

**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.

RELATED CASES:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT YOUR NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
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)

## 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.**

[CHECK ONE]

I *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.

I *do* know of proceedings in the District of Columbia or in any state or territory involving the same claim or subject matter as this case, as listed on the first page of this Complaint (“Related Cases”).

I solemnly swear or affirm under criminal penalties for the making of a false statement that I have read the foregoing Contested Answer to Complaint for Absolute Divorce and Counterclaim and that the factual statements made in it are true to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGN YOUR NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS

**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  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT PLAINTIFF'S NAME

PLAINTIFF,

\_\_\_\_\_ DRB \_\_\_\_\_

v.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT DEFENDANT'S NAME

DEFENDANT.

**RULE 5  
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**I certify that I served a copy of my Contested Answer to Complaint for Absolute Divorce and Counterclaim to the other party or the other party's attorney on \_\_\_\_\_.**  
DATE OF SERVICE

**The papers were delivered:** [CHECK ONE]

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

**by first class mail:**

**by fax:**

**by leaving a copy at the other party's workplace** with a clerk or person in charge, or because there was no one in charge, by leaving it in a conspicuous place:

**by leaving a copy at the other party's home** with a person of suitable age and discretion who lives there:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME OF PERSON SERVED WITH PAPERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS/FAX #

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

SIGN YOUR NAME

DATE