

DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE FORMS

APPROVED BY

The Missouri Supreme Court

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DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE FORMS PACKAGE

Introduction

The Unauthorized Practice of Law

These forms are provided at no cost to you by the Missouri Supreme Court Committee on Access to Family Courts so that you may have access to the Missouri Courts. It is a crime for another person to charge you a fee for preparing these forms for you unless that person is a licensed lawyer. If anyone other than a lawyer attempts to charge you for preparing these forms, you should notify the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel, 3335 American Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri, 65109.

General Information about All Forms

Information that you enter on these forms can be saved on your computer ONLY if you are using Adobe Acrobat or the free Adobe Reader version 7.0 or higher. If you are using an earlier version of Adobe Reader, you should probably upgrade at this time. (www.adobe.com)

The forms listed below are interactive. You can enter the information on these forms before you print them. If you fill the forms in on your computer, much of the information you enter on one form is automatically transferred to other forms. For example, if you type your first name on the "Petition for Dissolution of Marriage," your first name will also appear on the other forms.

Some forms refer to the husband and wife as the parties, while other forms refer to the parties as the Petitioner and the Respondent. The Parenting Plan refers to the Mother and Father. It is assumed that you are the petitioner, or the person filing the case. Because of this, you must indicate whether you are the Husband or the Wife so that information from one form can be automatically transferred to the other forms.

This package also contains bookmarks. These bookmarks help you to navigate throughout these forms. In addition, there are "links" embedded in the forms. These links are usually green, and can take you to a related location in the forms.

If your spouse signs the "Answer" so that service of process is not required, then you only have to file one copy of the "Petition for Dissolution of Marriage", "Statement of Income and Expenses", "Statement of Property and Debt and Proposed Separation Agreement", and "Parenting Plan". If your spouse does not sign an "Answer", then you must file one additional copy of all of these forms. You should also keep a copy of these forms for your records.

Some additional forms may be required by some Missouri Courts. You should check with your local court.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Petition for Dissolution of Marriage (Form CAFC001)

This is the first form you should complete. Information that you enter on this form will be transferred to all the other forms in the package.

2. Certificate of Dissolution of Marriage (Form CAFC065)

Most courts require that you file two copies of the Certificate of Dissolution of Marriage.

3. Statement of Income and Expenses (Form CAFC050)

This form requires that you list income and expenses for both you and your spouse. A lawyer can assist you in finding out this information.

4. Statement of Property and Debt and Proposed Separation Agreement (Form CAFC040)

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS FORM CAREFULLY.

If both you and your spouse agree on the disposition of property and debt and on all issues concerning maintenance, you may both sign this form. This "Separation Agreement" can then be introduced into evidence at your hearing.

5. Respondent's Answer to Petitioner's Petition for Dissolution of Marriage (Form CAFC010)

Your spouse may sign this form if he or she does not want to be personally served. By signing this form, your spouse is allowing the court to decide your case. Your spouse may also use this form to disagree with your statements on your forms.

6. Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage (Form CAFC070)

This is a "proposed" judgment. Different courts handle the preparation of the judgment in different ways. In some courts, the judge will direct you to prepare a judgment, and in other courts, the judge will prepare the judgment.

7. Filing Information Sheet (Form CAFC067)

This form is required by most courts to enter the information about your case into the Court's computer system.

8. Parenting Plan (Form CAFC501)

This form is only required if there are unemancipated children of this marriage. If there are no unemancipated children of this marriage, then you do not have to print this form, nor do you have to file this form.

There are two parts to this form, Part A and Part B. Part A deals with custody issues of the children, and Part B deals with support issues of the children. You must complete both parts of the Parenting Plan.

If you have different custody or support arrangements for some of the children, you must complete a separate Parenting Plan for each set of children.