



Legal Assistance Center

Case Worksheet: Divorce with Children

Requirements to File:

- You have lived in Michigan for 180 days and in Kent County for 10 days **AND/OR**
- Your spouse has lived in Michigan for 180 days and in Kent County for 10 days
- Children were born or conceived during your marriage who are under 18 years of age
- OR** You or your spouse is currently pregnant

Initial Forms:

- Civil Case Cover Sheet (Kent County)
- Record of Divorce
- Summons
- Complaint for Divorce
- Application for IV-D Services/Verified Statement
- Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Enforcement Act Affidavit (UCCJEA)
- 3 Additional Copies of the Summons, Complaint, Verified Statement, and (UCCJEA)

Information Needed:

- Basic Information
 - Your full name
 - Your full name at the time you were married
 - Your current address (can be a mailing address only)
 - Your date and place of birth
 - Your spouse's full name
 - Your spouse's full name at the time you were married
 - Your spouse's current address
 - Your spouse's date and place of birth
- Information about Your Marriage
 - The date you were married
 - The place you were married
 - If you are separated, approximately when you separated
- Information about Your Children
 - The name, age, social security number, and date of birth or expected date of birth for each child
 - Health care information for each child (policy holder, group id, etc.)
 - A physical description of each parent
 - Employment and income information for each parent
 - The current address for each child
 - The addresses for each child over the past five years
 - The names and addresses of the current custodians for each child

- Whether you or your spouse is currently pregnant
- If a spouse is currently pregnant, whether the husband is the biological father
- If a child born or conceived during the marriage is not the husband's child, the name, age, date of birth or expected date of birth, and father's name
- Information about the Custody, Support and Parenting Time for Children
 - Which parent should have legal custody of the child or children?
 - Which parent should have physical custody of the child or children?
 - Which parent will have parenting time?
 - Which parent needs child support?
 - Which parent will provide health insurance for the child or children?
- Information about Property
 - Do you have property to divide?
(house, car, bank accounts, retirement, furniture, household items)
 - Is there any property you want returned to you by your spouse?
 - Is there any property your spouse may want you to return?
 - Do you have any debt to divide?
(credit cards, loans, car loans, mortgages)
 - Who will be responsible for what debts?
 - The legal description of your house or other property
 - The description including the VIN number of any cars
 - Information about bank accounts (bank name, balance, names on account)
 - Information about debts (person or company owed money, the account balance, the account number, the names on the account)

Cost of Filing:

- LAC Divorce Case Packet \$20 (includes forms and instructions)
- Court filing fee of \$255 (waived in some cases, see below)
- Cost of copies for filing (approximately \$10 at LAC)
- Cost of certified mail for service (approximately \$12)

Waiving Court Filing Fees:

- You receive public benefits
 - Need DHS Case Number
- Based on your income and expenses the court allows fees to be waived
 - Need information about your income and monthly expenses
- !!** Only waives court filing fee, not other costs. (packet, copies, mail)

Other Information/Questions:

Getting the Forms:

- Get the Case Packet "Divorce with Minor Children" at the Legal Assistance Center.
 - The cost is \$20. Cash only.
 - LAC staff/ volunteers can help you and answer your questions.

- Use the Michigan Legal Help Divorce Toolkit (www.michiganlegalhelp.org)
- No cost.
- Informational articles are available on the website to help you.

Getting Help at the Legal Assistance Center:

- Walk in Tuesday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm. No appointment needed.
- Kent County Courthouse, 5th Floor, 180 Ottawa NW, Downtown Grand Rapids
- Call 616.632.6000
- Basic information is available on the LAC website (www.legalassistancecenter.org)

!!Caution!!

This worksheet is offered as general legal information only. Each person's situation is different. This is not legal advice for any individual case or situation. You may wish to talk to an attorney before filing a divorce case.