule 12.285 as follows:

**1. FOR TEMPORARY FINANCIAL RELIEF, ONLY:**

The date the following documents were served: \_\_\_\_\_.

[Check **all** that apply]

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Affidavit
  - ( ) Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) (short form)
  - ( ) Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c) (long form)
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ All personal (1040) federal tax, gift tax, and intangible personal property tax returns for the preceding year; **or**
  - ( ) Transcript of tax return as provided by IRS form 4506-T; **or**
  - ( ) IRS forms W-2, 1099, and K-1 for the past year because the income tax return for the past year has not been prepared.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Pay stubs or other evidence of earned income for the 3 months before the service of the financial affidavit.

**2. FOR INITIAL, SUPPLEMENTAL, AND PERMANENT FINANCIAL RELIEF:**

The date the following documents were served: \_\_\_\_\_.

[Check **all** that apply]

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Affidavit
  - ( ) Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) (short form)

- ( ) Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(c) (long form)
- b. \_\_\_ All personal (1040) federal and state income tax returns, gift tax returns, and intangible personal property tax returns for the preceding 3 years; ( ) IRS forms W-2, 1099, and K-1 for the past year because the income tax return for the past year has not been prepared.
  - c. \_\_\_ Pay stubs or other evidence of earned income for the 3 months before the service of the financial affidavit.
  - d. \_\_\_ A statement identifying the source and amount of all income for the 3 months before the service of the financial affidavit, if not reflected on the pay stubs produced.
  - e. \_\_\_ All loan applications and financial statements prepared for any purpose or used for any purpose within the 12 months preceding the service of the financial affidavit.
  - f. \_\_\_ All deeds to real estate in which I presently own or owned an interest within the past 3 years. All promissory notes in which I presently own or owned an interest within the last 12 months. All present leases in which I own an interest.
  - g. \_\_\_ All periodic statements for the last 3 months for all checking accounts and for the last year for all savings accounts, money market funds, certificates of deposit, etc.
  - h. \_\_\_ All brokerage account statements for the last 12 months.
  - i. \_\_\_ Most recent statement for any pension, profit sharing, deferred compensation, or retirement plan (for example, IRA, 401(k), 403(b), SEP, KEOGH, etc.) and summary plan description for any such plan in which I am a participant or alternate payee.
  - j. \_\_\_ The declaration page, the last periodic statement, and the certificate for any group insurance for all life insurance policies insuring my life or the life of me or my spouse.
  - k. \_\_\_ All health and dental insurance cards covering either me or my spouse and/or our dependent child(ren).
  - l. \_\_\_ Corporate, partnership, and trust tax returns for the last 3 tax years, in which I have an ownership or interest greater than or equal to 30%.
  - m. \_\_\_ All credit card and charge account statements and other records showing my (our) indebtedness as of the date of the filing of this action and for the prior 3 months. All promissory notes on which I presently owe or owned within the past year. All lease agreements I presently owe.
  - n. \_\_\_ All premarital and marital agreements between the parties to this case.
  - o. \_\_\_ If a modification proceeding, all written agreements entered into between the parties at any time since the order to be modified was entered.
  - p. \_\_\_ All documents and tangible evidence relating to claims for an unequal distribution of marital property, enhancement or appreciation in nonmarital property, or nonmarital status of an asset or debt.
  - q. \_\_\_ Any court order directing that I pay or receive spousal support (alimony) or child support.

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 accuracy of my compliance with the mandatory disclosure requirements of Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.285 and that, unless otherwise indicated with specificity, this disclosure is complete. I further understand that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement or incomplete disclosure includes fines and/or imprisonment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 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}* \_\_\_\_\_.

## 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)
<b><i>Child Support Fees</i></b>		
Judgment payoff statement (Child Support)	\$25.00	61.14(6)(f)1
Payment History (Child Support, Alimony)	\$1.00 - \$2.00 per year	28.24(5)(a)
Affidavit of Delinquency	\$7.00	28.24(8)
Notice of Delinquency fee	\$25.00	61.14(6)(b)1.b.
Driver License/Non Payment of Child Support	\$25.00	61.14(6)(f)1.
Verification form	\$7.00	28.24(8)

### Mediation (payable to The Clerk of the Circuit Court)

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

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).