



**Dissolution of Marriage
ANSWERING
With dependent or minor children**

Please be aware that if you have been served with a Petition, you have 20 calendar days from the date you were served to file an Answer. If you do not file an Answer within that time, a Default can be entered against you. This means everything your spouse requested in his/her Petition can be awarded by the Judge without your input.

Forms Needed

The forms you will need initially can be found at: www.flcourts.org under the heading "Family Law Forms"

Those initial forms are:

12.903(b)-Answer to Petition for Dissolution of Marriage

OR

12.903(c)(1)-Answer to Petition and Counter-petition for Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren)

-Use if you are requesting relief different from your spouse

12.902(d)-Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act Affidavit

12.902(j)-Notice of Social Security Number

12.902(b) or 12.902(c)-Family Law Financial Affidavit

-Use 12.902(b) if your gross income is less than \$50,000 per year

-Use 12.902(c) if your gross income is \$50,000 or more per year

12.932-Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure

-Due 45 days after service of the Petition

Instructions

Complete the above forms

Have the forms notarized

Make 2 copies of each form and take all of them to the Clerk of Courts and ask the clerk to stamp all of them

The originals will be filed with the Clerk of Courts

Send one copy of each form the opposing party or his/her attorney

Keep one copy of each form for yourself

Later in your case Family Court Services may require you to file other forms. The forms can be found at the website above or www.coj.net. Type the words "required local forms" next to "search" and click on "Required Local Forms."

If you need temporary child support during the proceedings, you can file form 12.947(a), Motion for Temporary Support with Dependent or Minor Children. You can contact Family Court Services to assist you in scheduling your hearing on the motion.

Filing Fees

There are filing fees associated with filing your case. If you do not have the money to pay for the filing fee, you can request a fee waiver by filing an Application For Determination Of Civil Indigent Status which is also available at www.flcourts.org. If your application is denied, you must pay the entire filing fee before your case can be filed.

Clerk of Courts:

Duval County Clerk of Court
501 West Adams St., Rm. 2474
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Clay County Clerk of Courts
P.O. Box 698
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Nassau County Clerk of Courts
76347 Veteran's Way
Yulee, FL 32097