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

_____
PRINT PLAINTIFF'S NAME

_____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

PLAINTIFF ,

v.

_____
PRINT YOUR NAME

_____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

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

DEFENDANT.

_____DRB _____

RELATED CASES:

_____

_____

_____
PRINT OTHER DEFENDANT'S NAME

_____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

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

DEFENDANT #2.

CONTESTED ANSWER TO
COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY AND/OR VISITATION

AND

COUNTERCLAIM FOR CUSTODY and/or VISITATION
Action Involving Child Support ☐ yes ☐ no

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

1. The child(ren) in this case:

Child's Full Name	Date of Birth	Gender

2. My relationship to the child(ren) in this case: [CHECK ONE]

☐ I am the biological or adoptive parent.

☐ I am the caretaker. My relationship to the child(ren) is:_____ (e.g. grandparent, brother, aunt, etc.).

☐ Other _____.

3. The other party's relationship to the child(ren) in this case: [CHECK ONE]

☐ The other party is the biological or adoptive parent.

☐ The other party is the caretaker. His/Her relationship to the child(ren) is _____ (e.g. grandparent, brother, aunt, etc.).

☐ Other _____.

4. The Plaintiff stated that this court was the proper place to decide the custody issues in this case and: [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with that.

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

5. The minor child(ren) currently live(s) at the following address(es) with the following person(s):

Child(ren)'s Name(s)	Current Address	Since What Date	Child(ren) Live(s) With (names)

6. Over the last five years, the child(ren) have lived in the following places, with the following persons:

Child(ren)'s Name(s)	Previous Address	During What Dates	Child(ren) Lived With (name and current address)

7. The following people, who are not parties to this case, have physical custody of, or claim rights of legal or physical custody of, or visitation with the child(ren):

Name(s)	Current Address(es)

8. I state the following about other cases involving the child(ren): [CHECK ONE]

☐ There are no other cases concerning custody of, or visitation with, the child(ren), and there are no other cases that could affect this proceeding.

☐ The following cases concern custody of, or visitation with, the child(ren), or could affect this proceeding (e.g., divorce, child support, domestic violence, neglect, etc.)

COURT	CASE NO.	CASE TYPE	DATE OF DETERMINATION

9. ☐ I was ☐ I was not a party or witness or participant of any kind in any other proceeding concerning the custody of or visitation with the child(ren).

10. Legal Custody. I am a fit and proper person to have legal custody of the minor child(ren) and make decisions about their well-being, and I believe that it is in the best interest of the minor child(ren) that I be awarded: [CHECK ONE]

☐ joint legal custody ☐ sole legal custody

11. Physical Custody. I am a fit and proper person to have physical custody of the minor child(ren) and to have responsibility and control of the child(ren), and I believe that it is in the best interest of the minor child(ren) that I be awarded: [CHECK ONE]

☐ joint physical custody ☐ sole physical custody

☐ visitation

12. The presumption in favor of joint custody does not apply in *this* case because:
[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

☐ There has been domestic violence.
☐ There has been child abuse.
☐ There has been child neglect.
☐ There has been parental kidnapping.

AND/OR

☐ Joint custody is not in the best interest of the child(ren).

13. I state the following about visitation: [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

☐ We can work out a visitation schedule on our own.
☐ We need a specific schedule of visitation.
☐ Any visitation should be supervised because

☐ The other party should not receive any visitation because

14. I state the following about child support: [CHECK ONE]

☐ I am ☐ I am not seeking child support on behalf of the child(ren).

Request for Relief

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

☐ Deny the other party's request for custody and/or visitation.

☐ Grant me: ☐ sole ☐ joint **PHYSICAL CUSTODY**

☐ Grant me: ☐ sole ☐ joint **LEGAL CUSTODY**

☐ Allow _____ to visit with the child(ren).
NAME

☐ Allow only supervised visitation.

☐ Allow no visitation.

☐ Award child support according to the Child Support Guideline of the District of Columbia and other applicable laws, including: [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- ☐ current child support (support starting today and continuing into the future)
- ☐ retroactive child support (support for time before today)
- ☐ health insurance

☐ Hold a hearing on my request for child support within 45 days of filing and issue a Notice of Hearing and Order Directing Appearance ("NOHODA") to the other party with the date and time of the hearing.

☐ Note that we have a written agreement. I request that the Court: [CHECK ONE]
- ☐ *include* our written agreement as a part of its order.
- ☐ *not include* our written agreement as a part of its order.

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

[CHECK ONE]
☐ I *do not* know of any proceedings in the District of Columbia or in any state or territory involving the same claim or subject matter as this case.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

_____
SIGN YOUR NAME

_____
DATE (mm/dd/yyyy)

_____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

_____
TELEPHONE NUMBER

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

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

_____
PRINT PLAINTIFF'S NAME

_____DRB _____

PLAINTIFF,

v.

_____
PRINT DEFENDANT'S NAME

DEFENDANT.

RULE 5
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a copy of my Contested Answer to Complaint for Custody and/or Visitation and Counterclaim to the other party or the other party's attorney on
_____.
DATE OF SERVICE

The papers were delivered: [CHECK ONE]

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

☐ **by first class mail:**

☐ **by fax:**

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

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

_____
PRINT NAME OF PERSON SERVED WITH PAPERS

_____
STREET ADDRESS/FAX # CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

_____ _____
SIGN YOUR NAME DATE (mm/dd/yyyy)