

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FAMILY COURT
Domestic Relations Branch**

PRINT YOUR SPOUSE'S NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

DRB

PLAINTIFF,

v.

PRINT YOUR NAME

STREET ADDRESS

JUDGE: _____

CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

☐ **SUBSTITUTE ADDRESS:** CHECK BOX IF YOU
HAVE WRITTEN SOMEONE ELSE'S ADDRESS BECAUSE
YOU FEAR HARASSMENT OR HARM.

DEFENDANT.

**CONTESTED ANSWER TO COMPLAINT FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE
AND COUNTERCLAIM**

Action Involving Child Support ☐ yes ☐ no

I, _____, am the Defendant in this case.
PRINT YOUR NAME

- 1. Plaintiff stated that this court was the proper place to decide the divorce and related issues in this case and:**

☐ **I agree** with that.

☐ **I disagree** with that. This court is not the proper place to decide the divorce and related issues in this case because:

2. With regard to my marriage to my spouse, I answer and state that: [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about how, when and where we were married.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement. My spouse and I were married [CHECK ONE]

☐ by ceremony on _____, in _____.
DATE CITY AND STATE

☐ by common law on or about _____, in _____.
DATE CITY AND STATE

3. With regard to my separation from my spouse, I answer and state that: [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about when we separated

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement. My spouse and I were separated on or about _____.
DATE

4. I state the following with regard to my married name: [CHECK ONE]

☐ I did not change my name when I married my spouse.

☐ I changed my name when I married my spouse. I do not wish to return to a former name.

☐ I changed my name when I married my spouse and I now wish to return to my birth name or another legal name I used before my marriage. I have no illegal or fraudulent reason for making this request. The former name I want restored is:

PRINT NAME YOU WOULD LIKE THE COURT TO RESTORE

Marital Property & Marital Debt

5. With regard to property from my marriage, I answer and state that: [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about marital property.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about marital property and state the following:
[CHECK ONE]

- ☐ My spouse and I have no marital property.
- ☐ My spouse and I have an agreement resolving all of our marital property issues and I am not asking the Court to divide or distribute any marital property.
- ☐ My spouse and I have a written agreement resolving all of our marital property issues and I am not asking the Court to divide or distribute any marital property.
- ☐ My spouse and I have marital property that I am asking the Court to divide or distribute, and I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment A, which I incorporate into this Contested Answer to Complaint for Absolute Divorce and Counterclaim.
- ☐ I am not sure if my spouse and I have marital property.

6. With regard to debt from my marriage, I answer and state that: [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about marital debt.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about marital debt and state the following:
[CHECK ONE]

- ☐ My spouse and I have no marital debt.
- ☐ My spouse and I have an agreement resolving all of our marital debt issues and I am not asking the Court to assign responsibility for it.
- ☐ My spouse and I have a written agreement resolving all of our marital debt issues and I am not asking the Court to assign responsibility for it.
- ☐ My spouse and I have marital debt that I am asking the Court to assign responsibility for, and I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment A, which I incorporate into this Contested Answer to Complaint for Absolute Divorce and Counterclaim.
- ☐ I am not sure if my spouse and I have marital debt.

Alimony

7. With regard to my spouse's statement about financial support, I answer and state that:
[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- ☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about permanent and/or temporary financial support.
- ☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about permanent and/or temporary financial support.
- ☐ **I further state** that I need permanent and/or temporary financial support and I believe that my spouse has the ability to pay alimony to me.

Custody

8. With regard to my spouse's statement about children of this marriage, I answer and state that: [CHECK ONE]

- ☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about custody.
- ☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about custody, and I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment B, which I incorporate into this Contested Answer to Complaint for Absolute Divorce and Counterclaim.

Child Support

9. With regard to my spouse's request for child support, I answer and state that:
[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- ☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about child support.
- ☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about child support.
- ☐ **I further state** that I am asking the Court to award child support to me, **and** I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment C, which I incorporate into this Contested Answer to Complaint for Absolute Divorce and Counterclaim.

Attachments

10. I further state that in support of my Contested Answer to Complaint for Absolute Divorce and Counterclaim, I have included the following attachment(s): [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- ☐ No attachments
- ☐ Attachment A (Marital Property and Marital Debt)
- ☐ Attachment B (Custody)
- ☐ Attachment C (Child Support)

Other Proceedings

11. I do ☐ / do not ☐ know of any proceedings in the District of Columbia or in any state or territory involving the same claim or subject matter as this case. Please list state, court, and docket number for cases involving the same claim or subject matter.

Court	Case Number	Case Type

Request for Relief

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST that the Court: [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- ☐ Grant ☐ Deny my spouse's request for an Absolute Divorce.
- ☐ Divide marital property and/or assign marital debts in a manner that is equitable, just and reasonable.
- ☐ Award alimony in a manner that is fair and just, including: [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]
 - ☐ temporary alimony
 - ☐ permanent alimony
- ☐ Award custody in the best interests of the child(ren).
- ☐ Hold a hearing on any request for child support within 45 days of filing and issue a Notice of Hearing and Order Directing Appearance ("NOHODA") to the other parent with the date and time of the hearing.
- ☐ Award child support according to the Child Support Guideline of the District of Columbia and other applicable laws, including: [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]
 - ☐ current child support (support starting today and continuing into the future)
 - ☐ retroactive child support (support for time before today)
 - ☐ medical support
- ☐ Note that we have a written agreement. I request that the Court: [CHECK ONE]
 - ☐ *include* our written agreement as a part of its order.
 - ☐ *not include* our written agreement as a part of its order.
- ☐ Restore me to my former name.

I ALSO REQUEST that the Court award any other relief it considers fair and proper.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

If this document is to be signed outside the geographic boundaries of the United States, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, and any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, additional requirements must be met prior to signing. See Super. Ct. Dom. Rel. R. 2(c)(1)(B).

SIGN YOUR NAME

DATE

PRINT YOUR NAME

PHONE NUMBER

HOME ADDRESS 1

EMAIL ADDRESS

HOME ADDRESS 2

☐ SUBSTITUTE ADDRESS: CHECK BOX IF YOU
HAVE WRITTEN SOMEONE ELSE'S ADDRESS
BECAUSE YOU FEAR HARASSMENT OR HARM.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FAMILY COURT
Domestic Relations Branch**

PRINT PLAINTIFF'S NAME

_____ DRB _____

PLAINTIFF,

JUDGE: _____

v.

PRINT DEFENDANT'S NAME

DEFENDANT.

**RULE 5
PROOF OF SERVICE FORM**

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SERVED THE OTHER PARTY WITH A COPY OF YOUR PAPERS, YOU CAN FILL OUT AND FILE THIS PROOF OF SERVICE FORM AT THE SAME TIME THAT YOU FILE YOUR PAPERS.

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY SERVED THE OTHER PARTY WITH A COPY OF YOUR PAPERS, YOU MUST FILL OUT AND FILE THIS PROOF OF SERVICE FORM AFTER YOU SERVE THE OTHER PARTY.

IF THE OTHER PARTY HAS A LAWYER IN THIS CASE, YOU MUST SERVE A COPY OF THE PAPERS TO THE LAWYER. IF THE OTHER PARTY DOES NOT HAVE A LAWYER, A COPY OF THE PAPERS SHOULD BE SERVED DIRECTLY TO THE OTHER PARTY.

1. I certify that on _____ I served copies of _____ to:

DATE OF SERVICE

NAME(S) OF PLEADING(S)

☐ the other party, _____ **or**
NAME OF OTHER PARTY

☐ the other party's attorney, _____, who represents _____.
NAME OF ATTORNEY NAME OF OTHER PARTY

2. I delivered copies of the papers by: [CHECK ONE]

☐ **handing them to the other party.**

☐ **sending them to the other party by first class mail** to the other party's last known address:

ADDRESS WHERE THE PAPERS WERE SENT

☐ **leaving them with a person of suitable age and discretion** who lived with the other party at:

ADDRESS OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE WHERE PAPERS WERE SERVED

This place is the other party's ☐ TEMPORARY RESIDENCE.

☐ PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

☐ OTHER: _____.

SPECIFY OTHER TYPE OF RESIDENCE

I state the following about the person I gave the papers to (PROVIDE AS MANY DETAILS AS POSSIBLE):

Their name: _____.

Their approximate age: _____.

Their relationship to the other party is:

☐ Spouse/partner

☐ Family member (specify): _____

☐ Roommate

☐ Other: _____

☐ **leaving them at the other party's attorney's office** with the attorney, a clerk or other person in charge:

PRINT NAME OF PERSON SERVED WITH PAPERS

TITLE OF PERSON SERVED

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

☐ **sending them electronically** through CaseFileXpress or some other electronic way agreed to by the other party in writing:

EMAIL ADDRESS OF OTHER PARTY (IF USED)

ELECTRONIC MEANS USED (FOR EXAMPLE: EMAIL, CASEFILEXPRESS)

☐ **some other way** agreed to by the other party in writing:

SPECIFY HOW SERVICE WAS COMPLETED

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

If this document is to be signed outside the geographic boundaries of the United States, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, and any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, additional requirements must be met prior to signing. See Super. Ct. Dom. Rel. R. 2(c)(1)(B).

SIGN YOUR NAME

DATE

PRINT YOUR NAME

PHONE NUMBER

HOME ADDRESS 1

EMAIL ADDRESS

HOME ADDRESS 2

☐ SUBSTITUTE ADDRESS: CHECK BOX IF YOU
HAVE WRITTEN SOMEONE ELSE'S ADDRESS
BECAUSE YOU FEAR HARASSMENT OR HARM.