

**9 pages**  
**\$1.35**

Forms Associated with Florida Supreme Court Forms for Filing a

# **ACCEPTANCE AND WAIVER OF SERVICE AND ANSWER**

**IN A DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE  
PROCEEDING**

Revised December 1, 2015  
For Forms Revised 11-2015

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCEPTANCE AND WAIVER OF SERVICE AND ANSWER

## When should this form be used?

This form should be used when the respondent wishes to receive a copy of the petition for dissolution of marriage without being formally served by the sheriff with a summons, there are no issues to be resolved by the court, and the respondent does not want to **contest** or appear at a **hearing**.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, the respondent should sign before a **notary public** and **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for your records. The person filing the **petition** in a dissolution of marriage proceeding is also referred to as the **petitioner** and his or her **spouse** as the **respondent**.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

## What should the Respondent do next?

Fill out and file the other documents listed below with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for hi/her records. A copy of this form along with copies of the other forms required below should be either mailed or hand delivered to the other party in this case.

### *Special notes...*

With this form, you must also file the following:

- **Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(1), or **Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with No Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(f)(2), if you have reached an agreement on any and all of the issues.
- **Notice of Social Security Number**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.902(j).
- **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c). (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on you, if not filed at the time you file this answer.)

- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.932. (This must be filed within 45 days of service of the petition on you, if not filed at the time you file this answer, unless you and the other party have agreed not to exchange these documents.)

If there are children, parties are required to complete a **parenting course** before a final hearing may be set. Contact the Clerk of Court about requirements for parenting courses where you live.

Listed below are some terms with which you should become familiar before completing your answer to the petition. **If you do not fully understand any of the terms below or their implications, you should speak with an attorney before going any further.**

- **Shared Parental Responsibility**
- **Sole Parental Responsibility**
- **Rotating Custody**
- **Primary Residential Responsibility**
- **Secondary Residential Responsibility**
- **Reasonable visitation**
- **Specified visitation**
- **Supervised visitation**
- **No contact**

**Child Support** – Both parents are required to provide financial support for their children, but one parent may be ordered to pay a portion of his or her support for the child(ren) to the other parent. Florida has adopted guidelines for determining the amount of child support to be paid. These guidelines are based on the combined income of both parents and take into account the financial contributions of both parents. You must file a **Family Law Financial Affidavit**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), and your spouse will be required to do the same. From your financial affidavits, you should be able to calculate the amount of child support that should be paid using the **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e). Because the child support guidelines take several factors into consideration, change over time, and vary from state to state, your child support obligation may be more or less than that of other people in seemingly similar situations.

**Nonlawyer** – Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

**ACCEPTANCE AND WAIVER OF SERVICE AND ANSWER**

1. The Respondent, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage in this action and hereby waives formal service of process and accepts service of process to the same degree as if said petition and a summons has been served by the Sheriff or other certified process server duly authorized by law.
2. The Respondent admits the allegations in the petition and consents to the jurisdiction of this Court. The parties have reached agreement on all matters and there are no issues to be resolved by the court.
3. A completed Notice of Social Security Number, Florida Family Law Form 12.901(j), is filed with this answer.
4. A completed Financial Affidavit, Florida Family Law Form 12.902(b) or (c), is filed with this answer.
5. Respondent waives notice of hearing as well as all future notices in connection with the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage, as filed. Respondent also waives appearance at the final hearing.
6. Respondent request that a copy of the Final Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage entered in this case be forwarded to Respondent at the address below.

I certify that a copy of this document was ( ) mailed ( ) faxed and mailed ( ) e-mailed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this answer and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Respondent

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF OKALOOSA

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.]*

\_\_\_\_ Personally known  
\_\_\_\_ Produced identification  
Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks]

This form was prepared for the: *{choose only one}* ( ) Affiant ( ) Husband ( ) Wife

This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{ name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_

*{address}* \_\_\_\_\_

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zip code}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.

# **INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.915, DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS (11/15)**

## **When should this form be used?**

This form should be used to inform the clerk and the other **party** of your current mailing and e-mail address(es) or **any change of address**. It is very important that the court and the other party in your case have your correct address.

A party not represented by an attorney may choose to designate e-mail address(es) for **service**. A primary and up to two secondary e-mail addresses can be designated. If you do so and the other party is represented by an attorney or has also designated e-mail address(es) for service, e-mail will be the **exclusive means of service**.

If there is any change in your mailing or e-mail address(es), you must complete a new form, file it with the clerk, and serve a copy on any other party or parties in your case.

## **What should I do next?**

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records. A copy of this form must be served on any other party in your case. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING**

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION**

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic

mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you must review Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

**SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.** If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

### **Where can I look for more information?**

**Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there.

### **Special notes...**

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

**DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS**

I, *{full legal name}* \_\_\_\_\_, being sworn, certify that  
my current mailing address is: *{Street}* \_\_\_\_\_  
*{City}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{State}* \_\_\_\_\_ *{Zip}* \_\_\_\_\_  
*{Telephone No.}* \_\_\_\_\_ *{Fax No.}* \_\_\_\_\_.

I designate as my current e-mail address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I must keep the clerk's office and the opposing party or parties notified of my current mailing and e-mail address(es) and that all future papers in this lawsuit will be served at the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.**

I certify that a copy of this document was ( ) e-mailed ( ) mailed ( ) faxed  
( ) hand-delivered to the person(s) listed below on *{date}* \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party



STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF OKALOOSA

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK  
\_\_\_\_\_

*[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary  
or clerk.]*

\_\_\_\_\_ Personally known  
\_\_\_\_\_ Produced identification  
Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN  
THE BLANKS BELOW:**

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only one}* (     ) Petitioner (     )  
Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

*{name of individual}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{name of business}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{street}* \_\_\_\_\_,

*{city}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{state}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{zipcode}* \_\_\_\_\_, *{telephone number}* \_\_\_\_\_.