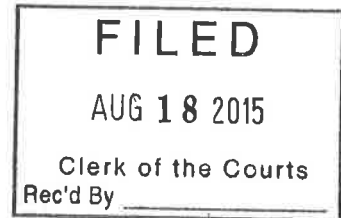


IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

**IN RE: PETITION OF THE ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION FOR
THE ADOPTION OF UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTABLE AND LEGALLY
SUFFICIENT FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS**

No. ADMIN2015-01485



ORDER

On August 7, 2015, the Access to Justice Commission (“Commission”) filed a petition seeking approval of plain language forms and instructions for use in uncontested divorces between parties with minor children and attached the proposed forms and instructions as Exhibit A to its petition. According to the petition, the forms were developed by the Commission’s Self-Represented Litigants Advisory Committee (“Committee”), with input from “judges, court clerks, state and local bar associations, individual attorneys, legal aid organizations, and other stakeholders” and advance the Commission’s goal of developing “additional resources for low-income Tennesseans who must navigate the court system without the benefit of counsel.” The Commission asks this Court to approve the forms and instructions as universally acceptable and legally sufficient, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 52.

The Court hereby publishes for public comment the Commission’s petition, including the forms and instructions set out in Exhibit A. Additionally, the Court solicits written comments from judges, lawyers, bar associations, members of the public, and any other interested parties. The deadline for submitting written comments is Monday, October 19, 2015. Written comments may be e-mailed to appellatecourtclerk@tncourts.gov or mailed to:

James M. Hivner, Clerk
Re: Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 46
Tennessee Appellate Courts
100 Supreme Court Building
401 7th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-1407

and should reference the docket number set out above. The Clerk shall provide a copy of this order, including the appendix, to LexisNexis and to Thomson Reuters. In addition, this order, including the appendix, shall be posted on the Tennessee Supreme Court's website.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

PER CURIAM

“EXHIBIT A”

Forms

How to Get an Agreed Divorce With Children in Tennessee

If you have children who are under 18, disabled or in high school
AND

you do NOT own buildings or land or a business with your spouse, or have retirement benefits.

This packet has the court forms you will need to get an agreed divorce. It also explains:

- What an agreed divorce is
- Who can get an agreed divorce
- Steps to get an agreed divorce
- How to get ready for your court hearing
- Answers to common questions about divorce
- What goes in a Divorce Agreement

What is an agreed divorce?

Agreed means that you and your spouse agree on all points of your divorce **AND** you must meet all the rules below. An agreed divorce is easier and faster. It costs less than a regular divorce because:

- There are fewer court papers to fill out.
- You don't **have to** have a lawyer. But it's best to talk to a lawyer before starting any divorce.

Can anyone get an agreed divorce with this packet?

No! This packet is for couples who have children together. Children together means children you had together that were born before your marriage AND all children born or adopted during your marriage.

You **CANNOT** use these forms if:

- One of the children born during the time you were married to each other has a different biological father, OR
- Somebody else (not either parent) has a court order giving them custody or visitation, OR
- You don't agree on everything in the Parenting Plan. If you sign, you are telling the judge you agree.

This packet is only for couples if ALL of these are true:

- One or both of you lived in Tennessee for at least the past 6 months with the children **OR** you lived in Tennessee when you decided to divorce and the children have lived here for at least six months;
- Neither spouse is pregnant now;
- You both want to end your marriage;
- You don't own buildings or land or a business together or have retirement benefits;
- You can agree on alimony and how to divide your property, and will **both** sign a Divorce Agreement (Form 5).
- You can agree on the child support amount and the Parenting Plan. Child support must comply with Tennessee's Child Support Guidelines.

If any of these are **not true for you, you **can't** use this packet! Talk to a lawyer.**

Do I need a lawyer?

It is always good to talk with a lawyer if possible. You need a lawyer if:

- You find the court papers hard to understand;
- You or your spouse have a pension or retirement plan;
- You or your spouse own buildings or land (this is called **real property**);
- You or your spouse own a business;
- Your spouse won't sign the Divorce Agreement;
- Your spouse has a lawyer;
- You have questions about your divorce. The court can't give you legal advice; OR
- You don't know how to locate your spouse.
- Your spouse over controls you or makes you afraid to disagree.

- **Important!** Only want a lawyer for part of the case? It is always best to talk to a lawyer, if possible. Having a lawyer look at your Divorce Agreement can help you.

Where can I find a lawyer?

- **Your county's Bar Association.** This is a group that lawyers join. They may have programs that can give you free advice. Or they can refer you to a lawyer.
- Look under "lawyer" in the yellow pages.
- Search for "lawyer" on the internet.
- Ask divorced friends which lawyer they used.
- Check the Administrative Office of the Court's website at: www.tncourts.gov and the Court's Access to Justice website, www.justiceforalltn.com.

Where can I get legal help and information?

- Legal information and advice hotline – **1-844-Help4TN (1-844-435-7486)**
- www.Help4TN.org
 - See if you can get free legal help online
 - Find legal information
 - Find a list of free legal advice clinics across the state

Free Legal Help for Domestic Violence Victims

Does your spouse hurt or threaten you? There are special programs that can help you get free legal advice. They can also help if your spouse won't agree to a divorce. Call these **FREE** hotlines to find help near you.

- Tennessee Coalition for Domestic and Sexual Violence – **1-800-356-6767 / www.tcadv.org**
- Domestic Violence hotline – **1-800-799-7233**

Steps to Get an Agreed Divorce

Tip! Make extra copies of the blank forms in this packet. This is in case you make a mistake. Also, make copies of all papers you give the Court Clerk. Ask the Clerk to date-stamp your copy. Keep all your date-stamped divorce papers in a folder or envelope. Bring it with you when you go to court.

Step 1 You and your spouse **MUST** fill out these papers. The Court Clerk can't do this for you. When they are filled out, go to the Court Clerk's office and give them (file) these papers:

- Request for Divorce, Form 1. Must be signed and notarized.
- Spouses' Personal Information, Form 2A
Fill it out and put it in a letter-size envelope. On the outside, write both spouses' names and your case number. The Court Clerk will give you your case number.
- Check with your Court Clerk to see if you need to fill out a Civil Case Cover Sheet.
- Title IV-D Information Form. This form is only needed if one or both parents receive benefits from the State of Tennessee. If neither of the parents receive benefits from the State of Tennessee, you do not need this form.



Step 2 If you can't afford to pay the filing fee, also fill out and give the Court Clerk (file):

- If you need it**
- Request to Postpone Filing Fees and Order, Form 3
The court may let you pay the filing fees at the end of your case. You and your spouse must decide how you will split the cost of the filing fees

Step 3	Complete the Health Insurance Notice for Divorcing Spouses (Form 4):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health Insurance Notice, Form 4 Fill it out, file with Clerk and mail a copy to your spouse by certified mail. Keep a copy for your records. Not on each other's health insurance or don't have health insurance? Then write that on the paper.
Step 4	Fill out these papers and give them to the Court Clerk (file):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Divorce Agreement, Form 5. Must be signed and notarized by both you and your spouse.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parenting Plan Form and the Child Support Worksheet. Download the Parenting Plan at www.tncourts.gov or www.justiceforalltn.com . Must be signed and notarized by both you and your spouse.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Final Decree of Divorce, Form 6. Must be signed by both you and your spouse.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Court Order for Divorcing Spouses, Form 7 Must be signed by both you and your spouse. Both spouses must obey this order!
<input type="checkbox"/>	Divorce Certificate Ask the Clerk for this paper. Don't use a copy. Fill out as much of it as you can. Ask the Clerk about the deadline for this paper.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Notice of Hearing to Approve Irreconcilable Differences Divorce, Form 8
Step 5	Wait at least 90 days after filing your Request for Divorce (Form 1) then:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Call the Clerk. Has it been more than 180 days since the last person signed the Divorce Agreement? Then you must fill out a new Divorce Agreement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ask the court clerk how to get a court date for the Final Divorce Hearing. Ask if you need any other papers to set the hearing date.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If needed, complete and file the Notice of Hearing to Approve Irreconcilable Differences Divorce with the court clerk, Form 8. You must mail your spouse a copy.
Step 6	Go to the Courthouse on the date of your Final Divorce Hearing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	It's best if both spouses go, but if you are the spouse who filed the divorce, you must go to the hearing. Some counties require that both spouses go to the hearing. Check with the court clerk.
<input type="checkbox"/>	What if only one spouse goes and the judge changes something? You will have to go back to court later. Bring copies of all the date-stamped divorce papers with you. Bring the Final Decree of Divorce, Form 6.
Step 7	After the hearing, go to the Court Clerk's office. Ask how to get the signed copy of the Final Divorce Order. You may have to pay for copies. You will have to pay for certified copies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you asked that your name be changed in the divorce papers, get a certified copy of the Final Divorce Order
<input type="checkbox"/>	If your spouse did not go to the hearing, you must mail him/her a copy of this Order.

Important Information about Child Support and the Parenting Plan

All divorcing spouses with minor children must complete the Child Support Worksheet. The Child Support Worksheet will tell you the child support amount. You can download the Child Support Worksheet at <http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/ls/isdocuments.html>.

The Child Support Worksheet is completed at the same time you complete the Parenting Plan. All divorcing spouses with minor children must complete the Parenting Plan. You can find the Parenting Plan Form at <http://www.tncourts.gov/programs/parenting-plan/forms>. You have to know the child support amount to complete the Parenting Plan.

There are a few ways that the spouse that owes child support can pay the other spouse. You make your choice on the Parenting Plan form.

You can agree that the child support will be paid using one of the ways below.

- The spouse that owes child support will pay the other spouse directly, OR
- The spouse that owes child support will pay the child support to the Central Child Support Receiving Unit. Then the Central Child Support Receiving Unit will send the support to the other parent, OR
- The child support will be paid by Wage Assignment Order. A Wage Assignment Order is where the child support is automatically taken out of the paycheck of the spouse that owes child support, OR
- The spouse that owes child support will set up a direct deposit to the other parent, OR
- Other arrangements that the court can approve.

If you want to agree to use a Wage Assignment Order, you can use Form 9 – Wage Assignment Order in this packet.

IMPORTANT! If one or both of the parents receives SNAP Food Stamps, Families First (AFDC), and/or TennCare from the State of Tennessee, you may have to use a Wage Assignment Order. Contact the Department of Human Services to see if you have to use wage assignment or can use another way.

IMPORTANT! If one or both of the parents receives SNAP Food Stamps, Families First (AFDC), and/or TennCare from the State of Tennessee, you may have to fill out a Title IV-D Child Support Information Form. Ask the court clerk if you need to fill out this form. You can use the Form 10 – Title IV-D Child Support Information Form in this packet.

IMPORTANT! All divorcing spouses with minor children are required to attend a parent education class unless the court says you don't have to. Ask the court clerk where you can go to take the class. You can find information on the parent education class at <http://www.tncourts.gov/node/254532>.

You can find more information about child support from the Tennessee Child Support Handbook located at http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/cs/cs_handbook.pdf.

Please talk to a lawyer if you have questions about child support.

Get ready for your Court Hearing

Before the hearing:

- Dress neatly. Wear clothes that look like a businessperson. Wear clothes that show respect for the court. This means:
 - ⊙ No shorts.
 - ⊙ No tank tops or low cut tops.
 - ⊙ No crop tops that show your belly.
 - ⊙ No T-shirts with words or pictures.
 - ⊙ Turn off your cell phone or pager.
- Take all of your court papers.
- Both spouses may go to the hearing. In most counties, just the spouse who filed the divorce may go. You don't need witnesses.
- Get to court **early** on the day of your hearing. You may need to find parking and go through security.
- Go to the Clerk's Office to make sure your case is on the calendar.
- Sit down in the courtroom. Wait for your name to be called. (There may be other cases ahead of you.)

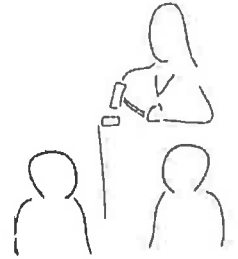
At the hearing:

- Step forward when your name is called.
- You will be asked to raise your right hand and take an oath to tell the truth.
- After you swear to tell the truth, say this:
"My name is _____
I am the Plaintiff) in this case. I am here to get a Final Divorce Order."
- Don't sit down until your case is over.
- When you speak to the judge, say, "Your Honor." Be polite.
- The judge will look at your court papers and may ask questions. Listen carefully. Never butt in. Don't talk until the judge asks you a question. Answer all questions fully and tell the truth. What if you don't understand a question? Then ask the judge to explain or repeat it.

The judge may ask you:

- Your name and your spouse's name
- How long you have lived in Tennessee
- If either spouse wants their old name back
- If either spouse is pregnant

- If your Divorce Agreement divides the property fairly
- If the Parenting Plan provides for the care and support of the children and if it is in their best interest
- If you want the court to grant the divorce
- If you and your spouse have irreconcilable differences (cannot get along)



You may answer like this:

- I have lived in Tennessee for at least 6 months.
- We are **not** expecting a child now.
- My spouse and I have children together. We have agreed on a Parenting Plan and child support. We think our agreement is in the best interest of the children. We have told the court about any other cases involving custody of the children.
- My spouse and I have made a Divorce Agreement that is fair. We have divided all property and debt.
- I want a divorce.
- My spouse and I can't get along any more. We have no hope of working our marriage out.

What if there are mistakes on the divorce papers? The judge may ask both spouses to make the changes and initial them. **If both spouses aren't there, you will have to come back another day to correct them.**

At the hearing:

Once approved, the judge will sign the Final Divorce Order. Your divorce is not final until the judge signs the Final Divorce Order and it is filed with the Clerk.

Important! After the court makes the Final Divorce Order, each spouse has 30 days to appeal. During this 30-day period, don't get married again or buy any property

After the hearing, ask the Court Clerk for certified copies of the Final Divorce Order and Divorce Agreement. You may need this later.

Common Questions About Agreed Divorce

To get an agreed divorce, do I have to prove that my spouse did something wrong?

No. You just both have to agree that you and your spouse can no longer get along. Say that you have no hope of working out your marriage problems. The court calls this "irreconcilable differences".

Do I have to live in Tennessee to file for divorce here?

One or both spouses must have lived in Tennessee for at least the last 6 months **OR** you lived in Tennessee when you decided to divorce.

Where do I file my divorce papers?

- In the county where your spouse lives now.
- **OR** in the county where you lived when you separated.

What if your spouse is in jail or doesn't live in Tennessee? Then file in the county where you live.

The court in each county is different. The divorce court in your county could be a Circuit, Chancery, or General Sessions Court. Ask the Court Clerk if their court hears divorces cases. **DON'T** file them in more than one court.

Important! Until the divorce is final, you and your spouse can't do some things. You and your spouse can't:

- Disobey the Court Order for Divorcing Spouses (Form 7) **OR**
- Spend, give away, destroy, waste or use up property from the marriage **OR**
- Harass each other **OR**
- Stop or change insurance policies **OR**
- Hide, destroy or spoil electronic evidence kept on a computer or memory storage device.

Will my divorce papers be public?

Yes. The papers you and your spouse file at court are public record. That means anyone can look at your file. Anyone can get copies of any papers in your file. **BUT** the papers called Spouses' Personal Information, Form 2A, **aren't** public and will be secret.

Do I have to pay a fee to file my divorce papers?

Yes. Each county has its own fee **plus** state fees. Ask the Court Clerk's office how much you will have to pay. Bring cash with you. You must pay the Court Clerk when you file your Request for Divorce. Many Court Clerks don't take checks or credit cards.

What if I can't pay the court fee?

The court may let you pay the fee at the end of your case. This is when the judge decides which spouse has to pay the court costs.

Need to pay the fee later? Fill out a Request to Postpone Filing Fees and Order, Form 3.

What if I am a victim of domestic violence?

Did your spouse hurt or threaten you? To get an agreed divorce you must talk to your spouse. What if it is not safe to contact your spouse? Then an agreed divorce may not work for you. These **free** resources can help you. They can also help if your spouse doesn't want the divorce.

- Coalition for Domestic and Sexual Violence
1-800-356-6767 – www.tcadsv.org
- National Domestic Violence hotline
1-800-799-7233
- Legal Aid or Legal Services
To find a legal aid program near you go to www.Help4TN.org
- Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services
(615) 627-0956 / 50 Vantage Way, Suite 250,
Nashville, TN 37228

How soon can the divorce be granted?

The soonest is 90 days after you file your Request for Divorce. It usually will take longer.

Important! After the court makes the Final Divorce Order, each spouse has 30 days to appeal. During this 30-day period, don't get married again or buy any property.

What is a Divorce Agreement?

The Divorce Agreement is one of the papers you must file to get an agreed divorce. It tells the court what you and your spouse agreed about

alimony. It says how you will divide your money, property and debts. What happens with your children is covered in another document called a Parenting Plan.

Doesn't the court divide our property?

In an agreed divorce, the spouses decide these things together. But the court wants to see that you divide all your property and debts fairly. You have to list how all the property is divided. Even if you think the property belongs only to one of you, it must still be on the list. The property doesn't have to be equal. The court may change things if the agreement is not fair. The court may change things if one spouse will not have enough to live on.

Do you and your spouse agree about how to divide the property fairly? Then most of the time the court will OK your agreement.

Important! If the agreement is unfair, the court may not OK it.

Important! If a debt is in both spouses' names, creditors can try to collect from either spouse. If either spouse is thinking of filing bankruptcy, talk to a lawyer. It may cause problems for the other spouse. If you have a mortgage together, you cannot use these forms or this packet.

What if my spouse and I can't agree on everything in the Divorce Agreement?

You cannot use these forms or this packet if you can't agree on everything in the Divorce Agreement. However, a mediator is someone who helps people agree. The mediator meets with you and your spouse to try to help you and your spouse find an agreement that is ok for both of you.

Note: Are you a victim of domestic violence? Then you don't have to meet the mediator with your spouse. You and your spouse can have separate meetings. Sometimes, a judge can waive mediation.

What if the mediator can't help us agree?

Then you can't use this packet. Talk to a lawyer about filing a regular divorce.

What if my spouse will not sign the Divorce Agreement?

Then you can't get an agreed divorce. **Don't** use this packet.

You can still file a petition for divorce **but you can't use these forms or this packet!**

Will the court decide on alimony?

In an agreed divorce, the spouses decide on alimony. Alimony is money that one spouse pays the other for spousal support. You must say how much it will be and for how long it will be paid. This goes in your Divorce Agreement.

For example, some couples may decide that alimony will be paid until:

- The paying spouse remarries or files for bankruptcy, or
- The supported spouse remarries, or
- The supported spouse finishes school, or
- One of the spouses dies.

Alimony may make a difference in your taxes. Talk to a tax expert before you sign the Divorce Agreement.

The judge will review the proposed alimony to make sure it is fair.

What if we can't agree on alimony?

Then you can't get an agreed divorce. **Don't** use this packet. Is alimony important? Or is there a big difference in salaries? Then talk to a lawyer. You and your spouse may:

- Talk to a mediator, who may be able to help you agree, or
- Talk to a lawyer, or
- File a regular divorce.

How do we divide retirement funds?

If either spouse has retirement funds, then you need to talk to a lawyer. You can't use these forms or this packet.

Should I talk to a lawyer about the Divorce Agreement?

Yes! Talk to a lawyer about your children, property, debt, and alimony. Some lawyers will help with just the Divorce Agreement. You do the rest of the case on your own.

State of Tennessee	Court _____ (Must Be Completed)	County _____ (Must Be Completed)
Request for Divorce (Complaint)		File No. _____ (Must Be Completed)
		Division/Part _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of Spouse Filing the Divorce)		
Defendant _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the Other Spouse)		

This form is only for spouses who:

- Have children together who are under 18, in high school, or disabled **AND**
- Have agreed on parenting time, responsibilities, and child support **AND**
- Agree how to divide their personal property and debts, and have no land, or businesses, or retirement benefits, except for social security **AND**
- Agree to sign and notarize the Divorce Agreement **AND**
- Lived in Tennessee when they decided to divorce **OR** one or both spouses lived in Tennessee for at least 6 months.

If you do not meet these rules, you cannot use these forms. Please talk to a lawyer.

You cannot use these forms if:

- One of the children born while you are married is not both spouses' child. Warning! If this is true, speak to a lawyer. **OR**
- Somebody else has a court order giving them custody or visitation **OR**
- Either spouse is pregnant no matter who the father is.

You may not be able to use these forms if either spouse is in the military. See sections 8 and 9.

Divorce Certificate - Get this official state paper from the court clerk. You must fill it out before going to court.

ANSWER EACH QUESTION.

① **Residency - (check all that apply):**

- My spouse or I have lived in Tennessee for at least 6 months.
- I was living in Tennessee when the reason for this divorce happened.
- Our differences arose in Tennessee.

② **Venue - (check one) I am filing for divorce in this County because:**

- My spouse and I lived in this County when we separated.

Address: _____
Street Address City State Zip

- My spouse lives in this County.
- I live in this County and my spouse does not live in Tennessee, or is in jail.

③ **Reason for Divorce** - My spouse and I can no longer get along, and we have irreconcilable differences.

④ **Children**

List all children you and your spouse have **together**. Children together means:

- Children you had together that were born before the marriage and all children born or adopted during the marriage. This includes ALL children either spouse had during the marriage. The children must be:
 - Under age 18
 - Or over 18 and disabled
 - Or over 18 and still in high school

If you have children, you may need to speak with a lawyer.

The parties have _____ children together.

Child's Name	Child's Date of Birth

Since _____, 20____, the children have lived with _____ at this address _____.

Until the parents separated on (date) _____, the children lived with both parents. For the past 5 years the children lived with both parents at this address: _____

Could another court case affect custody or visitation of a child? Yes No (If yes, you cannot use these forms.)

Has either spouse been part of a current court case about these minor children? Yes No (If yes, you cannot use these forms.)

The Plaintiff is the person filing for divorce. As far as the Plaintiff knows, no one except their spouse has a right to custody or visitation with the minor children. Plaintiff has not been part of any court case about the minor children in any state. If there is another court case about the minor children, the Plaintiff does not know about it.

Neither spouse is pregnant. (If a spouse is pregnant, you cannot use this form.)

⑤ **Marriage**

Date: _____ Place: _____

⑥ **Date of Separation -**

My spouse and I decided to divorce on (check one):

The date of filing this paper (Request for Divorce); or

The date we started living apart: (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

We were married on (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ in: _____
(City, County, State or Foreign Country)

⑦ **Orders of Protection and Other Court Orders:**

Check the box that is true for you.

There is no Order of Protection.

The Order of Protection is ended (expired).

There is an Order of Protection now. It will stay in effect until the divorce judge changes it. Attach a copy of Order of Protection and write the case number here: _____

Restraining Order (check one):

No Restraining Order other than the Statutory Injunction, which applies in every divorce case, has been in effect during this case. The Statutory Injunction tells both spouses not to spend, give away, destroy, waste or use up property from the marriage.

Other (describe): _____

Victims of Domestic Violence

You do not have to list a home address below. You may list a P.O. Box instead.
The local domestic violence agency can help you.
Call 1-800-356-6767 or go to www.tcadsv.org

⑧ **Plaintiff's Information**

Name: _____
First Name Middle Name Maiden Name Last Name (now)

Address: _____
Street Address City State Zip

Birthplace _____
City and State or Foreign Country

Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Race: White Hispanic Black Native American Other: _____

How many marriages before this one? _____	How long has he/she lived in Tennessee? _____ years _____ months
--	---

Plaintiff's Employer: _____

Active Member of the Armed Services of the United States? Yes No

Reserve Member of the Armed Services of the United States on Active Duty? Yes No

Guard Member of the Armed Services of the United States on Active Duty? Yes No

If the answer is "yes" to any of the questions above, talk to a lawyer. You may not be able to use these forms.

⑨ **Defendant's Information**

Name: _____
First Name Middle Name Maiden name Last name (Now)

Address: _____
Street address City State Zip

Birthplace _____
City and State or Foreign Country

Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Race: White Hispanic Black Native American Other: _____

How many marriages before this one? _____	How long has he/she lived in Tennessee? _____ years _____ months
--	---

Defendant's Employer: _____

Active Member of the Armed Services of the United States? Yes No

Reserve Member of the Armed Services of the United States on Active Duty? Yes No

Guard Member of the Armed Services of the United States on Active Duty? Yes No

If the answer is "yes" to any of the questions above, talk to a lawyer. You may not be able to use these forms.

⑩ **Financial Information**

Real Property (House, Land, or Mobile Homes that are permanently attached to the ground)

My spouse and I:

Do **NOT** own Real Property. If either of you have REAL Property, please see a lawyer first.

Personal Property (such as Cars, Mobile Homes (not permanently attached to the ground), Bank Accounts)

Own property and have filed the **Divorce Agreement** that lists how our property is divided.

Do not own Personal Property (**such as Cars, Mobile Homes, Bank Accounts**)

(If **either** of you has a Pension or Retirement Account, except for Social Security, or own a Business, you **cannot** use these forms. Please see a lawyer first.)

Debts – My spouse and I (check one):

Do **NOT** have debts.

Have debts and have filed a **Divorce Agreement** that lists how our debts are divided.

One or both of us has filed for a Bankruptcy and it is still active.

⑪ **Alimony (check one):**

Neither spouse wants alimony.

One of the spouses wants alimony, as agreed to in our Divorce Agreement.

⑫ **Name Change** (check below to change a spouse's name back to a name used before this marriage, either a maiden name or previous married name)

Plaintiff requests _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Defendant requests _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

⑬ **Court Costs** (check one):

Who will pay the court costs for this divorce?

Spouses will each pay half of the costs.

Plaintiff will pay all costs.

Defendant will pay all costs.

Other agreement: _____

⑭ **Divorce Agreement**

Our signed **Divorce Agreement** (Form 5) is attached, and we ask the Court to approve it.

I ask the Court to grant this divorce, to make the other orders I have asked for above, and to make any other orders I am entitled to.

Read the text below then sign ONLY in front of a notary

Signed at (City): _____ on (Date): _____
(MM/DD/YYYY)

State of Tennessee, County of _____
(Name of County Where Notarized)

I know that Tennessee has laws against lying on purpose (perjury). I swear and affirm that:

- As far as I know, the information on this form is true.
- My request for divorce is serious.
- My spouse and I have **not** agreed to lie about the information in this divorce.
- As far as we know, we meet all the rules to use these forms.

SWORN to and SUBSCRIBED before me, on (date): _____

Signed at (City): _____

State of Tennessee, County of _____

By (Name of Person Filing for Divorce): _____

(Signature of Person Filing for Divorce)

Signature of Notary Public, State of Tennessee

My commission expires: _____
MM/DD/YYYY

(NOTARY'S SEAL)

State of Tennessee	Court _____ (Must Be Completed)	County _____ (Must Be Completed)
Both Parties' Personal Information – To Be Filed Under Seal		File No. _____ (Must Be Completed)
		Division/Part _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of Spouse Filing the Divorce)		
Defendant _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the Other Spouse)		

This form asks for the personal contact information and Social Security Number of both spouses.

To protect your personal information, follow these steps:

- 1) Fill out this form.
- 2) Put the form in an **unsealed envelope**.
- 3) Write this information on the envelope: Names of both spouses, and Case Number of your case.
- 4) Give it to the clerk when you file your other court forms.

Plaintiff's Information

Name: _____
First Name Middle Name Maiden Name Last Name (now)

Address: _____
Street Address

_____ City _____ State _____ Zip

Telephone Number: _____

Social Security Number: _____ **Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY):** _____

Birth Place (State or Foreign Country): _____

Defendant's Information

Name: _____
First Name Middle Name Maiden Name Last Name (now)

Address: _____
Street Address

_____ City _____ State _____ Zip

Telephone Number: _____

Social Security Number: _____ **Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY):** _____

Birth Place (State or Foreign Country): _____

Children's Names, Addresses, Birthdates and Social Security Numbers:

Child's Name	Child's Address	Child's Birth Date	Child's Social Security Number

DRAFT

State of Tennessee	Court _____ (Must Be Completed)	County _____ (Must Be Completed)
Request to Postpone Filing Fees and Order (Uniform Civil Affidavit of Indigency)		File No. _____ (Must Be Completed) Division/Part _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of Spouse Filing the Divorce)		
Defendant _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the Other Spouse)		

If you cannot afford to pay the filing fees or costs at this time, fill out this form.

And file it with the completed case documents.

Even if the judge approves this form, you may have to pay court costs at the end of the case.

① Your Information:

Full Name: _____

Address: _____
Street Address City State Zip

Telephone: _____
Home Work Cell

Birth Date: (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

② Dependents:

List your dependents below.

Dependents can be:

- Your children, and
- Anyone you can claim as a dependent on your taxes.

Name	Age	Relationship	Name	Age	Relationship
1.			4.		
2.			5.		
3.			6.		

Other: _____

⑥ Expenses:

	How much each month?		How much each month?
<input type="checkbox"/> Rent/House Payment	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Phone	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Groceries	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Court-ordered Child Support	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> School Supplies	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical/Dental	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clothing	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Water	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	\$ _____

⑦ Debts:

Who do you owe?	How much do you owe?	Who do you owe?	How much do you owe?
1. _____	\$ _____	4. _____	\$ _____
2. _____	\$ _____	5. _____	\$ _____
3. _____	\$ _____	6. _____	\$ _____

⑧ I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Tennessee that:

- The information I have provided is true, correct, and complete.
- I cannot afford to pay the filing fees at this time.

Perjury means lying on purpose. If I lie on purpose I may have to pay a fine or go to jail.

Sign here: _____ Date: _____

Sworn and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

 Notary Public or Deputy Clerk

 My Term Expires

IMPORTANT!

Take any proof that supports your case to the hearing, including: witnesses, photos, papers, receipts, etc. The court will not accept written statements from witnesses. The person must go to court in person. If you think a witness may not want to go to court, ask the clerk for subpoena forms. Complete the subpoena as soon as possible so the sheriff can serve them before court.

The court and clerks are not allowed to give you legal advice, even if you don't have a lawyer. This form is a public record. It is not legal advice. The law may change and it is best to consult with a lawyer if possible.

Do Not Fill Out This Section Below. The Judge Will Fill This Section Out At Court.

- The court **denies** this Request because (judge will check all that apply):
 - The applicant did not prove s/he cannot afford to pay costs associated with this case at this time.
 - The applicant did not go to the court hearing concerning this Form. This Request is dismissed.
 - The applicant must pay court costs of: \$ _____
- The court **approves** this Request and the applicant may file without paying the filing fees or costs at this time.



Judge's signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTICE: After reading this paper, the judge may decide you must pay the fees up front. If that happens, you have the right to a hearing before the judge. An appeal gives you a chance to tell your side. You may be able to appeal your case to a Circuit Court. If so, you have a right to a hearing before the Circuit Court Judge.

State of Tennessee	Court _____ (Must Be Completed)	County _____ (Must Be Completed)
Divorce Agreement (Marital Dissolution Agreement)		File No. _____ (Must Be Completed)
		Division/Part _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last) of Spouse Filing the Divorce)		
Defendant _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the Other Spouse)		

This form explains how you and your spouse will divide your property and debts.
You must file this form with your **Request for Divorce, Form 1.**

Warning! Divorce cases can be hard.
It is always good to talk with a lawyer, if possible.
For information on how to get legal help, call 1-844-Help4TN (1-844-435-7486).

Check "yes" or "no" for each question below.

Does one or more of the children born while you were married have a different birth father?

Yes No

Does somebody else have a court order giving them custody or visitation of the children?

Yes No

Is either spouse pregnant?

Yes No

Does either spouse have a pension or retirement plan? This includes any retirement except Social Security. If you have any questions, see a lawyer.

Yes No

Does either spouse own a business?

Yes No

Does either spouse have real property (real property is houses, land, mobile homes that are permanently attached to the ground, condominiums, and cooperatives).

Yes No

If you checked "Yes" for any of the questions above, you cannot use these forms. Please talk to a lawyer.

Do you and your spouse agree on everything in the Parenting Plan?

Yes No

If you checked "No" for the question above, you cannot use these forms. Please talk to a lawyer.

Plaintiff: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

We promise the Court that: (Check Yes or No for each box)

1. We are the Plaintiff and Defendant listed above. We are filing a **Request for Divorce** in the county and court listed above. We can no longer get along as spouses. We understand our marriage rights and duties. We want to get an agreed divorce.

Yes No

2. We agree on everything in the **Request for Divorce**. The **Request for Divorce** does not have to be served, and there is no need to file an **Answer**.

Yes No

3. Each of us has read this whole **Divorce Agreement**. We agree it is fair. We understand that it will become part of our **Final Divorce Order**.

Yes No

4. My spouse and I have children together who are under 18, in high school or disabled.

Yes No

Children together means children you had together that were born before your marriage AND all children born or adopted during the marriage. This includes all children either spouse had during the marriage. The Court can decide issues about each child under age 18 or disabled and dependent on the spouses.

5. We have entered into a Permanent Parenting Plan. It is attached and part of this Marital Dissolution Agreement. We agree the Plan is in the best interest of the children. We understand the court will make the final decision about parenting issues.

Yes No

6. No one made us sign this Agreement. We will sign any other papers needed to carry out this Agreement.

Yes No

7. We do **not** have a current order of protection.

Yes No

8. Neither spouse **not** pregnant.

Yes No

If you checked "No" on any box, you cannot use any of these forms to file for a divorce.

Plaintiff: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Plaintiff's Personal Property

The **Plaintiff** will own the following property:

a. **Vehicles** (cars, motorcycles, trucks, boats, etc.)

Vehicle 1	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 2	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 3	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 4	Year	Make	Model	VIN #

b. **Other personal property** like bank accounts, cash, furniture, jewelry, etc., **not** houses or land!

Describe: _____

c. All personal property the Plaintiff has now is his/hers.

Defendant's Personal Property

The **Defendant** will own the following property:

a. **Vehicles** (cars, motorcycles, trucks, boats etc.)

Vehicle 1	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 2	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 3	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 4	Year	Make	Model	VIN #

b. **Other personal property** like bank accounts, cash, furniture, jewelry, etc., **not** houses or land!

Describe: _____

c. All personal property the Defendant has now is his/hers.

If you need more lines, copy this page. Make sure it is included when you file this paper.

Plaintiff: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Debt

Notice: The Final Decree does not necessarily affect the ability of a creditor to proceed against a party or a party's property, even though the party is not responsible under the terms of the decree for an account, any debt associated with an account or any debt. It may be in a party's best interest to cancel, close or freeze any jointly held accounts. T.C.A. §36-4-134.

What this means: This Order does **not** protect you against creditors. They may try to collect from you, even if your spouse is supposed to pay the debt. It may be best to cancel, close, or freeze any accounts you have together.

Plaintiff will pay all debts he/she has made since separating from the Defendant. He/she will pay for the following debts:

List all loans, credit card, cash advance debts	Name of Creditor (person or company you owe)	Amount still owed
1.		\$
2.		\$
3.		\$
4.		\$

Defendant will pay all debts he/she has made since separating from the Plaintiff. He/she will pay for the following debts:

List all loans, credit card, cash advance debts	Name of Creditor (person or company you owe)	Amount still owed
1.		\$
2.		\$
3.		\$
4.		\$

If you need more lines, copy this page. Make sure it is included when you file this paper.

Plaintiff: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

We Both Agree on How to Divide the Debts

(Hold Harmless Provision)

Both the spouses agree to divide their debts as listed above. The Plaintiff agrees to pay all the debts listed under "Plaintiff's Debts." The Defendant agrees to pay all the debts listed under "Defendant's Debts." The Plaintiff will not try to make the Defendant pay his/her debts. The Defendant will not try to make the Plaintiff pay his/her debts. The Plaintiff and Defendant understand that creditors can try to collect from both of them. A creditor may get one spouse to pay the other spouse's debt. If that happens, the spouse who has agreed to pay the debt will pay the other spouse back. He or she will pay back any payments and reasonable lawyer's fees the spouse paid. He or she will pay back any costs of trying to stop a creditor from collecting the debt.

Alimony (check one):

Warning! This section can be very hard. Please talk with a lawyer if you need help with this section.

Alimony can only be changed if there are significant life changes. You have to get a court order to change alimony.

If you want alimony but do not agree on all the sections below, you cannot use this form.

You must fill out each section.

Neither spouse wants alimony

OR

1. The Plaintiff Defendant agrees to pay (amount): \$ _____.

2. We agree that the alimony (check all the blocks that are true for your agreement):

Will be paid until this date _____

Will end when the one who gets the alimony dies or gets married again

Will end when the one who gets the alimony finishes school, or on _____,
whichever date comes first.

Or if this happens _____

The court can modify the alimony due to significant changes in our lives

3. We agree that the alimony will be paid (you must check one):

Weekly

Monthly

Annually

Lump sum paid all at one time

Important: Both of us understand alimony may change our federal taxes. Our initials at the bottom of this page show we understand this. We agree we are responsible for knowing, understanding and accepting this.

Important: If the party receiving alimony remarries, alimony will end in most cases. If the party receiving alimony lives with another person, whether they are romantically involved or not, the court may reduce or end alimony. It's best to talk to a lawyer.

Plaintiff: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Read below, but only sign in front of a notary.

You may sign at a different time than your spouse, if you want

Plaintiff

I know that Tennessee has laws against lying on purpose (perjury). I swear and affirm that:

- As far as I know, the information on this form is true.
- I have told my spouse about all property and all debts that I know about. I have not kept any property or debts a secret from my spouse before I signed this agreement.
- This is everything we have agreed to.
- Any Agreements we have that are not listed above are no longer any good.

SWORN to and SUBSCRIBED before me, on

(date): _____
MM/DD/YYYY

Signed at (city): _____

State of Tennessee, County of _____

By (Plaintiff):

Signature of Notary Public, State of Tennessee
My commission expires on:

_____ MM/DD/YYYY

(Notary's seal)

Read below, but only sign in front of a notary.

You may sign at a different time than your spouse, if you want

Defendant

I know that Tennessee has laws against lying on purpose (perjury). I swear and affirm that:

- As far as I know, the information on this form is true.
- I have told my spouse about all property all and debts that I know about. I have not kept any property or debts a secret from my spouse before I signed this agreement.
- This is everything we have agreed to.
- Any Agreements we have that are not listed above are no longer any good.

SWORN to and SUBSCRIBED before me, on

(date): _____
MM/DD/YYYY

Signed at (city): _____

State of Tennessee, County of _____

By (Defendant):

Signature of Notary Public, State of Tennessee
My commission expires on:

_____ MM/DD/YYYY

(Notary's seal)

By signing this Agreement, the spouses agree not to serve each other with divorce papers. They will give this Agreement to a court within 180 days. The 180 days starts when both of them have signed the Agreement. They agree that they do not need to file an answer to the divorce complaint.

Plaintiff: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

State of Tennessee	Court _____ (Must Be Completed)	County _____ (Must Be Completed)
Final Decree of Divorce (with Marital Dissolution Agreement)		File No. _____ (Must Be Completed) Division/Part _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of spouse filing the divorce)		
Defendant _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the other spouse)		

If you are ready to finalize your divorce, you must fill out this form. Only the spouse asking for the divorce must sign it, and that spouse **must go** to the court hearing. **BUT**, it is a good idea for **both** spouses to go in case the court has questions. The Judge does not have to sign this Order if he/she thinks your Divorce Agreement is not fair.

Take this form with you to your court hearing. It is best to bring all copies of documents you have filed in this case and take:

- **Divorce Agreement**, Form 5, signed by both spouses and notarized if not filed with Request for Divorce
- **Divorce Certificate** - you must get the official state form from the clerk and have it filled out before you go into court.
- **Title IV-D Child Support Information Form** – you only need this form if one of the spouses or children receive Families First or Medical Assistance Only from the State.
- **Permanent Parenting Plan, including Child Support Worksheet**

Court Hearing and Findings:

On (Date) _____, there was a court hearing at the court and county listed above
(MM/DD/YYYY)
before (Judge's Name): _____

Parties at the hearing:

Plaintiff (Spouse filing the divorce):

Street or P.O. Box City State Zip Phone #

Defendant (The other spouse):

Street or P.O. Box City State Zip Phone #

The Court finds that the spouses have signed and filed a divorce agreement. It is a fair settlement of their property rights and debts.

That Agreement is now filed with and made part of this Order. The spouses swear and affirm they have children together who are under 18, in high school or disabled. Children together means children they had together before the marriage and all children born or adopted during their marriage. It includes ALL children the either spouse had during the marriage.

Based on the parties' **Parenting Plan, Divorce Agreement, their Request for Divorce**, and the entire record for this case, the Court finds good cause to make this **Final Divorce Order**.

The Court makes the following Orders:

① The spouses are now divorced based on irreconcilable differences.
Important! This Order is not final until 30 days after the judge signs it. During the 30 days, you may have questions about remarrying or buying property. If so, talk to a lawyer.

② **Orders of Protection (check one):**

Neither party has a current Protective Order.

Restraining Order (check one):

Neither party has a current restraining order or wants a restraining order.

The Court orders both parties not to hurt or threaten the other.

The Court further orders that they cannot contact each other after the divorce is final. They also cannot send messages to each other through other people.

③ **Name Change (check one):**

This Order does not change either party's name.

This Order changes the Plaintiff's name to:

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
------------	-------------	-----------

This Order changes the Defendant's name to:

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
------------	-------------	-----------

Important! You need to change your name on your driver's license or other records. You may need a certified copy of this Order to do that.

④ **Court Costs** will be paid as follows (check one):

The Plaintiff and Defendant will each pay half of the court costs.

Plaintiff will pay all costs.

Defendant will pay all costs.

Other agreement: _____

⑤ **Alimony**

Neither spouse wants alimony OR

The (check one): Plaintiff Defendant agrees to pay (amount): \$ _____
each

Week Month Year

The alimony will end on (date): _____ OR

The alimony will end when this happens: _____

⑥ **Lawyers' fees**

- Neither side has a lawyer.
 - The Plaintiff will pay for his/her lawyer's fees. The Defendant will pay for his/her lawyer's fees.
 - Other (explain):
-

⑦ **Other Orders**

Notice: The Final Decree does not necessarily affect the ability of a creditor to proceed against a party or a party's property, even though the party is not responsible under the terms of the decree for an account, any debt associated with an account or any debt. It may be in a party's best interest to cancel, close or freeze any jointly held accounts. T.C.A. §36-4-134.

What this means: This Order does **not** protect you against creditors. They may try to collect from you, even if your spouse is supposed to pay the debt. It may be best to cancel, close, or freeze any accounts you have together.

Per T.C.A. 36-4-103, no divorce shall be granted on the ground of irreconcilable differences unless the court affirmatively finds in its decree that the parties have made adequate and sufficient provision by written agreement for the custody and maintenance of any children of that marriage and for the equitable settlement of any property rights between the parties. If the court does not affirmatively find that the agreement is sufficient or equitable, the cause shall be continued by the court to allow further disposition by the petitioner. If both parties are present at the hearing, they may, at that time, ratify any amendments the court may have to the agreement. The amended agreement shall then become a part of the decree. The agreement shall be incorporated in the decree or incorporated by reference, and such decree may be modified as other decrees for divorce.

What this means: The reason for some divorces is "irreconcilable differences." **Irreconcilable differences** means no one is to blame for the divorce. You two just cannot work out your problems. Tennessee law says to get this kind of divorce:

- The Plaintiff and Defendant must both sign a paper that says:
 - Where the children will live and
 - When the children will be with each parent and
 - Who pays child support and how much and
 - How they will fairly divide up any property

The court must say that this has been done and that it is fair. If not, the court will say what is wrong with the agreement. If the Plaintiff and Defendant are both in court, they can change the agreement then. If one of them is not there, the court will set a date for a new hearing. The Plaintiff and Defendant can change the agreement before the hearing. Once the agreement is changed and signed, it becomes part of the divorce papers. It can be changed later by following the rules for changing divorce papers.

This Order is made on Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ by:

Judge's signature

Presented by: _____
Person Getting the Order

Plaintiff's Signature _____

Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ Plaintiff's Phone Number: _____

Defendant's Signature _____

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____ Defendant's Phone Number: _____

If your spouse did not go to this hearing, you must mail him/her a copy of this signed Final Divorce Order. Then fill out the part below.

Certificate of Service:

I swear and affirm that a copy of the Final Divorce Order was given to my spouse. It was delivered in person or sent by first-class U.S. Mail to this address:

I did so on the _____ day of _____ 20____.

Spouse who mails it signs here: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone number: _____

Attached:

- Divorce Agreement – Marital Dissolution Agreement (if not already submitted)
- Divorce Certificate (if not already submitted)
- Parenting Plan including Child Support Worksheet (if not already submitted)
- Title IV-D Form (if not already submitted)

Other: _____

State of Tennessee	Court _____ (Must be completed)	County _____ (Must be completed)
Restraining Order for Divorcing Spouses (Statutory Injunction)		File No. _____ (Must Be Completed) Division/Part _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff: _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of spouse filing this paper)		
Defendant: _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the other spouse)		

Both spouses must obey all state law below until the divorce is granted. If you do not obey them, you may be held in contempt of court.

Behavior You must not:

- Bother, harass, threaten, assault or abuse your spouse.
- Talk about your spouse in a bad way to or in front of your children, your spouse's children, or your spouse's employer.
- Hide, destroy, or spoil any evidence stored on a computer hard drive or memory storage device.

Property & Money

- **DO NOT** do anything to any property that belongs to both of you that makes it worth less money. This means you can't destroy, harm, sell, spend, transfer, assign, borrow against, hide, or do anything with it. This is true unless the court orders it or your spouse agrees.
- You may use your income for expenses that:
 - Let you keep living as well as you did when married,
 - Pay the usual costs for your business the same way you always do
- You must keep records of all expenses. If he/she asks, you must give your spouse copies of those records.

Children

You must not move the children:

- Out of Tennessee, or
- More than 50 miles from the home where you lived while married. This is true unless the court orders it or your spouse agrees.

Important! Do you have a good reason to be afraid that your spouse might hurt you or your children? Then you may go with your children to a safe place. Later, the other spouse may ask the court for an emergency hearing and new Orders. The court can hold the hearing by phone, if needed.

Important! If you want to move with the children out of Tennessee or more than 50 miles away after the divorce, Tennessee's relocation law applies. You must speak with a lawyer.

Insurance Unless the court orders it or your spouse agrees, you must not:

- Change, cancel, or transfer **any** insurance policy that covers either spouse or the children.
- Change, cancel, or transfer **any** insurance policy that names either spouse or the children as beneficiary.
- Stop paying for **any** insurance policy premium that covers either spouse or the children.

You **must** follow this Order unless the court changes or ends it, OR your case is final or dismissed. OR you and your spouse make an agreement. Either spouse may ask the court to change or cancel this Order.

Plaintiff's Signature

Defendant's Signature

State of Tennessee	Court: _____ (Must Be Completed)	County: _____ (Must Be Completed)
Notice of Hearing to Approve Irreconcilable Differences Divorce Irreconcilable differences mean no one is to blame for the divorce. You two just cannot work out your problems.		File No.: _____ (Must Be Completed) Division/Part: _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff: _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of spouse filing the divorce)		
Defendant _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the other spouse)		

This case is set for hearing at the court above on:

_____, 20__ at _____
 (Month/Day)

- a.m.
 p.m.

Location: Room # _____
 (Street) (City, State, Zip)

Presented by: _____

Person asking for the Hearing to approve the irreconcilable differences divorce

Certificate of Service

I swear and affirm that a copy of this Notice was given to my spouse. It was delivered in person or sent by first-class U.S. Mail to this address:

I did so on the _____ day of _____, 20____.

Person asking for the Hearing:

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone number: _____
 XXX 2015

State of Tennessee	Court _____ (Must Be Completed)	County _____ (Must Be Completed)
Order of Wage Assignment for Child Support		File No. _____ (Must Be Completed) Division/Part _____ (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of spouse filing the divorce)		
Defendant _____ (Name: First, Middle, Last of the other spouse)		

This cause came to be heard on the _____ day of _____, _____. It is hereby,

Ordered, adjudged and decreed that:

① Plaintiff Defendant shall pay the other parent \$ _____ a month for current support and \$ _____ a month for back child support.

List all the children this payment supports. Add a page if you need more space.

Name (first, middle, last) _____

Date of birth: _____

Name (first, middle, last) _____

Date of birth: _____

Name (first, middle, last) _____

Date of birth: _____

② This Order is a wage assignment order. Wage assignment means the employer takes the money out of each paycheck. The employer will take out \$ _____ per month for current child support plus an additional \$ _____ per month for back child support from the Plaintiff's Defendant's paycheck. The back child support will be paid until \$ _____ in total back child support has been paid in full.

③ The Clerk shall give notice of this assignment to the Plaintiff's Defendant's employer:

Employer's name and address _____

Notice shall be given by certified mail. The employer shall withhold \$ _____ per month from

the Plaintiff's Defendant's paycheck and pay it to:

**The Central Child Support Receiving Unit
P.O. Box 305200
Nashville, TN 37229**

The payment shall indicate:

Case Number _____

Court Identifier/Tennessee Child Support Enforcement System (TCSES) Number _____

④ Payment shall be made by the Central Child Support Receiving Unit to:

Name of parent receiving support (first, last, middle) _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

⑤ Plaintiff Defendant shall pay the sum of \$ _____ per month directly to the other parent until such time the child support is deducted from his wages.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

JUDGE

Presented by:

Plaintiff

Address

Telephone Fax

Email

Defendant

Address

Telephone Fax

Email

Children:

1. First, middle, last name: _____
Date of birth: _____
Address where he/she lives: _____
City _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

2. First, middle, last name: _____
Date of birth: _____
Address where he/she lives: _____
City _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

3. First, middle, last name: _____
Date of birth: _____
Address where he/she lives: _____
City _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

4. First, middle, last name: _____
Date of birth: _____
Address where he/she lives: _____
City _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Important! If child support payments are made to the Central Child Support Receiving Unit, remember:

Send a payment coupon from the Department of Human Services with each payment. Don't have a coupon? Then this information **must** go with each payment:

1. Name and social security number of the parent who must pay child support.
2. Court Identifier number _____
3. Docket number _____

If you don't send this information with the payment, you may have to pay a penalty (TCA §36-5-120).

Are you behind on child support payments (in arrears)? Then the payment that is set is the least you can pay. Your children's other parent can still try and collect by taking your income tax refund. Or he/she can get a lien to get the money if you sell any property. Or he/she can ask the court to take your property to pay what you owe. If this happens, will it count toward what you owe for child support? It **ONLY** counts if it is paid to the Central Child Support Receiving Unit.

Is child support being taken out of your wages? Until your employer starts taking the payments out of your wages, you must make payments. Make payments directly to the Central Child Support Receiving Unit. What if your employer is not taking the full payment you owe out of your wages? Then you must pay the rest of the payment directly to the Central Child Support Receiving Unit.

Warning! If any of the information on this paper changes or is wrong, you must let the court know right away. If you don't, a default judgment may be entered against you. The default judgment will be sent to the most recent residential or employer address on file with the court or the Title IV-D agency. A default judgment means you are ordered to pay all the child support you owe at once. If any of the information changes, both the Plaintiff and Defendant must tell the court and the IV-D Child Support Office within 10 days. Report the changes to the Clerk of the _____ Court,

