

PACKET 11

Forms Associated with Florida Supreme Court Forms for Filing a

Petition for Name Change (Minor Child)



EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

THINGS TO DO AFTER FORMS ARE COMPLETE:

- Make 2 sets of copies, one for you and one for the respondent (the opposing party), if any
- File the original documents with the Clerk's Office on the 1st floor of the civil court house
OR
- E-file the documents on the eportal at www.myflcourtagency.com
- Optional: prior to filing, you may take the COMPLETED forms to FAMILY COURT CASE MANAGEMENT on the 4th floor for review

FEES

Filing fee.....	\$400.00	Notary Fee	\$3.50 per notary signature
Summons	\$10.00 to issue	Copies by clerk.....	\$1.00 per page
Self-serve copies	\$0.15 using copy machine in the Official Records area		

Fees paid to Sheriff for service of process are separate

PAYMENT OPTIONS

The Clerk accepts payments in cash, personal check, cashier's check and money order payable to Clerk of Court. The Clerk also accepts Visa and MasterCard, which requires an additional 3.5% processing fee.

Revised March 29, 2021	61 pages
For FSC Forms Revised November 2020	\$9.15
For Circuit Forms Revised March 2021	

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WARNING

IF THERE IS ANY QUESTION in your mind concerning these forms, the use of these forms, or your legal rights, it is strongly recommended that you obtain the services of an attorney. If you do not know an attorney, you may contact the Florida Lawyer Referral Service at 1-800-342-8011. If you are filing for divorce in a case involving domestic violence and are financially unable to afford the services of an attorney, you may contact Three Rivers Legal Services at (352) 372-0519 or 1-800-372-0936 to see if you are eligible for their services.

DUE TO THE CHANGING NATURE OF THE LAW, the forms and information contained in this packet may become outdated. Therefore, you should review and research statutes and rules of procedure referenced in the instructions to ensure that the forms are accurate and current.

IN NO EVENT will the Florida Supreme Court, the Florida Bar, the Eighth Judicial Circuit Office of the Court Administrator, the Clerk of the Court or anyone contributing to the production of these forms, commentary, instructions, and appendices be liable for any indirect or consequential damages resulting from the use of the packet.

Use these forms at your own risk. These forms may or may not be appropriate in your particular case. Any desired outcome from the use of these forms cannot be predicted or guaranteed. **It is strongly recommended that you seek legal advice.**

When the forms refer to: "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants)," the information is found at <http://www.flcourts.org> (select Family Forms located under the heading Self Help in the General Public Tab).



EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Resources for Litigants Filing a Family Law Action Without Legal Counsel

Information on how to file family law cases without an attorney in the State of Florida can be found at:

<http://circuit8.org/family-court> or <http://www.flcourts.org> (select Family Forms located under the heading Self Help in the General Public Tab)

Internet access and procedural guidance is available at the Self Help Center, Room 413, of the Family/Civil Justice Center.

Southern Legal Counsel

(352)271-8890

<https://www.southernlegal.org/www-southernlegal-org>

FAMILY COURT

SELF HELP CENTER

EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



SERVING ALACHUA COUNTY A PROGRAM OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURT

The Self Help Center staff is employed by the Court to assist the Family Law Judges by making sure that all cases in which the petitioner is not represented by an attorney have met procedural requirements.

As in all matters involving law, it is recommended that you obtain the services of a competent lawyer. It is important for you to understand that the Court and Program staff do not represent you. **YOU** represent yourself.

If you decide to proceed without a lawyer, the Self Help Center staff **will**:

- explain procedures
- guide you on informative and helpful websites
- inform you about additional court requirements
- help you set a hearing with the judge

The staff **will not**:

- give legal advice or explain rights
- represent you in court
- tell you what forms to file
- tell you how to present your case
- notify you that your case is ready to file

PROCEDURES

If you have decided to file a family law case without a lawyer, please follow these steps:

1. Purchase the applicable form and/or packet from the Clerk of the Court or download the forms from the Clerk's website at www.alachuaclerk.org.
2. Complete the packet of forms - in ink or typed. Court staff cannot assist you in completing the forms.
3. Instructions regarding filing and procedures are addressed in the packet. Procedural questions can be answered by calling **(352)548-3781** or visiting the **Self Help Center, Alachua County Family/Civil Justice Center, 201 E. University Avenue, Room 413, Gainesville, Florida 32601.**
4. Further instructions regarding procedures after filing are addressed in the packet. Your case will be monitored for procedural requirements by the Self Help Center staff.

Helpful websites -- information on how to file family law cases without an attorney in the State of Florida can be found at:

Eighth Judicial Circuit Website:

<http://circuit8.org/services/familycourt> or

Florida Supreme Court Website:

<http://www.flcourts.org> (select Family Forms located under the heading Self Help in the General Public Tab)



NAME CHANGE FOR MINOR CHILD(REN) PACKET INFORMATION

This packet is divided into three sections. Section "A" is used when the parties are in agreement. The petitioner will fill out and file section "A." If you are serving the other party through the Sheriff's office you will need the forms in sections "A" and "B." If you do not know the location of the other party then you will need the forms in sections "A," and "C" and the default forms in section "B."

SECTION "A"

Section "A" includes forms for the petitioner and forms for the respondent:

PETITIONER'S FORMS

- Notice of Limited Service
- Civil Cover Sheet
- Fingerprint card (stapled to the front of the packet)
- Petition for Change of Name (Minor Children(ren))
- Supplemental Form for Petition for Change of Name (Minor Child(ren))
- A written affidavit from the child stating that this is what the child wants if the child is twelve years of age or older
- Notice of Related Cases
- Copy of Child's Birth Certificate

After you fill out the forms and have them notarized, make two copies, one for yourself and one for the other person who is required to file a consent. File the originals with the Clerk's office and provide a copy to the other person. Include the filing fee and mail or deliver to the Clerk of Court, Alachua County Family/Civil Justice Center, 201 E. University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601, First Floor, (352) 374-3618.

If the parties cannot reach agreement on some issues, mediation will be required. Mediation can be ordered by the Court or the parties can make the arrangements themselves by contacting the program mediation office at (352) 491-4417.

The parties from whom you need a consent will have to file:

- Consent for Change of Name (Minor Child(ren))



**EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
FAMILY COURT SELF HELP CENTER**

NOTICE OF LIMITATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED/DISCLAIMER

The personnel in the office of the Clerk of the Court are not acting as your lawyer or providing legal advice to you.

Clerk of Court personnel are not acting on behalf of the court or any judge. The presiding judge in your case may require amendment of a form or substitution of a different form. The judge is not required to grant the relief requested in a form.

The personnel in the office of the Clerk of the Court cannot tell you what your legal rights or remedies are, represent you in court, give legal advice or instructions on completing forms or tell you how to testify in court.

In all cases, it is best to consult with your own attorney, especially if your case presents significant issues regarding children, child support, alimony, retirement or pension benefits, assets, or liabilities.

_____ I can read English. - (Go to signature line)

_____ I cannot read English, but this notice was read to me by

_____ in _____
(Name) (Language)

YOUR SIGNATURE

CHECKLIST NAME CHANGE

ADULT:

- CIVIL COVER SHEET
- NOTICE OF LIMITED SERVICE/ DISCLAIMER
- PETITION
- CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD (NOT NEEDED IF CHANGING BACK TO MAIDEN NAME)

MINOR CHILD:

- CIVIL COVER SHEET
- NOTICE OF LIMITED SERVICES/DISCLAIMER
- PETITION/JOINT PETITION
- SUPPLEMENTAL FORM FOR PETITION (IF MORE THAN ONE CHILD)
- CONSENT (OTHER PARTY). Power of attorney is not a consent.
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD

OR (IF NO CONSENT)

- PROOF OF SERVICE (PERSONAL)
- AFFIDAVIT OF PERSONAL SERVICE OUT OF STATE
- PROOF OF SERVICE (CONSTRUCTIVE)
 - NOTICE OF ACTION
 - AFFIDAVIT OF DILIGENT SEARCH
 - PROOF OF PUBLICATION or
 - PROOF OF POSTING
 - NONMILITARY AFFIDAVIT
 - MEMO FOR CERTIFICATE OF MILITARY SERVICE
- MOTION FOR DEFAULT

*** This checklist is not intended as legal advice; it is a list of what the court still needs in order to go forward with your case. You must provide the information that is listed above before your next court hearing.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Plaintiff/ Petitioner/State

v.

CASE NO: _____

DIVISION: _____

Defendant/ Respondent

PERMISSION TO USE E-MAIL

Provide your email address below to receive a copy of your Orders, Judgments Notice of Hearings or other written communications from the court or clerk of court and by electronic mail.*

By completing this form I am authorizing the Court and the Clerk, of Circuit Court to send copies of orders/judgments, notices or other written communications to me by e-mail.

I will ensure the software filters have been removed from my computer, so it does not interfere with my ability to receive any of the above documents.

I will file a written notice with the Clerk, if my current email address changes.

Plaintiff/ Petitioner Name (print)

Plaintiff/ Petitioner Name (signature)

* email address (print *clearly*)

Date

Your transaction control number is TCN# 70SX_____.

FINGERPRINT INFORMATION
FOR NAME CHANGE PETITIONERS

Before the court hears a name change petition, each adult petitioner (unless a former name is being restored) must have fingerprints submitted for a state and national criminal history records check, F.S. 68.07, which must be submitted electronically. The cost must be borne by the name change petitioner.

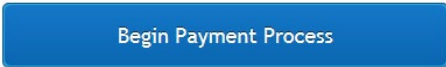
To get your fingerprints submitted electronically:

1. Visit the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office
2621 SE Hawthorne Road
Gainesville, FL 32641
(352) 367-4000

Fingerprinting hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

2. Bring this information sheet with you to the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office.
3. Bring your picture ID—a Florida driver’s license is preferred. You will not be able to submit your fingerprints without a picture ID.
4. The Sheriff’s Office will use the Originating Agency Identification (ORI) Number FL923520Z to insure that FDLE returns the electronic report to the Alachua County Clerk’s Office.
5. Bring cash (small bills), cashiers or certified check, or money order for the \$10 Sheriff’s fee.
6. The Sheriff’s Office will record the transaction control number (TCN) on this form to be used in the payment process in number 7. Keep this for your records.
7. The FDLE payment of \$37.25 (\$24.00 FDLE and \$13.25 FBI) must be made online at <https://caps.fdle.state.fl.us/caps/homePage.jsf> by credit card after your fingerprints are taken.

At the website, click on information.



and enter the requested

- a. The TRANSACTION CONTROL NUMBER (TCN), which is at the top of this information sheet.
 - b. Enter your name exactly as provided in the livescan submission, in ALL caps: FIRST name, then optional MIDDLE name, and then LAST name, and then the optional SUFFIX, JR, SR, I, II, III etc.
 - c. Enter your credit card and personal information.
 - d. Submit the payment transaction.
 - e. Print the confirmation of the payment and keep it for your records if needed.
8. The agencies conducting the fingerprint checks will send the results directly to the Alachua County Clerk of Court. **DO NOT FILE YOUR FINGERPRINT CARD.**
 9. If you have questions about the electronic fingerprint submission, you may contact FDLE's E-Government Criminal History Services Section at (850) 410-8161.

**RETURN THIS FORM AND PAYMENT CONFIRMATION WITH YOUR
PETITION TO CLERK WITHIN 48 HOURS**

Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases

I. Case Style

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

_____ Petitioner	Case No.: _____
and	
_____ Respondent	

II. Type of Action/Proceeding. Place a check beside the proceeding you are initiating. If you are simultaneously filing more than one type of proceeding against the same opposing party, such as a modification and an enforcement proceeding, complete a separate cover sheet for each action being filed. **If you are reopening a case, choose one of the three options below it.**

- (A) Initial Action/Petition
- (B) Reopening Case
 - 1. Modification/Supplemental Petition
 - 2. Motion for Civil Contempt/Enforcement
 - 3. Other

III. Type of Case. If the case fits more than one type of case, select the most definitive.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (A) <input type="checkbox"/> Simplified Dissolution of Marriage
(B) <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage
(C) <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence
(D) <input type="checkbox"/> Dating Violence
(E) <input type="checkbox"/> Repeat Violence
(F) <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Violence
(G) <input type="checkbox"/> Stalking
(H) <input type="checkbox"/> Support IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
(I) <input type="checkbox"/> Support Non-IV-D (not Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
(J) <input type="checkbox"/> UIFSA IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement) | (K) <input type="checkbox"/> UIFSA Non-IV-D (not Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
(L) <input type="checkbox"/> Other Family Court
(M) <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption Arising Out of Chapter 63
(N) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Name Change
(O) <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity
(P) <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency
(Q) <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Dependency
(R) <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter Petition
(S) <input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out of Chapter 39
(T) <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption Arising Out of Chapter 39
(U) <input type="checkbox"/> CINS/FINS |
|--|---|

IV. Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires that a Notice of Related Cases Form, Family Law Form 12.900(h), be filed with the initial pleading/petition by the filing attorney or self-represented litigant in order to notify the court of related cases. Is Form 12.900(h) being filed with this Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases and initial pleading/petition?

- No, to the best of my knowledge, no related cases exist.
- Yes, all related cases are listed on Family Law Form 12.900(h).

ATTORNEY OR PARTY SIGNATURE

I CERTIFY that the information I have provided in this cover sheet is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature _____ FL Bar No.: _____
Attorney or party (Bar number, if attorney)

(Type or print name) Date

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} _____

{address} _____

{city} _____, {state} _____, {telephone number} _____

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.982(c),
PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR CHILD(REN)) (02/18)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when parents want the court to change the name of their minor child(ren). For the purposes of this proceeding, a person under the age of 18 is a minor. This form is not to be used in connection with an adoption, dissolution of marriage, or **paternity action**. If you want a change of name for your child(ren) because of an adoption or paternity action that is not yet final, the change of name should be requested as part of that case.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink and must be signed before a notary public or deputy clerk. You should file the original with the clerk of the circuit court, in the county where you live and keep a copy for your records. The **Petition** should only be completed by one Petitioner for one child. If you wish to change the name of more than one child or if there is more than one Petitioner, you should complete and file a Supplemental Form for Petition for Change of Name (Minor Child) for each child and/or a Supplemental Form for Petition for Change of Name. The supplemental form(s) is an attachment to the petition. **Be sure that the bottom of each page of each supplemental form is initialed by the petitioner(s).**

What should I do next?

Unless you are seeking to restore a former name, each adult petitioner(s)'s fingerprints must be submitted for a state and national criminal history records check. The fingerprints must be taken in a manner approved by the Department of Law Enforcement. The fingerprints must be submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement for a state and national criminal history records check. **The Petitioner(s) may not request a hearing on the Petition until the copy of the fingerprints are filed and the clerk of court has received the results of the criminal history records check.** The clerk of court can instruct you on the process for having the fingerprints taken and submitted, including information on law enforcement agencies or service providers authorized to submit fingerprints electronically to the Department of Law Enforcement. The process may take several weeks and the parent or guardian of the minor must pay the cost of processing the fingerprints and conducting the state and national history records check. **Please note that the state and national criminal records check must indicate whether you have registered either as a sexual predator or a sexual offender and you must also indicate on this petition whether you have ever been required to register as a sexual predator under section 775.21, Florida Statutes, or as a sexual offender under section 943.0435, Florida Statutes.**

If **both** parents agree to the change of name and live in the county where the change of name is sought, you may both file as **petitioners**. In this situation, **service** is not necessary, and you need only to set a **hearing**. You should ask the clerk of court, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** about the local procedure for setting a hearing.

If only one parent is a resident of the county where the change of name(s) is sought **or** only one parent asks for the child(ren)'s name(s) to be changed, the other parent must be notified and his or her consent obtained, if possible. If the other parent consents to the change of name, a **Consent for Change of Name (Minor Child(ren))**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.982(d), should be filed.

If the other parent does not consent to the change of name, you may still have a hearing on the petition **if** you have properly notified the other parent about your petition and the hearing. If you know where he

or she lives, you must use **personal service**. If you absolutely do not know where he or she lives, you may use **constructive service**. For more information about personal and constructive service, you should refer [to] the “**General Instructions for Self-Represented Litigants**” found at the beginning of these forms and the instructions to Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Forms 12.910(a) and 12.913(b) and Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a). However, the law regarding constructive service is very complex and you may wish to consult an attorney regarding that issue.

Next, you must obtain a **final hearing** date for the court to consider your request. If you are seeking to restore a former name, a hearing on the petition MAY be held immediately after the petition is filed. The final hearing on any other petition for a name change may be held immediately after the clerk of court receives the results of your criminal history records check. You should ask the clerk of court, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant about the local procedure for setting a hearing. You may be required to attend the hearing. Included in these forms is a **Final Judgment of Change of Name (Minor Child(ren))**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.982(e), which may be used when a judge grants a change of name for a minor child(ren). If you attend the hearing, you should take the final judgment with you. You should complete the top part of the form, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the name(s) of the petitioner(s) and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete. It should be typed or printed in black ink.

If the judge grants your petition, he or she will sign this **order**. This officially changes your child(ren)’s name(s). The clerk can provide you with **certified copies** of the signed order. There will be charges for the certified copies, and the clerk can tell you the amount of the charges.

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. For further information, see section 68.07, Florida Statutes.

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 Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516](#). You may find this rule at 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.

Special notes...

The heading of the form calls for the name(s) of the **petitioner(s)**. This means the parent(s) who is (are) requesting the change of their child(ren)'s name(s). The judicial circuit, case number, and division may be obtained from the clerk of court's office when you file the petition.

It may be helpful to compile a list of all of the people and places that will need a copy of the final judgment. This list may include the driver's license office, social security office, banks, schools, etc. A list will help you know how many copies of your order you should get from the clerk of court after your hearing.

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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR ALACHA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF

Petitioner,

CASE NO: _____

vs.

DIVISION: _____

Petitioner.

PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR CHILD(REN))

I/We, {full legal name(s)} _____, being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

I am/We are the birth or legal parent(s) or guardian of the minor child(ren) named in this petition.

[Choose **only** one]

- a. ___ There is only one minor child named in this petition.
- b. ___ There are {enter number of children} _____ children named in this petition. The information on the first child is entered below. I/We have attached the completed supplemental forms for each other child.

The adult petitioner(s)'s fingerprints have been taken in a manner approved by the Department of Law Enforcement and submitted for a state and national criminal history records check. **I /We understand that I/we cannot request a hearing on my/our Petition until the clerk of court receives the results of the criminal history records check. I/We also understand that the state and national records check must indicate whether I/we have registered as either a sexual predator or a sexual offender.**

A. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TRUE ABOUT CHILD # 1 :

- 1. **The Minor child's complete present name is:**

I/We request that this minor child's name be changed to:

- 2. The minor child lives in _____ County, Florida, at {street address} _____.

- 3. The minor child was born on {date} _____, in {city, county, state, country} _____.

- 4. The minor child's parents' full legal names are: _____.

a. _____ and.

b. _____.

c. {If applicable} the minor child's parents' maiden name(s) is/are: _____ and _____.

- 5. The minor child has lived in the following places since birth:

Dates (to/from)	Address
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

_____/_____
_____/_____

() Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

6. [Choose **one** only]

____ The minor child is not married.

____ The minor child is married to: *{full legal name}* _____.

7. [Choose **one** only]

____ The minor child has no children.

____ The minor child is the parent of the following child(ren):

Name <i>{last, first, middle initial}</i>	Date of Birth
_____	_____

() Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

8. **Former names.**

[Indicate **all** that apply]

____ The minor child's name has never been changed by a court.

____ The minor child's name previously was changed **by court order** from _____
to _____ on *{date}* _____,
by *{court, city, and state}* _____.

A copy of the court order is attached.

____ The minor child's name previously was changed **by marriage** from _____
to _____ on *{date}* _____,
in *{city, county, and state}* _____.

A copy of the marriage certificate is attached.

____ The minor child has never been known or called by any other name.

____ The minor child has been known or called by the following other name(s): *{list name(s) and explain where child was known or called by such name(s)}* _____

9. The minor child is not employed in an occupation or profession, does not own and operate a business, and has received no educational degrees. If the minor child has a job, explain: _____

10. **Criminal History.**

[Indicate all that apply]

____ The minor child has never been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication.

____ The minor child has a criminal history. In the past, the minor child was arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication. The details of the criminal history are:

Date	City/State	Event (arrest, charge, plea, or adjudication)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

() Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

_____ The minor child _____ has _____ has not ever been required to register as a sexual predator under section 775.21, Florida Statutes.

_____ The minor child _____ has _____ has not ever been required to register as a sexual offender under section 943.0435, Florida Statutes.

11. **Money Judgments.**

[Choose **one** only]

_____ The minor child has never been adjudicated bankrupt, and no money judgment has ever been entered against him or her.

_____ The following money judgment(s) has been entered against him or her:

Date	Amount	Creditor	Court entering judgment and case number	(date) if Paid
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

B. **THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TRUE ABOUT PETITIONER(S):**

_____ PARENT _____ GUARDIAN

_____ A Supplemental Form has been attached for the other parent or petitioner.

1. My complete present name is: _____.

2. I live in _____ County, Florida, at {street address} _____.

3. **Bankruptcy**

{Choose **one** only}

_____ I have never been adjudicated bankrupt.

_____ I was adjudicated bankrupt on {date} _____, in {city} _____, {county} _____, {state} _____.

(_____ Please indicate here if you have filed additional bankruptcies, and explain on an attached page.)

4. **Creditor(s)' Judgments**

{Choose **one** only}

_____ I have never had a money judgment entered against me by a creditor.

_____ The following creditor(s)' money judgments have been entered against me:

Date	Amount	Creditor	Court entering judgment & case number	If Paid {date}
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

(_____) Please indicate here if these facts are continued on an attached page.)

5. **Criminal History**

[Choose **one** only]

_____ I have never been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication.

_____ I have a criminal history. In the past I have been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication. The details of my criminal history are:

Date	City/State	Event (arrest, charge, plea, or adjudication)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

() Please indicate here if these facts are continued on an attached page.)

I ____ have ____ have not ever been required to register as a sexual predator under section 775.21, Florida Statutes.

I ____ have ____ have not ever been required to register as a sexual offender under section 943.0435, Florida Statutes.

6. I have no ulterior or illegal purpose for filing this petition, and granting it will not in any manner invade the property rights of others, whether partnership, patent, good will, privacy, trademark, or otherwise.

7. My civil rights have never been suspended, or, if ever suspended, they have been fully restored.

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

Dated: _____

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Designated E-mail: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

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 Petitioner(s).

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, {state} _____, {zip code} _____, {telephone number} _____.

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

ADULT SUPPLEMENTAL FORM FOR PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR CHILDREN)

Case No.: _____

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TRUE ABOUT PETITIONER(S):

PARENT GUARDIAN

- 1. My complete present name is: _____.
- 2. I live in _____ County, Florida, at {street address} _____.

3. Bankruptcy

{Choose **one** only}

_____ I have never been adjudicated bankrupt.

_____ I was adjudicated bankrupt on {date} _____, in _____ {city} _____, {county} _____, {state} _____.

() Please indicate here if you have filed additional bankruptcies, and explain on an attached page.)

4. Creditor(s)' Judgments

{Choose **one** only}

_____ I have never had a money judgment entered against me by a creditor.

_____ The following creditor(s)' money judgments have been entered against me:

Date	Amount	Creditor	Court entering judgment & case number	If Paid {date}
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

() Please indicate here if these facts are continued on an attached page.)

5. Criminal History

{Indicate all that apply}

_____ I have never been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication.

_____ I have a criminal history. In the past I have been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication. The details of my criminal history are:

Date	City/State	Event (arrest, charge, plea, or adjudication)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

() Please indicate here if these facts are continued on an attached page.)

I _____ have _____ have not ever been required to register as a sexual predator under section 775.21, Florida Statutes.

I _____ have _____ have not ever been required to register as a sexual offender under section 943.0435, Florida Statutes.

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

6. I have no ulterior or illegal purpose for filing this petition, and granting it will not in any manner invade the property rights of others, whether partnership, patent, good will, privacy, trademark, or otherwise.

7. My civil rights have never been suspended, or, if ever suspended, they have been fully restored.

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

Dated: _____.

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or deputy 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 completed for the Petitioner(s).

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, {state} _____, {zip code} _____, {telephone number} _____.

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

SUPPLEMENTAL FORM FOR PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR CHILD(REN))

Case No.: _____

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TRUE ABOUT CHILD # _____:

1. **Minor child's complete present name is:**

I/We request that minor child's name be changed to:

2. The minor child lives in _____ County, Florida, at {street address} _____.

3. The minor child was born on {date} _____, in {city, county, state, country} _____.

4. The minor child's parents' full legal name(s) are:

a. _____.

b. _____.

c. {If applicable} the minor child's parents' maiden name(s) is/are: _____ and _____.

5. The minor child has lived in the following places since birth:

Dates (to/from)	Address
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____

(____ Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

6. {Choose **one** only}

____ The minor child is not married.

____ The minor child is married to: {full legal name} _____.

7. [Choose **one** only]

____ The minor child has no children.

____ The minor child is the parent of the following child(ren):

Name {last, first, middle initial}	Date of Birth
_____	_____

(____ Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

8. **Former names.**

[Indicate **all** that apply]

____ The minor child's name has never been changed by a court.

____ The minor child's name previously was changed **by court order** from _____
to _____ on {date} _____
by {court, city, and state} _____.

A copy of the court order is attached.

____ The minor child's name previously was changed **by marriage** from _____
to _____ on {date} _____.

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

in {city, county, and state} _____.

A copy of the marriage certificate is attached.

___ The minor child has never been known or called by any other name.

___ The minor child has been known or called by the following other name(s): {list name(s) and explain where child was known or called by such name(s)} _____

9. The minor child is not employed in an occupation or profession, does not own and operate a business, and has received no educational degrees. If the minor child has a job, explain: _____

10. Criminal History.

[Indicate all that apply]

___ The minor child has never been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication.

___ The minor child has a criminal history. In the past, the minor child was arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication. The details of the criminal history are:

Date	City/State	Event (arrest, charge, plea, or adjudication)

(___ Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

___ The minor child ___ has ___ has not ever been required to register as a sexual predator under section 775.21, Florida Statutes.

___ The minor child ___ has ___ has not ever been required to register as a sexual offender under section 943.0435, Florida Statutes.

11. Money Judgments.

[Choose **one** only]

___ The minor child has never been adjudicated bankrupt, and no money judgment has ever been entered against him or her.

___ The following money judgment(s) has (have) been entered against him or her:

Date	Amount	Creditor	Court entering judgment and case number	[date] if Paid

PETITIONER(S) MUST INITIAL HERE _____

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW RULES OF
PROCEDURE FORM 12.900(h), [NOTICE OF RELATED CASES \(11/13\)](#)**

When should this form be used?

Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires the **petitioner** in a family law case to file with the court a notice of related cases, if any. Your circuit may also require this form to be filed even if there are no related cases. A case is considered related if:

- it involves the same parties, children, or issues and is pending when the family law case is filed; or
- it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; or
- an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or
- an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier case.

This form is used to provide the required notice to the court.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. It must be **filed** with the **clerk of the circuit court** with the initial pleading in the family law case.

What should I do next?

A copy of the form must be served on the presiding judges, either the chief judge or the family law administrative judge, and all parties in the related cases. You should also keep a copy for your records. **Service** must be in accordance with 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. For further information, see Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d).

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 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 **must** also 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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

_____ Petitioner,	CASE NO: _____ DIVISION: _____
vs.	
_____ Respondent.	

NOTICE OF RELATED CASES

1. Petitioner submits this Notice of Related Cases as required by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d). A related case may be an open or closed civil, criminal, guardianship, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, juvenile dependency, or domestic relations case. A case is "related" to this family law case if it involves any of the same parties, children, or issues and it is pending at the time the party files a family case; if it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; if an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or if an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier litigation.

[check **one** only]

There are no related cases.

The following are the related cases (add additional pages if necessary):

Related Case No. 1

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner : _____

Respondent : _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Custody | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violence or Stalking Injunctions | <input type="checkbox"/> Other {specify} _____ |

State where case was decided or is pending: Florida Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases [check **all** that apply]:

- pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
- may affect court's jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;

___ order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 2

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner : _____

Respondent : _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

- Dissolution of Marriage
- Custody
- Child Support
- Juvenile Dependency
- Termination of Parental Rights
- Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat
- Violence or Stalking Injunctions
- Paternity
- Adoption
- Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Criminal
- Mental Health
- Other {specify} _____

State where case was decided or is pending: ___ Florida ___ Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases [check **all** that apply]:

- pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
- may affect court’s jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

2. [check **one** only]

___ I **do not** request coordination of litigation in any of the cases listed above.

___ I **do** request coordination of the following cases:

3. [check **all** that apply]

___ Assignment to one judge

___ Coordination of existing cases

will conserve judicial resources and promote an efficient determination of these cases because: _____.

- 4. The Petitioner acknowledges a continuing duty to inform the court of any cases in this or any other state that could affect the current proceeding.

Dated: _____

 Petitioner's Signature
 Printed Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Telephone Number: _____
 Fax Number: _____
 E-mail Address(es): _____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that I delivered a copy of this Notice of Related Cases to the _____ County Sheriff's Department or a certified process server for service on the Respondent, and [**check all used**] () e-mailed, () mailed, () hand delivered, a copy to {name} _____, who is the [**check all that apply**] () judge assigned to new case, () chief judge or family law administrative judge, () {name} _____, a party to the related case, () {name} _____, a party to the related case on {date} _____.

 Signature of Petitioner/Attorney for Petitioner
 Printed Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Telephone Number: _____
 Fax Number: _____
 E-mail Address(es): _____
 Florida Bar Number: _____

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} _____,
 {address} _____,
 {city} _____, {state} _____, {telephone number} _____.

FORMS FOR THE RESPONDENT

(the person responding to the petition)

The following blank forms are included in this packet for the Respondent to fill out:

- ♦ Consent for Change of Name*

* Must be signed by Respondent and notarized by a Notary Public.

IMPORTANT

The Respondent must file the original documents with the Clerk of Court, CIVIL Department, and furnish the Petitioner with a set of copies of all forms completed by the Respondent. The Clerk of the Court is located on the first floor of the Alachua County Family/Civil Justice Center, 201 E. University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601. Documents (with filing fee) may also be submitted to the Clerk of Court by mail at 201 E. University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601. The Clerk of Court may be reached by calling (352) 374-3636.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.982(d),
CONSENT FOR CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR CHILD(REN)) (02/18)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when one parent consents to the other parent's **petition** to change the name of their minor child(ren). A parent who is not a **petitioner** in the case but is consenting to the change of name should complete this form and sign it in front of a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After this form is signed and notarized, you should **file** it with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the petition was filed and keep a copy for your records. This form should be attached to the **Petition for Change of Name (Minor Child(ren))**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.982(c), if obtained prior to the filing of the petition. Otherwise, it may be filed separately after it has been completed.

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.**

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. For further information see section 68.07, Florida Statutes, and the instructions for **Petition for Change of Name (Minor Child(ren))**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.982(c), or **Petition for Change of Name (Family)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.982(f).

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 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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF

Case No.: _____

Petitioner.

CONSENT FOR CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR CHILD(REN))

I, *{full legal name}* _____, being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

I am the birth or legal parent of the minor child(ren) named in this case, and I give consent for the following name changes:

Minor child(ren)'s complete present name(s):

Minor child(ren)'s name(s) to be changed to:

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____
- (5) _____
- (6) _____

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____
- (5) _____
- (6) _____

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

Dated: _____

Signature of Consenting Parent
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Designated E-mail: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

[Print or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.]

Personally known

Produced identification/Type 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 {choose one} () Petitioner () Consent Parent and completed with the assistance of:

{name} _____,
{address} _____,
{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

SECTION B

This section is to be used when you are going to have the other party in your case served by the Sheriff's Office. The petitioner will have to fill out the forms in section "A" and file them with the clerk's office at the Courthouse. Take a copy of the forms you have filed and the following SHERIFF'S FORMS from section "B":

- Directions for Memorandum to Sheriff
- Memorandum to Sheriff
- Affidavit for Personal Service Outside the State of Florida (used when the other party resides in another State). **Failure to use this document can result in the Sheriff's service being invalid.**
- Summons

Contact the Sheriff's Office where the other party resides to find out what they require of you. Deliver or mail a complete copy of what you have filed and the Sheriff's forms, including any fees, and envelopes. On serving these papers on the other party the Sheriff's Office will send you a "Notice of Service" which is proof that the other party was served. When the twenty (20) day time line has expired and the other party has not filed a response you can file the following DEFAULT PAPERS:

- Motion for Default

Should the other party respond within the twenty day time period the case can continue from that point. If the other party responds that they are in agreement with the issues then file the request for a hearing/non-jury trial. If they are not in agreement you should try to resolve the issues on your own or through mediation.

DIRECTIONS FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS MEMORANDUM TO SHERIFF

This form should be sent to the sheriff's department in the county of the state where you wish to have the Respondent served.

With this form you can inform the sheriff's department of the best times to find the Respondent at work and/or home. (You may also include a map to the Respondent's home or work place to help the sheriff find the Respondent and deliver the summons.)

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOU:

1. Contact the Sheriff of that county and get the following information:

- Their address
- Cost of service
- Whether they will take a check or money order.
- Anything else they may require for service of process.

2. Mail or Deliver to the Sheriff:

- a) Memorandum to Sheriff
- b) Original Summons
- c) Set of photocopies of all the papers that you filed
- d) Self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The self-addressed, stamped envelope is for the Sheriff to mail you the original Return of Service. **

**UPON RECEIVING THE RETURN OF SERVICE, DELIVER IT OR MAIL IT TO THE CLERK OF COURT
IN THE COUNTY WHERE YOU FILED!

Pay attention to the date the Return of Service says the respondent was served with the summons. Remember, the Respondent is required to file a written response to your petition within 20 days from the day after being served.

SERVICE OF PROCESS MEMORANDUM TO SHERIFF

TO: Sheriff of _____ County, _____, Civil Division
State of _____

RE: _____, Petitioner vs.
_____, Respondent.

In the Circuit Court, Alachua County, Florida

Case Number: _____

DATE: _____

Enclosed you will find a check or money order for the fee for service of process along with the summons and petition to be served on the respondent.

Respondent: _____

Residence Address: _____

Work Address: _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS for locating the Respondent:

Please use the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope to send the Affidavit for Return of Service. Thank you for your time.

Petitioner's Signature

Printed Name: _____

Petitioner's Address: _____

Telephone No.: (_____) _____

Designated E-mail: _____

AFFIDAVIT FOR PERSONAL SERVICE OUTSIDE THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Sections 48.193 and 48.194, Fla. Stat.

STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____

BEFORE ME, this day personally appeared _____, who being duly sworn, deposes and says that the following information is true and correct according to his/her best knowledge and belief:

Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Florida, and to personal service of process outside the state of Florida, for a cause of action arising out of the following: (check one or more)

 With respect to a proceeding for alimony, child support, and/or property division in connection with a dissolution of marriage while maintaining a marital domicile in Florida or if the defendant resided in Florida before the commencement of the action, whether cohabitating during that time or not.

With respect to a proceeding for support for dependent(s) in an independent action while maintaining a marital domicile in Florida or if the defendant resided in Florida before commencement of the action, whether cohabitating during that time or not.

With respect to paternity actions when the father had sexual intercourse in Florida from which the child could have been conceived.

Petitioner's Signature
Printed Name _____
Address _____

City State Zip

Telephone (area code and number)

Designated E-mail

Sworn to and subscribed before me on _____, 20____
by {name} _____ who is

____ Personally known **OR**
____ Produced identification. Type of identification produced _____

NOTARY PUBLIC—STATE OF FLORIDA

NOTE: Service of process on persons outside Florida must be made in the same manner as service in Florida by any officer authorized to serve process in the state where the person is served. **AN AFFIDAVIT OF THE OFFICER SHALL BE FILED STATING THE TIME, MANNER, AND PLACE OF THE SERVICE.**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.910(a),
SUMMONS: PERSONAL SERVICE ON AN INDIVIDUAL (11/20)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used to obtain **personal service** on the other **party** when you begin your lawsuit. **Service** is required for **all** documents filed in your case. Service means giving a copy of the required papers to the other party using the procedure that the law requires. Generally, there are two ways to make service: (1) personal service, or (2) service by email, mail, or hand delivery. A third method for service is called **constructive service**; however, the relief a court may grant may be limited in a case where constructive service has been used.

The law requires that certain documents be served by **personal service** if personal service is possible. **Personal service** means that a summons (this form) and a copy of the forms you are filing with the court that must be personally served are delivered by a deputy sheriff or private process server

- a. directly to the other party, **or**
- b. to someone over the age of fifteen with whom the other party lives.

Personal service is required for **all petitions**, including petitions for modification. You cannot serve these papers on the other party yourself or by mail or hand delivery. Personal service must be made by the sheriff's department in the county where the other party lives or works or by a private process server certified in the county where the other party lives or works.

In many counties, there are private process servers who, for a fee, will personally serve the summons and other documents that require personal service. You should look under **process servers** in the yellow pages of the telephone book for a list of private process servers in your area. You may use a private process server to serve any paper required to be personally served in a family law case **except** a petition for injunction for protection against domestic or repeat violence.

How do I start?

When you begin your lawsuit, you need to complete this form (summons) and a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b). The forms should be typed or printed legibly in black ink. Next, you will need to take these forms and, if you have not already done so, **file** your petition with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where you live. You should keep a copy of the forms for your records. The clerk will sign the summons, and then the summons, a copy of the papers to be served, and the process service memorandum must be delivered to the appropriate sheriff's office or to a private process server for service on the other party.

IF THE OTHER PARTY LIVES IN THE COUNTY WHERE SUIT IS FILED: Ask the clerk in your county about any local procedures regarding service. Generally, if the other party lives in the county in which you are filing suit and you want the sheriff's department to serve the papers, you will file the summons along with a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b), with the clerk and the clerk will forward those papers to the sheriff for service. Make sure that you attach a copy of the papers you want personally served to the summons. You may also need to provide the sheriff with a stamped envelope addressed to you. This will allow the sheriff to send the proof of service to you, after the sheriff serves your papers on the other party. However, in some counties the sheriff may send the proof of service directly to the clerk. If you are instructed to supply a self-addressed, stamped envelope and you receive the proof of service, you should file the proof of service with the clerk after you receive it from the sheriff. Also, you will need to find out how much the sheriff charges to serve the papers. Personal checks are not accepted. You should attach to the summons a cashier's check or money order

made payable to the sheriff, and either give it to the clerk for delivery to the sheriff or send all of the paperwork and the fee to the sheriff yourself. The clerk will tell you which procedure to use. The costs for service may be waived if you are indigent.

If you want a private process server to serve the other party, you should still bring the summons to the clerk's office and have the clerk sign it for you. You should deliver the summons, along with the copy of your initial petition and any other papers to be served, and a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b), to the private process server. The private process server will charge you a fee for serving the papers. After service is complete, proof of service by the private process server must be filed with the clerk. You should discuss how this will occur with the private process server.

IF THE OTHER PARTY LIVES IN ANOTHER COUNTY: If the other party lives in another county, service needs to be made by a sheriff in the county where the other party lives or by a private process server certified in the county where the other party lives. Make sure that you attach a copy of the papers you want personally served to the summons as well as the **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b). If you want the sheriff to serve the papers, the clerk may send your papers to that sheriff's office for you, or you may have to send the papers yourself. The clerk will tell you which procedure to use. Either way, you will need to provide the sheriff with a stamped envelope addressed to you. This will allow the sheriff to send the proof of service to you, after the sheriff serves your papers on the other party. You should file the proof of service with the clerk after you receive it from the sheriff. Also, you will need to find out how much the sheriff charges to serve the papers. Personal checks are not accepted. You should attach to the summons a cashier's check or money order made payable to the sheriff, and either give it to the clerk for delivery to the sheriff or send all of the paperwork and the fee to the sheriff yourself. The clerk will tell you which procedure to use. The costs for service may be waived if you are indigent.

If you want a private process server to serve the other party, you should still bring the summons to the clerk's office where the clerk will sign it for you. You should deliver the summons, along with the copy of your initial petition and any other papers to be served, and a **Process Service Memorandum**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.910(b), to the private process server. The private process server will charge you a fee for serving the papers. After service is complete, proof of service by the private process server must be filed with the clerk. You should discuss how this will occur with the private process server.

IF THE OTHER PARTY CANNOT BE LOCATED OR DOES NOT LIVE IN FLORIDA: If, after you have made a diligent effort to locate the other party, you absolutely cannot locate the other party, you may serve the other party by publication. Service by publication is also known as **constructive service**. You may also be able to use constructive service if the other party does not live in Florida. **However, Florida courts have only limited jurisdiction over a party who is served by constructive service and may have only limited jurisdiction over a party living outside of Florida regardless of whether that party is served by constructive or personal service;** that is, the judge's power to order the other party to do certain things may be limited. For example, the judge may be able to grant your request for a divorce, but the judge may not be able to address issues such as child support, spousal support (alimony), or division of property or debts.

Regardless of the type of service used, if the other party once lived in Florida but is living outside of Florida now, you should include in your petition a statement regarding the length of time the party lived in Florida,

if any, and when. For example: Respondent last lived in Florida from {date} _____ to {date}_____.

This area of the law is very complex and you may need to consult with an attorney regarding the proper type of service to be used in your case if the other party does not live in Florida or cannot be located.

What happens when the papers are served on the other party?

The date and hour of service are written on the original summons and on all copies of it by the person making the service. The person who delivers the summons and copies of the petition must file a proof of service with the clerk or provide a proof of service to you for filing with the court. **It is your responsibility to make sure the proof of service has been returned to the clerk and placed in your case file.**

What should I do next?

A copy of this form must be filed with the court and served on the other party or his or her attorney. The copy you are serving to the other party must be either mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to the opposing party or his or her attorney on the same day indicated on the certificate of service. If it is mailed, it must be postmarked on the date indicated in the certificate of service. 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 Florida 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 Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516](#). You may find this rule at 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 email, 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. For further information regarding service of process, see chapters 48 and 49, Florida Statutes, and rule 1.070, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, as well as the instructions for **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage (No Child or Financial Support)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(1), **Notice of Action for Family Cases with Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(2), **Affidavit of Diligent Service and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b), and **Affidavit of Diligent Search**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(c).

Special notes...

If you have been unable to obtain proper service on the other party within **120 days** after filing your lawsuit, the court will dismiss your lawsuit against the other party unless you can show the court a good reason why service was not made within **120 days**. For this reason, if you had the local sheriff serve the papers, you should check with the clerk every couple of weeks after completing the service papers to see if service has been completed. You may need to supply the sheriff with a new or better address. If you had a private process server or a sheriff in another county serve the papers, you should be in contact with that person or sheriff until you receive proof of service from that person or sheriff. You should then file the proof of service with the clerk immediately.

If the other party fails to respond, i.e., fails to file a written response with the court, within **20 days** after the service of the summons, you are entitled to request a **default**. See the instructions to **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922 (a), and **Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(b), for further information. You will need to file an **Affidavit of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(b), before a default may be granted.

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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner.

**SUMMONS: PERSONAL SERVICE ON AN INDIVIDUAL
ORDEN DE COMPARECENCIA: SERVICIO PERSONAL EN UN INDIVIDUO
CITATION: L'ASSIGNATION PERSONAL SUR UN INDIVIDUEL**

TO/PARA/A: *{enter other party's full legal name}* _____
{address (including city and state)/location for service} _____.

IMPORTANT

A lawsuit has been filed against you. You have **20 calendar days** after this summons is served on you to file a written response to the attached complaint/petition with the clerk of this circuit court, located at: *{street address}* _____.

A phone call will not protect you. Your written response, including the case number given above and the names of the parties, must be **filed** if you want the Court to hear your side of the case.

If you do not file your written response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money, and property may be taken thereafter without further warning from the Court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

If you choose to file a written response yourself, at the same time you file your written response to the Court, you must also serve a copy of your written response on the party serving this summons at:

{Name and address of party serving summons} _____

If the party serving summons has designated e-mail address(es) for service or is represented by an attorney, you may designate e-mail address(es) for service by or on you. Service must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents, upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be served at the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

IMPORTANTE

Usted ha sido demandado legalmente. Tiene veinte (20) días, contados a partir del recibo de esta notificación, para contestar la demanda adjunta, por escrito, y presentarla ante este tribunal. Localizado en: . Una llamada telefónica no lo protegerá. Si usted desea que el tribunal considere su defensa, debe presentar su respuesta por escrito, incluyendo el número del caso y los nombres de las partes interesadas. Si usted no contesta la demanda a tiempo, pudiese perder el caso y podría ser despojado de sus ingresos y propiedades, o privado de sus derechos, sin previo aviso del tribunal. Existen otros requisitos legales. Si lo desea, usted puede consultar a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a una de las oficinas de asistencia legal que aparecen en la guía telefónica.

Si desea responder a la demanda por su cuenta, al mismo tiempo en que presente su respuesta ante el tribunal, usted debe enviar por correo o entregar una copia de su respuesta a la persona denominada abajo.

Si usted elige presentar personalmente una respuesta por escrito, en el mismo momento que usted presente su respuesta por escrito al Tribunal, usted debe enviar por correo o llevar una copia de su respuesta por escrito a la parte entregando esta orden de comparecencia a:

Nombre y dirección de la parte que entrega la orden de comparecencia: _____

Copias de todos los documentos judiciales de este caso, incluyendo las ordenes, están disponibles en la oficina del Secretario de Juzgado del Circuito [Clerk of the Circuit Court's office]. Estos documentos pueden ser revisados a su solicitud.

Usted debe de mantener informada a la oficina del Secretario de Juzgado del Circuito de su dirección actual. (Usted puede presentar el Formulario: Ley de Familia de la Florida 12.915, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address.) Los papeles que se presenten en el futuro en esta demanda judicial serán en vados por correo a la dirección que este registrada en la oficina del Secretario.

ADVERTENCIA: Regla 12.285 (Rule 12.285), de las Reglas de Procedimiento de Ley de Familia de la Florida [Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure], requiere cierta revelación automática de documentos e información. El incumplimiento, puede resultar en sanciones, incluyendo la desestimación o anulación de los alegatos.

IMPORTANT

Des poursuites judiciaires ont été entreprises contre vous. Vous avez 20 jours consécutifs a partir de la date de l'assignation de cette citation pour déposer une réponse écrite a la plainte ci-jointe aupres de ce tribunal. Qui se trouve a: {L'Adresse} _____. Un simple coup de téléphone est insuffisant pour vous protéger; vous etes obliges de déposer votre réponse écrite, avec mention du numéro de dossier ci-dessus et du nom des parties nommées ici, si vous souhaitez que le tribunal entende votre cause. Si vous ne déposez pas votre réponse écrite dans le délai requis, vous risquez de perdre la cause ainsi que votre salaire, votre argent, et vos biens peuvent être saisis par la suite, sans aucun préavis ultérieur du tribunal. Il y a d'autres obligations juridiques et vous pouvez requérir les services immédiats d'un avocat. Si vous ne connaissez pas d'avocat, vous pourriez téléphoner a un service de référence d'avocats ou a un bureau d'assistance juridique (figurant a l'annuaire de téléphones).

Si vous choisissez de déposer vous-même une réponse écrite, il vous faudra également, en même temps que cette formalité, faire parvenir ou expédier une copie au carbone ou une photocopie de votre réponse écrite a la partie qui vous dépose cette citation.

Nom et adresse de la partie qui dépose cette citation:

Les photocopies de tous les documents tribunaux de cette cause, y compris des arrêts, sont disponible au bureau du greffier. Vous pouvez revue ces documents, sur demande.

Il faut aviser le greffier de votre adresse actuelle. (Vous pouvez déposer Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address.) Les documents de l'avenir de ce procès seront envoyer a l'adresse que vous donnez au bureau du greffier.

ATTENTION: La règle 12.285 des règles de procédure du droit de la famille de la Floride exige que l'on remette certains renseignements et certains documents a la partie adverse. Tout refus de les fournir pourra donner lieu a des sanctions, y compris le rejet ou la suppression d'un ou de plusieurs actes de procédure.

THE STATE OF FLORIDA

TO EACH SHERIFF OF THE STATE: You are commanded to serve this summons and a copy of the complaint in this lawsuit on the above-named person.

DATED: _____

J.K. "JESS" IRBY
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

(SEAL)

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORMS 12.922(a), MOTION FOR DEFAULT, AND 12.922(b), DEFAULT (11/15)

When should these forms be used?

If the other **party** has failed to **file** or **serve** any documents within 20 days after the date of service of your **petition**, you may ask the **clerk of the circuit court** to enter a **default** against him or her by filling out this form and filing it with the court. Generally, a default allows you to obtain an earlier **final hearing** to finish your case. Once the default is signed by the clerk, you can request a **trial** or final hearing in your case.

To obtain a default, you will need to complete **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a). You will then need to file your motion for default along with the **Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(b), so that the clerk can enter a default for you if your motion is proper.

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 you filed your petition and keep a copy for your records.

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 I do next?

After the default has been entered, you must ask for a hearing, so that the **judge** can consider your petition. To do this, you must contact the clerk's office, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** to schedule a hearing and file a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, with the clerk. A copy of the notice of hearing must be mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to each party in the case. **You must send a notice of final hearing to the defaulted party.**

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 Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at 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. For further information, see Florida Rules of Civil Procedure 1.500, , concerning defaults and Rule 1.140, concerning the time within which a party can file an answer or other responsive pleading to a petition. See also Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.080.

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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner.

MOTION FOR DEFAULT

TO THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT:

PLEASE ENTER A DEFAULT AGAINST RESPONDENT WHO HAS FAILED TO RESPOND TO THE PETITION.

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: _____

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-mail Address: _____

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 prepared with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner.

DEFAULT

A default is entered in this action against Respondent for failure to serve or file a response or any paper as is required by law.

Dated: _____

J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq.
Alachua County Clerk of Court

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

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: _____

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-mail Address: _____

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} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, {state} _____, {zip code} _____ {telephone number} _____.

SECTION C

This section is to be used when you do not know the location of the other party in your case. The petitioner will have to fill out the forms in section “A” and file them with the Clerk’s office at the Family/Civil Justice Center. Make at least two copies for yourself. After this step then you can complete the following forms:

CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE FORMS

- Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry
 - Additional local forms to support the affidavit of diligent search include:
 - U.S. Postal Service Request for Change of Address
 - Request for Information from Driver License Records
 - Gainesville Police Department Public Record Request
- Memorandum for Certificate of Military Service (follow the instructions) **OR**
- Nonmilitary Affidavit
- Notice of Action (publish for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper)

After you have completed the Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry bring the above forms back to the clerk’s office to file. Place one of the copies of the forms you have already filed in a large postage paid envelope. Address the envelope to the last known address of the respondent and leave it with the Clerk’s office. You must now publish for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper in the county where your case was filed. When the publishing period has ended you can file the forms below.

DEFAULT

- Motion for Default and Default—use forms provided in Section B

Special Notes...

If the other party fails to respond to your **petition** within the time limit stated in the notice of action that is published or posted, you are entitled to request a **default**. (See **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a), and **Default** Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(b).)

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.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM
12.913(b), [AFFIDAVIT OF DILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY \(11/20\)](#)**

When should this form be used?

This form is to be used with **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage (No Child or Financial Support)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(1) and **Notice of Action For Family Cases With Minor Child(ren)**, Form 12.913(a)(2), to obtain constructive service (also called service by publication).

The other party is entitled to actual notice of the proceedings when possible. When it is necessary to use constructive notice, it must be given in a way that is likely to provide actual notice. You must disclose the last known address of the other party. A last known address cannot be unknown. This form includes a checklist of places you can look for information on the location of the other party. While you do not have to look in all of these places, the court must believe that you have made a very serious effort to get information about the other party's location and that you have followed up on any information you received.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form. You should file this document and a **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage (No Child or Financial Support)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a)(1), or **Notice of Action For Family Cases With Minor Child(ren)**, Form 12.913(a)(2), with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where your petition is filed. You should keep a copy for your records.

What should I do next?

A copy of this form must be filed with the court and served on the other party or his or her attorney. The copy you are serving to the other party must be either mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to the opposing party or his or her attorney on the same day indicated on the certificate of service. If it is mailed, it must be postmarked on the date indicated in the certificate of service. 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 Florida 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](#)

[Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516](#). You may find this rule at 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 email, 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. For further information, see rule 12.070, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure and chapter 49, Florida Statutes.

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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,

Petitioner,

and

_____,

Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF DILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY

I, {full legal name} _____, being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

1. I have made diligent search and inquiry to discover the name and current residence of Respondent: *{Specify details of search}* **Refer to checklist below and identify all actions taken (any additional information included such as the date the action was taken and the person with whom you spoke is helpful) (attach additional sheet if necessary):**

[Check all that apply]

- ___ United States Post Office inquiry through Freedom of Information Act for current address or any relocations.
- ___ Last known employment of Respondent, including name and address of employer. You should also ask for any addresses to which W-2 Forms were mailed, and, if a pension or profit-sharing plan exists, then for any addresses to which any pension or plan payment is and/or has been mailed.
- ___ Unions from which Respondent may have worked or that governed his or her particular trade or craft.
- ___ Regulatory agencies, including professional or occupational licensing.
- ___ Names and addresses of relatives and contacts with those relatives, and inquiry as to Respondent's last known address. You are to follow up any leads of any addresses where Respondent may have moved. Relatives include, but are not limited to: parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, grandparents, great-grandparents, former in-laws, stepparents, stepchildren.
- ___ Information about the Respondent's possible death and, if dead, the date and location of the death.
- ___ Telephone listings in the last known locations of Respondent's residence.
- ___ Internet at <http://www.switchboard.com> or other Internet databank locator service. Please indicate if a public library assisted you in your search.
- ___ Law enforcement arrest and/or criminal records in the last known residential area of Respondent.
- ___ Highway Patrol records in the state of Respondent's last known address.
- ___ Department of Motor Vehicle records in the state of Respondent's last known address.
- ___ Department of Corrections records in the state of Respondent's last known address.
- ___ Title IV-D (child support enforcement) agency records in the state of Respondent's last known address.
- ___ Hospitals in the last known area of Respondent's residence.
- ___ Utility companies, which include water, sewer, cable TV, and electric, in the last known area of Respondent's residence.

____ Letters to the Armed Forces of the U.S. and their response as to whether or not there is any information about Respondent. (See Memorandum for Certificate of Military Service, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(a).)

____ Tax Assessor's and Tax Collector's Office in the area where Respondent last resided.

____ Other: *{explain}* _____

2. The age of Respondent is [Choose only **one**] () known *{enter age}* _____ or () unknown.

3. **Respondent's current residence**

[Choose only **one**]

- a. ____ Respondent's current residence is unknown to me.
- b. ____ Respondent's current residence is in some state or country other than Florida.

c. ____ The Respondent, having residence in Florida, has been absent from Florida for more than 60 days prior to the date of this affidavit, or conceals him/her self so that process cannot be served personally upon him or her, and I believe there is no person in the state upon whom service of process would bind this absent or concealed Respondent.

4. **Respondent's last known address** as of *{date}* _____, was:

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone No. _____ Fax No. _____.

Respondent's last known employment, as of *{date}* _____, was

Name of Employer _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone No. _____ Fax No. _____.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read this document and the facts stated in it are true.

Dated: _____

Signature of Petitioner
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
E-mail Address(es): _____

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: *{choose only one}* () Petitioner () Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____

{name of business} _____

{address} _____

{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.912(a),
MEMORANDUM FOR CERTIFICATE OF MILITARY SERVICE (09/16)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used if you **KNOW OR DO NOT KNOW** whether the other party in your case is on active duty in a branch of the military service of the United States. "Active duty" includes reserve personnel of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, and members of the Florida National Guard who have been called to active duty for more than thirty (30) days. Even if you believe that the other party **has never** or **would never** join the military, you must show the court proof that he or she is not a member of the military. Therefore, you may need to use this form to provide the court with such proof. See the instructions for an **Affidavit of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(b), for additional information. Please note that the contact information below is correct as of the effective date of this form; however, it may be subject to change. If you have difficulty obtaining the certificates or need additional information, you may wish to contact Military One Source at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/> or 800.824.9647.

Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) Certificates

Act (SCRA)(formerly known as Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940), please refer to the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) SCRA website: <https://www.dmdc.mil/appj/scra> .

You may also write the DMDC at the following address:
Defense Manpower Data Center [Attn: Military Verification]
1600 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400
Arlington, VA 22209-2593
Telephone: 703.696.6762

You may be charged a service fee by each military service branch for its response. Please refer to the websites and/or phone numbers listed below for help in determining the amount of each military branch's fee and to verify its current mailing address.

COAST GUARD: USCG Commander, Personnel Service Center, Attn: PSD-MR, 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1100, Arlington VA 22203, Phone (866) 772-872,4 <https://www.uscg.mil/psc/bops/>.

AIR FORCE: HQ AFPC/DS1W, Attn: World Wide Locator, 550 C Street, West, Suite 50, JBSA-Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4752, Phone: 210.565.266.. www.afpc.af.mil/Air-Force-Worldwide-Locator

NAVY: Navy World Wide Locator, Navy Personnel Command, PERS 1, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055-3120, Phone: 901.874.5111. www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/organization/npc/csc/Pages/NavyLocatorService.aspx

MARINE CORPS: Headquarters, United States Marine Corps, Personnel Management Support Branch (MMSB-17), 2008 Elliot Road, Room 201, Quantico, VA 22134 Phone: 703.784.3941
www.hqmc.marines.mil/dmcs.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE: Attn: Director, Division of Commissioned Corps Officer Support, 1101 Wooten Parkway, Plaza Level, Suite 100, Rockville, MD 20852 <https://scra.dmdc.osd.mil/>.

ARMY: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/dwp/index.jsp>

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. You should complete this form for each branch of the

United States' military listed above, and mail the form to each branch with a **check for the appropriate amount and a stamped, self-addressed envelope**. You should keep a copy of the form for your records. After you have received a verification of military status from each branch, you will need to attach those verifications to an **Affidavit of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(b), for filing with the clerk.

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 Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at 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.

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.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.912(b),
AFFIDAVIT OF MILITARY SERVICE (11/15)**

When should this form be used?

An Affidavit of Military Service is required in every case where the Respondent has not filed an answer or appearance. The purpose is to protect the men and women serving in the U.S. military from having a court judgment entered against them without first receiving notice of the lawsuit and a chance to defend the case.

You should use this form when ALL of the following statements are true:

- The other person in your case has been served, whether by **personal service** or **constructive service**.
- The other person in your case has not responded to your petition.
- You are requesting that the court enter a default judgment against the other person.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You must **file** the original of this form with the **clerk of the circuit court** when you file your **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a). You must also attach copies of all verifications of nonmilitary service that you received from each branch of the United States' military service. You should keep a copy for your records.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

***67** 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 Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516](#). You may find this rule at 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](#).

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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner.

AFFIDAVIT OF MILITARY SERVICE

I, *{full legal name}* _____, am the
Petitioner in this case. To support my application for a default judgment and to comply with the
Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (formerly known as Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940), I swear
or affirm that the following information is true:

[please choose only one]

1. ___ I know of my own personal knowledge that the Respondent **IS** on active duty in the military service of the United States.
2. ___ I know of my own personal knowledge that Respondent **IS NOT** now on active duty in the military service of the United States, nor has the Respondent been on active military service of the United States within a period of thirty (30) days immediately before this date. "Active Service" includes reserve members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Marines who have been ordered to report for active duty and members of the Florida National Guard who have been ordered to report to active duty for a period of more than thirty (30) days.
3. ___ I have contacted the military services of the United States and the U.S. Public Health Service and have obtained certificates showing that the Respondent is not on active duty status. These certificates are attached.
4. ___ I have attempted to determine the military status of the Respondent, but do not have sufficient information. This is what I have done to determine whether or not Respondent is on active duty in the United States military:

_____.

I have no reason to believe that s/he is on active duty at this time.

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

Dated: _____

Signature of Petitioner
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
E-Mail: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

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: {choose only **one**} () Petitioner () Respondent. This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, {state} _____, {telephone number} _____.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.913(a)(2)
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR FAMILY CASES WITH MINOR CHILDREN (11/15)

When should this form be used?

This form may be used to obtain **constructive service** (also called service by publication) in an action involving a parenting plan for a minor child under chapter 61, Florida Statutes; an action to determine temporary custody by extended family under chapter 751, Florida Statutes; and termination of a legal father's parental rights when another man is alleged to be the biological father. "Parenting plan" means a document created to govern the relationship between the parents relating to decisions that must be made regarding the minor child and must contain a time-sharing schedule for the parents and child. Section 61.046(14), Florida Statutes.

You may use constructive service if you do not know where the other party lives or if the other party lives outside Florida and you are unable to obtain **personal service**. Constructive notice will allow the court to grant the relief requested, but personal service is required before a court can order payment or termination of **child support**, spousal support (**alimony**), or costs. If you are asking the court to decide how real or personal property located in Florida should be divided, the **Notice of Action** must include a specific description of the property. If you use constructive service, the court can grant only limited relief because its jurisdiction is limited. This is a complicated area of the law and you should consult an attorney before using constructive service.

You should complete this form by typing or printing the appropriate information in black ink. You must insert the other party's name and last known address and then **file** this form with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your petition was filed. You must also complete and file an **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**. Use Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b) unless you are serving the legal father in a paternity case where another man is alleged to be the biological father, in which case, you must use Form 12.913(c). You should keep a copy for your records.

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.**

After the **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b) or 12.913(c), is filed, the clerk will sign this form. You will need to publish notice once each week for four consecutive weeks in a "qualified" newspaper in the county where the case is pending. When in doubt, ask the clerk which newspapers are "qualified." The newspaper will charge you for this service. If you cannot afford to pay the cost of publishing this notice, you may ask the clerk to post the notice at a place designated for such postings. You will need to file an **Application for Determination of Civil Indigent Status**, which you can obtain from the clerk. If the clerk determines that you cannot afford these costs, the clerk will post the notice of action. If your case involves termination of a legal father's parental rights when another man is alleged to be the biological father, you need to publish the notice only in the county where the legal father was last known to have resided. You are responsible for locating a

“qualified” newspaper in the county where the other party last resided and paying the cost of publication.

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. For further information, see rule 12.070, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, rule 1.070, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, sections 61.501–61.542, Florida Statutes and chapter 49, Florida Statutes.

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 Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516](#). You may find this rule at 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.

Special notes...

If the other party fails to respond to your **petition** within the time limit stated in the notice of action that is published or posted, you are entitled to request a **default**. (See **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a), and **Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(b).)

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 EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner.

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR CHILD

TO: *{name of Respondent}* _____
{Respondent's last known address} _____

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for *{identify the type of case}* _____ has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on *{name of Petitioner}* _____ whose address is _____ on or before *{date}* _____, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at *{clerk's address}* _____

before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. **If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.**

{If applicable, insert the legal description of real property, a specific description of personal property, and the name of the county in Florida where the property is located} _____.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

Dated: _____.

J. K. "JESS" IRBY
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

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 Petitioner and was completed with the assistance of:
{name of individual} _____,
{name of business} _____,
{address} _____,
{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.