

INSTRUCTIONS:

HOW TO FILL OUT THE ORDER FOR YOUR LEGAL DECISION MAKING, PARENTING TIME and CHILD SUPPORT or LEGAL DECISION MAKING AND PARENTING TIME CASE

IMPORTANT NOTICE: DO NOT COMPLETE THIS COURT ORDER UNTIL YOU GO TO THE DEFAULT HEARING, OR UNTIL YOU AND THE OTHER PARTY GO TO TRIAL, OR YOU BOTH AGREE TO THE ORDER.

A signed Order is important because it determines the rights and responsibilities of both you and the other party. If either party does not obey the Order, then the other party can ask the court for help in enforcing the terms of the Order.

This Order is designed for parties who want to get a court order of legal decision making and parenting time or legal decision making, parenting time and support. **YOU CANNOT USE THIS PACKET TO ESTABLISH PATERNITY.** Use this form only if you are the natural or adoptive parent of the minor child(ren) **AND**

- You already have a Court Order establishing paternity, **OR**
- You have a Court Order for child support

If you want a court order for legal decision making and parenting time, the court will also want to review the current child support order. If there is no order or if the order needs to be changed, the court will sign a child support order in this case or, if the child support order needs to be changed, the court will do so in this case.

REMINDER:

1. When filling out any court forms, type or print with black ink only!
2. Your Order should repeat as closely as possible with what you requested in your Petition, unless the other party has provided written consent to any changes. You cannot mark something different in the Order from what you asked for in the Petition, unless the change clearly benefits the other party. If you try to do this, the judge will not sign the Order. If you want to change your requests to the court, you must file an amended petition and serve that petition on the other party. It is a good idea to have your petition handy when you follow the instructions to fill out your Order.

The first part of the Judgment and Order—the Court Findings:

1. This states that the court has all information necessary to enter a Judgment and Order.
2. This states that this court is able to make the orders relating to you and the other party.
3. This states that the court will make only the orders that are legally proper under the circumstances of your case.
4. Print or type your full name and the Respondent's name in the spaces provided, then put the name of the minor children for whom custody/parenting time/support is established and their dates of birth.
5. The court will fill in 5, 6, and 7.
6. If you are asking for supervised or no parenting time for the other party, you must have a very good reason. Write that reason in here.

7. If you or the other party has been convicted of a drug or alcohol crime within the last 12 months, the court must make sure that the legal decision making and/or parenting time order or agreement is in the best interests of the minor child(ren).

The second part of the Judgment and Order:

THE COURT ORDERS:

1. **LEGAL DECISION MAKING AND PARENTING TIME.** Mark the box for either Joint or Sole Legal Decision Making. The legal decision making box you mark should be the same as you did in your complaint/ Petition, unless you and the other party have signed a "Joint Legal Decision Making Agreement" which will be attached to the Order.
 - A) If you are requesting joint legal decision making, you should mark the **Joint Legal Decision Making** box only. Remember, you will have to attach a copy of the "**Parenting Plan for Joint Legal Decision Making with Joint Legal Decision Making Agreement**" signed by both parents, which must be approved by the court at the hearing if you desire joint legal decision making. The Plan will be included as part of the Court Order.
 - B) For sole legal decision making of the minor child(ren), mark who is to have sole legal decision making. Then mark only one of the three types of parenting time: reasonable, supervised, or no parenting time. If parenting time is supervised, mark who will be paying for costs of supervision. Be sure to attach the "**Parenting Plan.**"
2. **CHILD SUPPORT:** Check which party should pay child support. (The box you check should match what you asked for in the petition).
3. **MEDICAL, DENTAL INSURANCE AND VISION CARE EXPENSES:** Check which party should be responsible for health, medical and dental insurance.
4. **FINANCIAL INFORMATION:** Both parents must exchange ongoing financial information every 24 months.
5. **LIMITATION ON JURISDICTION:** This indicates that the court only has jurisdiction to order a party to make payments if that party has been personally served. This means that if you served your spouse by publication, you may not be able to get child support, health insurance or reimbursement for medical and other expenses related to the child's birth unless you find and serve the other party. You will be able to get the legal decision making and parenting time orders without personal service.
6. **OTHER ORDERS:** If there are other things you have asked for in the Petition that have not already been covered in the Judgment and Order, write the additional orders you are requesting the court to make. Be specific and be sure you use the same, or similar language to that used in your Petition.

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE, AND COPY FOR OTHER PARTY: You do not have a valid court Order until the judge signs and dates the original Order, which will occur at or after the default hearing or at the trial on the case. Be sure to get a certified copy of the signed Order for your records. Also, if the other party does not have a copy, mail a copy of the signed and dated Order to him or her.