



**COMMITTEE ON ACCESS TO FAMILY COURTS
TENTATIVE AGENDA**

**Office of State Courts Administrator
121 Alameda Drive, Conference Room A
March 4, 2011
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Conference Call 526-5398/866-630-9345**

I. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes (Levine)

A. Minutes from December 3, 2010, Meeting

Attachment Page.....4

Action: Committee approval of minutes

B. Introduction of New Members and Supreme Court Orders

Don Crank, Kelly Broniec, Theresa Burke & Douglas Beach

Attachment Page.....9

II. Status Updates

**A. Alliances with State / Local Bar Associations / Pro Bono Initiatives
(Stewart/DeFeo)**

1. Judicial Pro Bono Tool Kit (Norris & DeFeo)
 - a. Revisions and update to online publication
 - b. Brainstorm ideas for promoting use of Tool Kit
 - c. Update on MoBar pro bono activities and reporting
2. Missouri Seniors' Legal Helpline (DeFeo)
Attachment Page.....11
3. Update of the LSR-CLE faculty and information (Stewart)
Verbal Update
 - a. CLE program
 - b. Rittman opinion
 - c. Talia video as addition to CAFC website

B. Self-Help Centers (Schneider)

1. Update
2. Recommendations for other Self-Help Centers
3. DRRF Final Evaluation

C. Internet/Web Site (Bird)

1. 2010 Survey – Statistics and Comments (Norris)
Attachment Page13
2. Evaluation of Statesidelegal.com and Militaryprobono.net

D. Forms (Smith)

1. Addition of CV20 – Application and Order for Service by Publication of Notice

	<i>Attachment Page</i>	32
2.	New CAFC040 - Dissolution of Marriage Property Statement <i>Attachment Page</i>	33
3.	CAFC040 - Directions for Completion <i>Attachment Page</i>	42
4.	CAFC401 - Petition for Change of Name <i>Attachment Page</i>	45
5.	CAFC470 - Change of Name Judgment <i>Attachment Page</i>	48
6.	CAFC721 - Request for Service by Publication (This one need a lot of work) <i>Attachment Page</i>	50
7.	CAFC711 - Request for Personal Service <i>Attachment Page</i>	52
8.	CAFC701 - Change of Address Form <i>Attachment Page</i>	53

E. Litigant Education Program/Brochure (Bird/Brown)

1.	Paternity Education Component revisions (Brown)	
2.	Proposed changes to Litigant Awareness Program Materials (Bird)	
a.	LAP Introduction <i>Attachment Page</i>	55
b.	Video Instructions <i>Attachment Page</i>	56
c.	LAP Text Introduction <i>Attachment Page</i>	57
d.	LAP Court System <i>Attachment Page</i>	58

F. Communications/Networking (Cruse/Scaglia)

1.	Pro Se resources for Librarians (review by Levine)	
2.	Revised release for statistics and Annual Report <i>Attachment Page</i>	60
3.	Report from contact with Young Lawyers Section president.	

G. Court Staff /Clerk Education (Bird)

1.	March Court Clerk College Review (Bird) <i>Verbal Update</i>	
----	---	--

H. Judicial Education (Williamson/Powell)

1.	Pro Se chapter/checklist for Domestic Relations Bench Book <i>Attachment Page</i>	62
----	--	----

III. Staff Report (Zacharias)

No update

IV. Old Business

V. Adjourn Meeting

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE NEXT CAFC MEETINGS:

June 3, 2011 (by conference call)
September 9, 2011
December 2, 2011 (by conference call)



**COMMITTEE ON ACCESS TO FAMILY COURTS
MINUTES
December 3, 2010**

Members by Phone: Judge Dennis Smith, Judge Brent Powell, Judge Leslie Schneider, Judge Miles Sweeney, Lori Levine, Lou DeFeo, Richard Halliburton, Kathleen Bird, Patricia Scaglia, Karen Brown, Richard Holtmeyer, Beth Dessem, Mary Ann McClure, Allan Stewart, Kelly Martinez

OSCA Staff: Terri Norris, Kelly Cramer, Debbie Eiken

Missouri Bar Staff: Robert Stoeckl

Members Absent: Judge Robin Vannoy, Judge J.D. Williamson, Marsha Holiman, Don Crank, Fred Cruse, Deanna Scott

I. Call to Order

The Committee on Access to Family Courts (CAFC) meeting was called to order by Judge Smith at 10:03 a.m. at the Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA), 2112 Industrial Drive, Jefferson City, Missouri.

A. Minutes

An amendment to the minutes was made as follows:

- on page four (4) of the minutes under section II, A., 1., paragraph 12, the sentence “Richard Halliburton wanted to know if the lawyers should be appointed under the LSR Do-it-yourself model.” was removed.

Allen Stewart moved to approve the minutes as amended from the September 10, 2010 meeting. Mary Ann McClure seconded the motion. All members approved the motion. The minutes were as amended.

B. Introduction of New Member Don Crank

Mr. Crank was not in attendance. Lori Levine reported that Mr. Crank handles child support issues and he is replacing Richard Holtmeyer as the representative from the Attorney General’s Office.

II. Status Updates

A. Alliances with State/Local Bar Associations/Pro Bono Initiatives

1. Judicial Pro Bono Tool Kit

Lou DeFeo reported Judge Russell presented the Tool Kit to the Supreme Court in October for approval. The Supreme Court approved the Tool Kit for publication on-line and for JEWELS. Lori wanted to verify that the Supreme Court is aware there will be changes to the Tool Kit. Lou stated the Supreme Court is aware there would be changes as the Tool Kit is a “living” resource and will have continued additions and improvements. The goal is to have the prototype available for the committee’s viewing later in December and again after the testing in early January, before it goes online for the judges.

Lou stated that Richard Halliburton has drafted three (3) of the four (4) legal services sections and is in the process of writing the chapter for the Legal Services programs. Lou stated there needed to be more information on LSR and special needs in rural areas. He also stated there are a few technical problems to resolve before the Tool Kit goes online. Lou would like Sue Talia’s training video added to the website. The video is six (6) hours and could be broken down into small segments.

There were suggestions to reorganize the table of contents. A suggestion was made to add subheadings to the table of contents and to include a section on Pro Bono in Missouri. (After the meeting several members revised the table of contents topics for the Tool Kit. A copy of the revised topics is attached to these minutes.)

Lori stated the Committee will vote on changes made to the Tool Kit, Supreme Court approval is not necessary because they understand the Tool Kit is an evolving document. Lori would like to get a final version to Terri Norris so she can get it on the website to be tested by the Committee. Terri Norris is working on converting the word document to an html file

2. Update of the LSR/CLE Faculty and Information for a LSR CLE

Allan Stewart reported he has everything set up with MoBar. He stated they are willing to set up phone seminars, but we are still in need of funding and volunteers for faculty. He also stated Sara Rittman will participate and he believes there is another attorney from St. Louis interested in participating on the panel. However, there was a lot of discussion about the following, questions: “What extent does an LSR attorney have to make known to the court and opposing counsel the limitations of the representation? Does the court/counsel need to be apprised of the limited scope?”

Lori asked if there was concern about ethical violations if the scope of representation was not revealed. The Committee does have some concerns about this issue. Allan stated he would talk with Sara Rittman about the ethical question and see if she will provide an opinion. Allan would like to see the seminars more as panel discussions instead of lectures. He would like three (3) or four (4) people per presentation. There were some suggestions regarding people that would be or might be interested in volunteering for the panel. Kathleen stated there were some attorney’s in Kansas City that have LSR experience and would be happy to help. Judge Powell suggested Judge Chamberlain from Clay County also be a panel member in addition to himself. Lori stated that it is very important to have a judge on the panel.

Lori suggested Allan talk about what they expect from the attorneys, she stated the advisory opinion is the first thing that needs to be discussed and suggested Sara Rittman address this first.

Kathleen will update the MoBar Circle with information regarding the CLE. Lou would like to have Sue Talia's videos available so the CLE will be more focused and active.

B. Self-Help Centers

Leslie stated they are moving toward a partnership with Legal Services and the biggest problem the project had was the executive director. She believes the reorganization is going to be a positive move. There were some pitfalls with the Executive Director, i.e., she had no experience in family law, no organizational skills, and had trouble putting/pairing clients and attorneys together.

C. Internet/Website

Kathleen Bird stated they will try to improve the website using plain language changes. She indicated there was going to be a "tug of war" between technology and lay people. She stated lay people just do not understand at all.

Kathleen also reported Legal Services has put up a website for members of the military. She would like to know if it would be helpful to have a link on our website for those in the military. Lori indicated we need to see what the website has to offer before we do any additional work. Lou stated there is also a pro bono link for the military at militaryprobono.net. The website subcommittee will review both websites before adding a link on our website.

1. Survey-Statistics and Comments (Norris)

Terri Norris reported the new statistics for the last year will be compiled for the March meeting.

D. Forms

Judge Smith reported the Supreme Court has approved the Paternity forms. There were some minor changes that needed to be made after he spoke with Bill Thompson. The judgment form was clarified that "jurisdiction" is as defined in the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, Section 452.700, RSMo et seq. that changes will be made to all judgment forms. In addition, the language above the judge's signature when a case was heard by a commissioner was changed on all judgment forms to state "All orders and these findings and recommendations of the Commissioner are confirmed and adopted as the judgment of the court."

Additionally, The Division of Health and Senior Services stated their form had to be used, copies would not be accepted. Judge Smith received permission to add an interactive PDF of their Affidavit Acknowledging Paternity form on our website.

1. Plain Language Conference Summary

Judge Smith reported that several members from our committee and staff attended the conference on November 23, 2010, and that he felt everyone benefited from the seminar.

E. Litigant Education Program/Brochure

1. Paternity Education Component

Karen Brown stated the Paternity section has been the most difficult section to draft. There was additional discussion about the reading and comprehension levels of the litigants and at what level the forms should be drafted. Judge Smith would also like to create some interaction materials for this component. Kelly Martinez stated she will do more research and make additional changes based on information she has gathered from other states. Judge Powell stated he does not want the website to give legal advice; he wants to be cautious because there is information on the website that is very difficult to understand.

F. Communications/Networking

1. Pro Se resources for Librarians

Patricia sent Lori a report for the librarians to be reviewed.

2. Press release for first year studies

Patricia Scaglia stated she and Robert Stoeckl had some questions about the press release; 1.) Who is the intended audience, 2.) Should this release come from Beth Riggert or the Committee? Lori stated the release will come from the Court and will go through Beth. The audience will be lawyers but then it was discussed and suggested to send it to the general public as well. The committee decided they will let Beth Riggert decide who should issue the release. Robert Stoeckl stated the article should be factually informative, not persuasive.

There was a suggestion that a second press release intended for the general public be drafted that would refer to the Annual Report submitted to the Supreme Court. Robert would like to have a press release that discusses the report and the statistics instead of one that only refers to statistics.

The press release will be revised for the Committee's review.

3. Contact incoming Young Lawyers Section chair.

Patricia stated she had sent Heidi Vollet an email and left her a message. She is waiting for her to respond.

G. Court Staff/Clerk Education

Kathleen stated she is confirmed as a speaker for the Spring Clerk College in March and will cover three (3) topics for Pro Se.

H. Judicial Education (Williamson)

Judge Powell is on the agenda for the Judicial College next year. There will be a one (1) hour ethics program for LSR.

1. Chapter by Brent Powell for Domestic Relations Bench Book.

Judge Brent Powell will be working on the Pro Se Chapter with Judge Williamson to be included in the Domestic Relations Bench Book. He stated he has put together a check list by researching other bench books; he would like to follow the same format as the other books. He stated he will get it organized by next week (Dec. 6). He is hoping to have it done by the first of the year (2011). Judge Powell stated he would forward the chapter to Debbie Eiken to be forwarded to the rest of the Committee

III. Staff Report

No update

IV. Old Business

A. Update on DLS Pro Bono Projects

Richard Halliburton reported the DLS committee has proposed to the MoBar Board of Governors that they reinstate voluntary pro bono reporting hours.

B. Leslie Schneider as replacement for Judge Burkemper, liaison to FCC

No update.

IV. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The next meeting will be March 4, 2011.

The following dates are tentatively reserved for next year's meetings.

March 4, 2011

June 3, 2011

September 9, 2011

December 2, 2011



SUPREME COURT OF MISSOURI

en banc

June 22, 2010

In re: Committee on Access to Family Courts

ORDER

Don Crank, Springfield, Missouri, is hereby appointed a member of the Committee on Access to Family Courts for an unexpired term expiring December 31, 2010, or until his successor is appointed and qualified; vice, Richard Holtmeyer, resigned.

Richard Holtmeyer, Tipton, Missouri, is hereby appointed a member of the Committee on Access to Family Courts for a term expiring December 31, 2011, or until his successor is appointed and qualified.

Day – to – Day

WILLIAM RAY PRICE, JR.
Chief Justice



SUPREME COURT OF MISSOURI

en banc

December 20, 2010

Effective January 1, 2011

In re: Committee on Access to Family Courts

ORDER

The Honorable Douglas R. Beach, Judge, 21st Judicial Circuit, is hereby appointed a member of the Committee on Access to Family Courts for an unexpired term expiring December 31, 2012, or until his successor is appointed and qualified; vice, the Honorable T. Bennett Burkemper, Jr., resigned.

The Honorable Theresa Counts Burke, Judge, 22nd Judicial Circuit, is hereby appointed a member of the Committee on Access to Family Courts for a term expiring December 31, 2013, or until her successor is appointed and qualified; vice, the Honorable Robin Ransom Vannoy, term expired.

The Honorable Kelly C. Broniec, Judge, 12th Judicial Circuit, is hereby appointed a member of the Committee on Access to Family Courts for a term expiring December 31, 2013, or until her successor is appointed and qualified.

Day – to – Day

MARY RHODES RUSSELL
Acting Chief Justice

Why a Legal Helpline for Seniors and Their Caregivers?



To equip seniors to:

- Plan for the future
- Make good decisions
- Maintain independence
- Prevent problems
- Avoid becoming victimized

The Helpline cannot help with:

- Criminal cases
- Fee-generating cases
- Imprisoned persons
- Municipal or traffic cases



Alternate forms of this publication for persons with disabilities may be obtained by contacting the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services at 573-526-3246. Hearing- and speech-impaired citizens can dial 711.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis

March 2011 Agenda
February 2011

Missouri Seniors' Legal Helpline



A phonenumber and website for seniors to access for information and assistance on legal issues

1-800-235-5503 toll-free
or
www.moaging.com/legalhelp



Seniors Navigating the Legal System



Helping seniors and their caregivers with:

- Power of Attorney and Durable Power of Attorney
- Guardianship and Conservatorship
- Living Wills and Advance Directives
- Wills, Trusts and Joint Tenancy
- Financial Exploitation
- Mediation
- Obtaining Public Benefits Such as Social Security and Medicare
- Civil Legal Issues
- Definitions of Common Legal Terms

2 ways to get legal information



1. Call:

1-800-235-5503 toll-free

Enter your home zip code to connect to your local Area Agency on Aging.

2. Go to:

www.moaging.com/legalhelp

For links, pamphlets and brochures on:

- Benefits
- Consumer Issues
- Employment
- Financial Planning
- Health Insurance
- Housing
- Protection
- Rights
- Tax Assistance
- Services and Other Information

Representing Yourself Website Survey Statistics
Jan. 16 – Dec. 31, 2010
(n = 4,083)

2. How many years of schooling have you completed?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No Answer	18	.4	.4	.4
Some High School	518	12.7	12.7	13.1
GED	375	9.2	9.2	22.3
High School Graduate	882	21.6	21.6	43.9
Some College	1138	27.9	27.9	71.8
Associates Degree	343	8.4	8.4	80.2
Professional School Degree	37	.9	.9	81.1
Occupational/Vocational Degree	238	5.8	5.8	86.9
Bachelors Degree	365	8.9	8.9	95.9
Masters Degree	142	3.5	3.5	99.3
Doctorate Degree	27	.7	.7	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

3. How much money do you make a year before taxes are taken out? Do not include your spouse or anyone else living in your house.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	32	.8	.8	.8
Unemployed	237	5.8	5.8	6.6
\$0 - 10,999	1219	29.9	29.9	36.4
\$11,000 - 19,999	703	17.2	17.2	53.7
\$20,000 - 29,999	754	18.5	18.5	72.1
\$30,000 - 39,999	533	13.1	13.1	85.2
\$40,000 - 49,999	265	6.5	6.5	91.7
\$50,000 or over	340	8.3	8.3	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

4. How many children do you have?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	30	.7	.7	.7
None	1060	26.0	26.0	26.7
1	749	18.3	18.3	45.0
2	1078	26.4	26.4	71.4
3	663	16.2	16.2	87.7
4	339	8.3	8.3	96.0
5	103	2.5	2.5	98.5
6	33	.8	.8	99.3
More than 6	28	.7	.7	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

5. How long have you been married?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	106	2.6	2.6	2.6
No longer married	425	10.4	10.4	13.0
Less than 1 year	339	8.3	8.3	21.3
1 - 5 years	1414	34.6	34.6	55.9
5 - 10 years	859	21.0	21.0	77.0
More than 10 years	940	23.0	23.0	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

6. Where do you most often use the Internet?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Courthouse	8	.2	.2	.2
No answer	28	.7	.7	.9
Other (please specify below)	73	1.8	1.8	2.7
Friend or relative's house	358	8.8	8.8	11.4
Public Library	412	10.1	10.1	21.5
Work	608	14.9	14.9	36.4
Home	2596	63.6	63.6	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

Where do you most often use the Internet: Other

	Frequency		Frequency
School	14	Community Center	1
Cell phone	11	Dad's shop	1
Don't use Internet	7	Divorce	1
College	5	Family house	1
Home	3	Filing a divorce	1
Mother's house	2	Friend's house	1
McDonald's	2	Home and work equally	1
Prison	2	Housing Authority	1
Public Library	2	I travel	1
Resource Center	2	3g	1
Apartment Facility	1	Occasionally	1
Brother's house	1	Organizations	1
Career Center	1	Research and entertainment	1
Caseworker	1		

7. Have you talked to a lawyer or free legal service about your case?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	66	1.6	1.6	1.6
Yes	1342	32.9	32.9	34.5
No	2675	65.5	65.5	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

**8. Since you answered YES to question 7, why do you want to represent yourself.
(Select the one that best fits your situation.)**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
I did not like him or her	8	.2	.2	.2
Lawyer had a conflict	25	.6	.6	.8
Personal reasons	64	1.6	1.6	2.4
None of the above	137	3.4	3.4	5.7
I think I can represent myself	223	5.5	5.5	11.2
Too expensive	889	21.8	21.8	33.0
No answer	2737	67.0	67.0	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

9. Since you answered NO to question 7, why do you want to represent yourself. (Select the one that best fits your situation.)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
I can afford to hire a lawyer, but I do not want to hire one	194	4.8	4.8	4.8
None of the above	328	8.0	8.0	12.8
I think I can represent myself	1051	25.7	25.7	38.5
I want to hire a lawyer, but I cannot afford one	1074	26.3	26.3	64.8
No answer	1436	35.2	35.2	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

10. What type of family law matter are you intending to file? (Select all that apply.)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Order of Protection (Domestic Violence)	22	.5	.5	.5
Enforcement of Orders	26	.6	.6	1.2
Paternity	30	.7	.7	1.9
No answer	33	.8	.8	2.7
Visitation	75	1.8	1.8	4.6
Name Change	92	2.3	2.3	6.8
Modification	95	2.3	2.3	9.1
Other (please specify below)	111	2.7	2.7	11.9
Child Support	193	4.7	4.7	16.6
Custody Issues	388	9.5	9.5	26.1
Divorce	3018	73.9	73.9	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

What type of family law matter are you intending to file? (Select all that apply.): Other

	Frequency		Frequency
Legal Separation	28	Helping a friend do their divorce	1
Contempt	8	I am acting as a paralegal for a friend	1
Dissolution of Marriage	5	Involuntary TPR	1
Adoption	5	Joint Guardianship	1
Guardianship	4	Judgment	1
Small Claims	4	Judicial Review Form	1
Unemployment	3	Just reviewing the forms, am an attorney licensed in TX with family in MO	1
Civil	3	Lawsuit for money owed	1
Maintenance	3	Lawsuit	1
Annulment	3	Medical Bills	1
Expungement	3	Medical payments for 50/50 child custody – not support	1
Traffic Citation	2	Missouri Beneficiary Deed Form	1
Landlord Tenant	2	Modification of spousal support	1
Appeal	2	Modification of Exclusive Jurisdiction	1
Breech of Contract	2	Modify Child Support/Maintenance	1
Probate	2	Motion for Rehearing	1
Step-parent Adoption	2	Motion to pay out funds	1
I am a lawyer	2	Moving out of state with kids and I have consent from ncp	1
Criminal	2	Name a legal guardianship	1
Contract Law	2	No right to order never lived in state	1
Car Title	2	Not contesting divorce	1
M wife is filing against me	2	Order of protection/stalking	1
Alimony	1	Parenting Plan	1
401K and profit sharing	1	Personal Property	1
Abandonment	1	Petition of Modification of Custody	1
Answer to Petition for Divorce	1	Power of Attorney	1

Answer to Summons	1	Probate Estate	1
Appeal to Supreme Court	1	Property/Damages	1
Appealing Custody	1	Quit-Claim Deed	1
Back Child Support Adjusted	1	Rent & Possession	1
Bank Attachment	1	Rental Contract	1
Bigotry	1	Respondent w/ cross petition	1
Biological parents and birth certificate	1	Respondents Answers	1
Certificate	1	Response	1
Child Support	1	Response to Divorce Petition	1
Civil Case of Eviction	1	Response to Motion to Modify	1
Civil Suit	1	Return of property and damages	1
Civil – Auto Accident	1	Settlement divorce	1
Conspiracy and Defamation	1	Show Cause	1
Constitutional Rights	1	Special Civil	1
Court Review of Claim Exemption	1	Spousal Support	1
CPS	1	Spouse Abandonment	1
Civil Suit	1	Supervised Visitation	1
Credit Card	1	Termination of Guardianship	1
Custody Modification	1	Termination of Spousal Maintenance	1
DFS	1	TPR	1
Dispute against landlord	1	Transfer of case from NY to MO	1
Eviction	1	Trespassing	1
Family Court – they're making it impossible	1	Trust Enforcement	1
Fraud upon the court	1	Wish to keep maiden name	1
Hardship/Garnishment	1		1

11. It was easy to find what I was looking for on the Representing Yourself website.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	10	.2	.2	.2
Not Applicable	125	3.1	3.1	3.3
No Opinion	591	14.5	14.5	17.8
Disagree	261	6.4	6.4	24.2
Strongly Disagree	276	6.8	6.8	30.9
Agree	1677	41.1	41.1	72.0
Strongly Agree	1143	28.0	28.0	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

12. The educational information was easy to understand.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	30	.7	.7	.7
Not Applicable	148	3.6	3.6	4.4
No Opinion	646	15.8	15.8	20.2
Disagree	91	2.2	2.2	22.4
Strongly Disagree	215	5.3	5.3	27.7
Agree	1871	45.8	45.8	73.5
Strongly Agree	1082	26.5	26.5	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

13. Without the educational information I would not have been as prepared for court.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	49	1.2	1.2	1.2
Not Applicable	239	5.9	5.9	7.1
No Opinion	1119	27.4	27.4	34.5
Disagree	177	4.3	4.3	38.8
Strongly Disagree	194	4.8	4.8	43.5
Agree	1549	37.9	37.9	81.5
Strongly Agree	756	18.5	18.5	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

14. It was easy to know what forms I needed to use.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	40	1.0	1.0	1.0
Not Applicable	161	3.9	3.9	4.9
No Opinion	832	20.4	20.4	25.3
Disagree	319	7.8	7.8	33.1
Strongly Disagree	234	5.7	5.7	38.8
Agree	1732	42.4	42.4	81.3
Strongly Agree	765	18.7	18.7	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

15. The forms were easy to use.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	68	1.7	1.7	1.7
Not Applicable	183	4.5	4.5	6.1
No Opinion	961	23.5	23.5	29.7
Disagree	146	3.6	3.6	33.3
Strongly Disagree	200	4.9	4.9	38.2
Agree	1778	43.5	43.5	81.7
Strongly Agree	747	18.3	18.3	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

16. After looking at everything on this site, I feel more ready to represent myself in court.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No answer	73	1.8	1.8	1.8
Not Applicable	181	4.4	4.4	6.2
No Opinion	947	23.2	23.2	29.4
Disagree	99	2.4	2.4	31.8
Strongly Disagree	204	5.0	5.0	36.8
Agree	1728	42.3	42.3	79.2
Strongly Agree	851	20.8	20.8	100.0
Total	4083	100.0	100.0	

**Comments from Website Survey
Jan. 16 – Dec. 31, 2010**

1. Did not find the forms. (Note from Terri: Family law matter selected was Name Change.)
2. I appreciate that the forms are available readily for processing a “no contest” dissolution of marriage (divorce). Beyond that the rest of the information was not necessary for me personally but I can see why it is beneficial to require individuals to review it to avoid problems whole-scale.
3. i can't answer you won't let me get beyond the point to look at the question or anything to see how to answer these questions.
4. Information could be made in easier layman terms.
5. i have printed divorce forms from your web site but sure what to do when i get them filled out
6. I still haven't found the correct form.
7. i hope this is all you need for a certificate that you are requestiog from me to get this devorice over with i just want my last name to be restored to schaffer and for me and my children to be able to able to go on with my life i am hoping this is all you need if not please help me get this information so i can be free from billy jo brown for good thank you very much in this matter if you need to contact me please feel free to contact me at 573-xxx-xxxx again thank you very much in this matter.
8. I want to file for divorce and represent myself because of the emotional and sexual abuse he inflicted upon my ten year old daughter and I cannot afford a private attorney
9. I just don't know what I need to do next. I thought once I filed the papers the courts would give me a court date. Also I turned in all the information for him to be served but that has yet to happen. I have tried to find the answers but I haven't yet on how to get a court date and him served. Please help I couldn't afford a laywer so I done this myself I saved up the filing fee and I don't have money now to even get advice or help if I could find someone willing to help me. Thank you, Lisa Knight ph.417-xxx-xxxx or email address ...
10. I need to file a review of claim exemption with the court. Case #05R5-AC00030. I gave already filed with Sheriff Jim Buckles I just need to file with your office pursuant Court Rule 76.075. My name is Danny J Conner, 1846 Old Exeter Rd. Cassville, Mo 65625. I do not have a computer at home and have to use the library as I answered above. Can you please notify me of what form I need to file with your office. Thank you and I have just a short time because I just received the letter from the Sheriff informing me of this March 9, 2010 and it said it needed to be done in 10 days.
11. divorce package didnt download
12. have not been able to find the Missouri Beneficiary Deed form.
13. the information and instructions were easy to understand.
14. i feel this is a great site specially for people who has no children and property, and if they agree to dissolve their marriage this is the way to go. GREAT SITE
15. I'M BEEN SEPARATED FROM MY WIFE 13 YEARRS, AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE IS SHE. SHE IS NOT CITISEN OF THE USA.
16. The forms are not in the proper format. The jackson county court in independence will not accept these forms. After searching other legal websites I found out what

17. When I got my first divorce I filled a hand written petition and filed it. Then we appeared before the Judge and presented our sides and he made a ruling. What ever happened to the simple way of doing things. These electronic forms have actually made everything more difficult.
18. This questionnaire popped up before I started my query for documents. Therefore, I can't answer questions 11-16.
19. Some of the instructions in the form are not clear. For example, the meaning of "waiver of service and entry of appearance" and where to get the form are not explained.
20. I just found out that the forms on this site are not accepted by the Clay County District 5 judge. I wish I would have known that prior to filing the forms.
21. There is nothing that shows what to do if someone is falsifying records to benefit their outcome. Especially, when neither one of us have lived before, lived since or plan to live in Missouri. Then the police report from another state goes from a simple argument to kidnapping, sexual assault and assault with a deadly weapon by their writing in your state. In most states isn't that perjury especially after you have sworn to it and the police sworn to their side.
22. You ask this before I filled out the forms
23. The court says I need to file again because she was not served. Do I have to do all the paper work again. I also need info on how to serve her in another state. She is in prison. Thank you very much.
24. THERE WILL BE NO DISPUTES IN THIS CASE AND I DO UNDERSTAND THE TERMS. HOPEFULLY IT WILL BE OVER AND WE CAN BOTH GET ON WITH OUR LIVES AND BE HAPPY. YOUR PROGRAM WAS VERY EASY TO WORK WITH.
25. I phoned the clerk of the court to ask what form I needed and was told I needed to find it myself. (64701 = Harrisonville, Mo)
26. I could not find anything on this site. Everything seemed to be a dead end. I only answered this survey because I wanted to tell you how frustrating it was for me to try and find what I was looking for.
27. am having a hard time downloading the dissolution of marriage documents
28. Very helpful in preparation. A valuable service provided from the State. Thank You.
29. I WOULD HAVE TALKED WITH AN ATTORNEY BUT KNEW I COULDN'T AFFORD ONE.
30. would be more helpful to see more forms for Family Court issues.
31. I am still in preparation for court and hoping that I will be able to self represent myself entirely. Thank you very much for this site. I've already told many people.
32. I have Adobe Reader 9 but it still won't let me save the documents even if they are not completed yet.
33. Great site! I couldn't have found one better! This is EXACTLY the information I was looking for to determine if/should I represent myself and how to go about doing it.
34. eviction form CV90 is the same as garnishment or something like that? There are tons of landlords and rental property, why is locating the eviction forms so difficult?
35. we both agree on all terms all is solved we just want the divorce and agree to split custody of the one child the others do not live with her or me

36. The web site is forcing me to take this survey before it lets me see the legal forms. Therefore, I have yet to find out how well the site serves my needs.
37. I am looking this information up to represent a family member or to aid him in representing himself because we do not have the money to represent him.
38. I cannot locate the form complaint for divorce.
39. I still can't find the form for Waiver of Service that my wife is supposed to sign.
40. I think it is wonderful how easy it is to file your own divorce especially when neither are contesting.
41. we got married about 9 years. he was in prison and he got out march 17,2009. he was proled to ohio. he lived in ohio in a camper for 8 months. got in trouble went to jail. missouri come to take him back to missouri.we never lived together or had sex.it is a marry that should of never happen. can't afford a lawyer. i like to have divorce and go back to my other name crocker.
42. Would be nice to search for specific forms through a search engine
43. there were things I could not fill in that were required, because spouse's location was unknown.
44. This is an excellent resource, thank you!
45. survey came up before I had time to look over the site to answer the questions.
46. no need never done this before but seems really simple and fastest process because of your website.
47. I haven't done anything on this site yet. It was recommended to me by a coworker.
48. I DIDN'T LIKE THE FINISHED LOOK OF THE FORMS WITH THE PRINTED BUBBLES.
49. I need to know how to "Notice Up" for a court hearing date
50. I am at the stage of evaluating whether to represent myself or not.
51. I think this was a great choice for me very easy to use.
52. Thank you for making this information available!
53. It took a while to see what i needed to get and still have not I want a divorce and cant get one
54. The file keeps saying it is corrupted so I was unable to download. I had to go to the court house four times to get the right forms.
55. I have attended court cases in the military and wanted to try to represent myself because a soldier only makes so much and when you are taking care of 3 children without any help it dont leave much for you to afford anything...
56. Good to know website
57. good program
58. The links for a modification of support and custody go to a modification of support only. There are no forms or I am unable to locate the forms for a reponse to a motion to modify (custody)
59. As an experienced pro-se litigator here in NJ, I find this to be quite insulting to my intelligence
60. thanks for this information.
61. I believe that I could represent myself.
62. There is no clear link or path for Motion to Modify Maintenance.
63. I could not get the divorce forms to come up it keeps telling me there is a problem with the website.
64. I didn't have a choice as to whether I was the husband or the wife, it automatically checked husband.

65. This is a great website, and has made this whole process so much easier and cost effective for me.
66. Cannot down load the forms needed
67. website bombs out while trying to enter information- had to print forms and fill out manually.
68. I would like to have been able to print off certain sections of the forms I needed instead of the entire 64 pages.
69. It wouldn't download the form I needed!!
70. i fell like this wbsite mad it alot easer
71. The service was great an very helpful!
72. I received a notice from a law firm that stated inaccurate information and threatened me financially if I chose to ignore the notice. Being a law student I read the entire notice and analyzed it for what it was. It was merely a standard fear generating notice which is meant to harass and possibly scare someone into paying 13600 for no reason. I had to verify the possibility of defending myself from a civil suit.
73. this site is a wonderful tool that we can use when we can't afford an attorney!!
74. I have exhausted my resources for low income no income legal representation. Denied three times since 2008 by Eastern Legal Aid. Denied three times since 2008 by CLAM. Reason: they were unable to take my case at this time. I am involved in a Work Comp Injury Case since July 2, 2009. I have no income and am still under medical treatment. Michele Hammond Attorney, St. Charles, MO. took my case in May 2009. She provided unethical treatment and was never available by phone or interent. She dismissed herself from my case in Jan. 2010 because I was unable to provide payment. She told me with a witness present she would ask for Respondent to pay costs. She did not. She sent me a bill in Dec. 2009 for \$850. I have been mistreated and ignored. My rights in the St. Charles County courts were unethical and unprofessional.
75. You are asking me Questions before I have accessed the forms , let alone use them.
76. Ed is in prison and someone else had to retrieve this information for him.
77. I think the forms should have a disclaimer that these are for simple divorces and not equipped for complex divorces. I submitted a form literally 10x from this site and they said I couldn't use it because my youngest child was not the child of my husband. They court didn't tell me until after the 10th time because when you call and ask people bark "I can't give legal advice" and hang up in your face.
78. Not sure why this popped up... I haven't really looked around this site.
79. I HAVEN'T DONE ANY FORMS YET SO I DON'T KNOW IF THEY WOULD BE EASY TO USE OR NOT.
80. When I tried to download the forms for Dissolution of Marriage package-(bad encrypt dictionary)=error message.
81. Took me a while to get the dissolution forms where I could actually SAVE them after I typed in the data. There are also a couple of errors in the forms. I know because I've typed them five times now :0)
82. What I want is a form for my daughter to to fill out giving my granddaughter permission to live with me so she can attend school. Even though she lives with me and has her parents consent to do so the school says she cannot attend school unless I adopt her or we go to court and she is court ordered that she can live with

83. this questionier came up before i even got to look at forms so i do not know how you expect me to answer question on a form i have not looked at. maybe this should be after you get the forms.
84. Although there is no mention of name change before this survey, there is mention if it here. This may lead to inconsistencies and misunderstandings. I recommend a basic/standard form for "Simple name changes" not involving other topics like children etc. Thank you for this site.
85. I ONLY HAVE 300 DOLLARS AS INCOME MONTHLY
86. Still haven't found the correct form.
87. There are links to download form that will not open in Adobe, Word or any other document reader. Windows cannot even discern the file type. Other links to needed forms lead to pages where I have to guess which new link I actually need.
88. Website is helpful.
89. Need affidata or a admindment on changing name in divorce other that name I already chose
90. It would be much better if you could save your progress. I've had to start over 5 times.
91. I still have some doubts about the process since it is new to me, but I do feel like I am more prepared than without this information being available on-line.
92. I am trying to download the package and keep getting same site for survey it's frustrating.
93. I am just researching for a possible pending case. I do not currently have a legal issue, but one could become present very quickly. I will be looking more into the educational portion and talking with lawyers to see what would be best for my case if things develop. I think your website is helpful, thanks for thinking of average joe.
94. The website was generally useless for finding information about defending myself in traffic court. There seems to be information about other types of cases, but little or none for traffic. Therefore, I had to go outside of the website, finding information online and in books, none of which are specifically designed for Webster County Circuit Court. Surely I'm not the only one who would like to defend themselves in traffic court. More information would not only be beneficial, it is hereby demanded!
95. No children, no asset, I want nothing he wants nothing he has his own pension from his job and I have mine.
96. There are certain limitations to the information here. I guess it is most suited for those in need of resolving domestic conflicts.
97. husband got annulment i was never served legal procces
98. I can't afford to pay a lawyer.
99. I Kristin Michelle Mounce (Redman)Crabtree married Sammy L Crabtree in Shannon County and I was not aware of the fact he was still married to his first wife when Shannon County issued our marriage licence, now they don't want anything to do with it. They have no idea what to do and they refuse to take responsibility for it, Shannon County court system wants me to pay to have this annulled when it was their mistake and not mine. I want this marriage annulled and my last name of Mounce back. I have not lived with Sammy L. Crabtree in over a year, I filled out paper work with the Shannon County Sheriff's dept after Sammy beat me and choked me but they have never pressed charges on him, My head was black and

100. I have watched a guy friend and a girl friend go against there looser spouses and loose with lawyers they paid.. what they took my kids for didn't happen at my home i thought they got into my soon to be exhusbands pills but a week later i found out a grown man at the girls house gave them to them and the system isn't going to admit to failure and my kids are miserable my son is only eating roman noodles and he cant' take a shower in the morning and they haven't placed him and its been 40 days i haven't even met my lawyer and over the phone she wouldnt talk to me and her supervisor that sat in didn't say one thing to the judge not one and we have had 2 court cases.. my dad represented himself on some serious offenses and won i think these people are working for the devil... the kids that should get help from someone now they don't have our house to come to and my kids were on the honor roll well behaved my soon to be 13 yr old was under peer pressure and tried some weed and something else.. his girlfriend took some pills and was dead and i gave her cpr or she wouldn't be here and this was at her house she was given them by a man in her house and they took my kids... my son should have been placed 30days ago he thought the reason kids were coming in and out fast is because their moms weren't fighting for them and asked me not to fight for him but thats not the case they screwed up and they know it but won't admit it i already have their whole manual written down and on the reports that they screamed they gave me but didn't they only gave me the odd pages and it says my daughter took pills she is 9 and that is not true and the case worker said someone was just in a hurry! This is my kids lives here i can't just sit back and go dur ta dur... i am gonna win and them sue the hell out of them and we will just hope that the girl doesn't do that again and she's still alive or there will be another dominic james on this towns bloody hands... because the mom and investigator are friends... ha i'm coming like a freight train... any suggestions would be great..
101. The site is a pain. Trying to fill out the forms is like trying to have a root canal...painful.
102. The form does not show Missouri on the list and would not let me show I am wife filing.
103. i didn't think i needed a lawyer because we don't own or have any children together...
104. I have no money and no one will help me, this is my last option.
105. I'm just getting started but what I've seen so far this should be very helpful.
106. i can not pull up the divorce paper.
107. I wont' know if the forms were easy to use until after i complete them. I won't know if i feel ready to represent myself until after i finish reading everything that i must do.
108. I was asked to take this survey before completing or using any forms
109. This website is a God send. The legal system, in regards to children's issues, is so slanted towards solely supporting mothers or custodial parents, that a man cannot get simple information in order to defend himself or to see his children! This website removes the total lack of helpful information given by clerks all over the various counties in Missouri, by removing our faces and names, by shielding us

110. There was no option on which to obtain the forms or to download the forms for Judgment of Dissolution of Marriage in an uncontested case
111. thank you very much for this site
112. I have not yet received the forms.
113. I tried to get the petition for child custody paperwork and I keep getting an error message. There is something wrong on your end because I have checked everything on mine. So Now I cannot file for custody of my son during this critical time because I dont have access to the proper forms and cannot afford a lawyer.
114. I would like to know if a court appointed attorney's take cases that deal with child support? If so, how would I go about getting one?
115. The forms for a name change are all but impossible to find. I need to find a Judgement of Name Change form for the court's signature and have still had no luck.
116. all I want are the forms to fill my divirice ,
117. Could not get legal forms to open for usage. Have Acrobat Reader 9.0. So have not been able to view, fill in, print out, or file and there is not a number to call for technical support.
118. we have 2 children but neither of us have custody.
119. it help me a lot
120. it was really helpful
121. I been married 7 years with my husband David W Pemberton he has been incarcerated in prison most of are marriage \I believe in my best interest this divorce should be taken serious cause I readyy to have someone by myside not lock up.
122. this wasn't bad
123. Everything was easy to understand, and find.
124. Going through this process I have learned to respect our courts even more so. I am very appreciative that our court systems are there for everyone who needs them.
125. Never married.
126. Not being able to save the forms to disk makes it harder to complete, esp. since there are so many pages.
127. Just a father wanting the same rights and equality as a mother who has a whole world biased for them, Best vinterest of the child.
128. You do not know what questions to ask. I said no to everyt thing because you gave me only two choices. I just need the papers and instruction on how to fill them out for a desolution of Marriage for Taney county Missouri.
129. You could document everything in laimens terms. Most people getting on this website don't know how to investigate the internet and they have little to no money to have someone help them. you should have more self help references and more connections to the help on the paper work. But thank you for what you have provided. Myself I know you wouldn't provide everything and managed to find what you didn't provide on my own.
130. i have already split everything more than evenly she took everything but what lil i had in the frontroom

131. Should be a little more Respondent oriented as typically, the respondent has yet to hire an attorney.
132. havent found my form yet
133. I just want a divorce don't want anything from him at all.
134. UNABLE TO LOCATE FORMS FOR MY APPEAL
135. I was getting the forms for use for someone else. They are extremely helpful. thanks.
136. I was directed to this site by a court employee.
137. i have been married since march 17 2007.my husband and i have just grown apart and not in love anymore.he says we should stay together for our son but i disagree totally.a child i think shouldn't be in a home where two people fight non stop and its just getting worse.i don't want to keep our child from his father at all.i think it would be so much better if we weren't together.i have tried to set my husband down and tell him look please change you make me sad all the time and embarrass me with your fits in public.it seems that he tries for just a few days.i wont lie i do love my husband very much and i hope he ends up happy again.But he isn't happy with me.as far as property goes i want very little.most of our furnature he bought before we was married so ill take just want is mine.im sure he wont fight over anything in court i will be reasonable about everything.as far as child support goes as long as he buys colby stuff like a father should im not worried about child support.i plan on working to get me and my child things.im not sure how this goes on here or works really?but if someone has to contact me i would like for it to be on either mondays times 8 am til 3 pm or thursdays 8 am til 3 pm.or tuesdays or thursdays from 5 pm til 10 pm at night.i guess this is all i have to say for now
138. I am a retiring lawyer
139. I feel I'm able to handle my case, I just have to make time. However, I haven't found on this site yet all the things I need to get the ball rolling for me. Free legal ass. is not an option for me, there's a conflict and a lawyer is too high I have no other choice but to represent myself
140. could not find the certificate of compleation any where on the site.
141. cant find forms
142. Been trying to access forms for 5 days and it keeps telling me that there is bad incrypted dictionary,cant get the forms
143. YOU NEED MORE FORMS ON THIS SITE. I CANNOT FIND ANYTHING ABOUT CONTEMPT.
144. I am no stranger to divorce. After 5 priors, I think I can handle it ok.
145. I was refered here by a circuit court employee.
146. I have been advised even by judges to get a divorce. I am currently unable to afford one. But the need for one is great!
147. YOU NEED TO MAKE THE FORMS MORE USER FRIENDLY ESPECIALLY FOR PEOPLE THAT DO NOT UNDERSTAND REAL TIME AND THAT THEY CAN'T SAVE COURT FORMS WITH THE TYPED INFORMATION ON THEM.
148. theres other leagel problems than just marital,and custodial. how about forms for injurys,real ownership,and others?
149. wanting to file for divorce on line
150. wanting out of this marriage needing legal papers to do this
151. Process for self filing was not explained clearly. I called ahead and it was a surprise that I needed to use a computer to access forms.

152. this is awesome thanks so much
153. My husband has verbal abused me I am suffering emotional stress we have been married for 3 month's he moved out and while we are still married he has a girlfriend I didn't know about this until 3 days ago.
154. The court should provide a basic hearing script. It is general and basic and would only need a few blanks filled in and would really help a pro se litigant in this process.
155. im not very good at comprehending thing so im not sure if im doing this right
156. Sample foreclosure pleadings would be nice.
157. Keep trying to get forms. Am the wife and petitioner but it keeps putting I am husband.
158. The only issue I had with the dissolution of marriage forms was it kept wanting me to say I was the husband which I most certainly am not.
159. Do to a lot of negative things that have happened in my marriage with my husband being involved in my life I strongly think that this is the best thing for me and my children. and if the courts would grant me this the next time if ever I decide to marry it will be a long thought out and researched process. Thank You, Sincerely!
160. This site made other information on Missouri's other websites concerning the difficulty of the motion to modify a great deal more manageable. Other sites gave a man the impression of an endless hopeless chance of relief. This site is an easy to understand step guide to show a man how to obtain relief from unjust sums continuing to be charged against him after he has long since ceased to earn the sums of money that he is being held accountable for. This site gives a man a glimmer of hope for justice when he doesn't have the money to hire justice for him through costly legal fees, if he can't even afford to pay the high cost of a falsely charged child support payment.
161. I think all forms and certificates should be able to be saved and printed later.
162. I'm not sure if i have all the forms i need since so many do not pertain to me, i'm afraid my case will not go through because i did something wrong.
163. Execution of eviction
164. I was not able to access the Divorce paper on my dial up computer. Was wondering if they might be mailed to me. Susanne Kalfas/Gornick, 2950 Windy Hill Rd., Festus, MO 63028. 636-937-4894. I am disabled and find it hard to access any outside computer access.
165. i went to court 5 years ago and was told i would have reasonable visitation with my son and i haven't seen him since, nor has any of my family. that includes my sons other two siblings. we miss him and want him back in our lives. always have. just recently heard of the family access motion.
166. I am using the form to get my affairs in order before talking to a lawyer and before filing for divorce.
167. No this is suppose to be a simple divorce, no children and no property to settle. I have been trying to do this paperwork for 4 months now!
168. He moved to south west city and we talked about it and he is going to come here 1 a month and on holidays and on there birthdays and thats it
169. I need paperwork for a Legal Separation. After looking at this I am assuming I use the disolution of marriage form for that? Please let me know if I am correct:
kcdani11@gmail.com

170. This is so weird that I have to go through this just to get temp. custody of my grandchild if some one can give me a call to let me know if I did this right or I did it wrong,because my grandchild will be here in Jan, or possible Dec. 314-766-0168
171. never recived any forms
172. during the last week of july athena and har dad darrin left on a family reunion for a week on her way back to florida athena dropped off kcee morgan bunch at my moms connie john and took her other kids damien and terriney back to florida leavin kcee in missouri when she finally got home she told me that she wasnt ready to be a mom she wanted to party sense she couldnt with her husband so she left and i do have witnesses of athena saying that.she took kcees foodstamps and welfare on kcee and used them not on her when she new me and kcee was hurtin for food now i dont mind athena seeing or talking to kcee because i let her athena told me and everybody else she didnt want to be a mom she wanted to party and thats alright with me.
173. I have more questions
174. I haven't been able to access anything yet, the site is crashing. I am trying to organize my thoughts before meeting with my attorney later this week.
175. just want a divorce is all i want
176. I needed more information then this site had
177. Our concern is the lack of response from the Office of the Public Administrator to complaints on service/interest of case manager and lack of feed back to inquiries reference brothers care presently and future, While willing to share our thoughts and opinions, they are not requested and when offered not addressed.
178. Where are your legal separation forms??? e.g., Petition for legal separation
179. I have not used the materials I can get here and still have no idea what all is here. You should at least wait until someone trying to use the site has a chance to use it.
180. survey should be after you use the forms.
181. Since this came up before I was able to look at the site I can hardly have an opinion
182. the reason i am doing this is because Ms.Tindle has dropped the minor children off with anyone who would take them with the exception of myself. we have not been to court to decide custody of minor children. i chose to do what i did by using internet and Tany county sherriff department to help find the minor children and take them into my custody so that they can be raised in a stable enviroment with my wife and myself. Ms. Tindle has not had the kids living with her for three years. it took me this long to find them. si now i appeal to the court to grant me full and sole custody of minor children with proper visitation granted to there mother. i am not asking for back child support or future child support i just ask that i be granted full and sole custody thank you for your time
183. I have used family access order in past,but judge doesn't approve of it. county is joke. hard to have documents if any to prove your ex didn't show up,when supposed to. our current prosecuter is azz... one sided. month to go,out of office, hip hip hurray.
184. THANKS FOR THIS HELP AND I AM HAPPY TO SEE THIS OUT THERE FOR US USING THIS FOR COURT ,,THANKS DANNY DUMAS
185. Some of the information I need is not available on this site.
186. I'm just now reviewing the forms... so, I can't really know how useful they are. Right?

187. These divorce forms are not saveable. Why? This is sad that they are made that way for a purpose.... If you are truly trying to help out people then provide a complete solution and not a half baked solution. Why did you make these "not saveable"??? The divorce form begins with words to following effect: "It is illegal for any one other than a licenses lawyer to help fill these forms....." I believe this statement itself is "illegal". Why would you not put a reference to the law that supports your statement. It is shameless to have such words come from the supreme court of MO without proper reference. So how about those people who are illiterate and are unable to read and write. So your sweeping statement as mentioned above tantamounts to say: "No one can help them do a simple clerical function of data entry.....other than an attorney".... It is sad that such like statements are put into these half baked documents (that are not saveable) and then tall claims are made to help the humanity. This is sad. If you really sincerely believe in helping the poor and needy then do the right thing no matter what. Go ahead and fix these forms and make them saveable. Also take out the inappropriate statement of only a licenses attorney being the only creature on God's earth to be able to do such like things..... Remember we are talking of "Self Representation".... Make it simple and easy for a common person to get justice....
188. thank you for providing such easy and understandable info to get me started.
189. I couldn't download the forms of the website and Im not sure why so I had to go back to the civil courts building to get them.
190. I could not unmark an answer once entered without erasing the whole form.
191. couldnt get the forms i wnted cuz my computer dont have the nessecery abode reader to down load where can i get the becdies off the internet
192. I had trouble getting the support forms to download. The first one came up blank and the second one kept giving me an error message. Otherwise, the site is great.
193. I first went to court without the proper forms my papers were prepared by a uniformed parlegal and I had to return back to the site after the judge told me what forms I needed so it caused me a lot of wasted time in getting my divorce final. I still have not found the forms so after answering these question I will go look for the forms.



Judge or Division:	Case Number:	
Petitioner:	Newspaper Name/Address	
SSN (Last Four Digits):		(Date File Stamp)
Respondent:		
SSN (Last Four Digits):		

Application and Order for Service by Publication of Notice

Application for Order of Publication

The Petitioner, in person by attorney states that:

One or more persons to be served are (unknown) or (their names are unknown), and such persons are (heirs) (grantees)(successors) of _____ the person to whom the property to be affected by this litigation was last known to have been transferred.

OR

Services cannot be obtained on respondent(s) _____ under Rules 54.12 (b), 54.13, 54.14 or 54.16 for the reason(s) that:

AND

The last known address of the party to be served is:

(If address is unknown, state "unknown")

The petitioner, pursuant to Rule 54.12 (c), asks that an order be entered for Service by Publication in the newspaper name above.

Petitioner/Petitioner's Attorney

Subscribed and sworn to before me _____
Date

Clerk

Order for Service by Publication of Notice

Upon the Verified Statement of _____ it is ordered that the respondent _____ be served by publication of notice according to Rule 54.12(c)

Date

Judge/Clerk

Form CAFC040 - Property and Debt Statement and Proposed Separation Agreement (For use in Dissolution of Marriage Cases)

In what Missouri county will this case be filed?

In the Circuit Court of	MISSOURI
-------------------------	----------

What is the case number of the pending case?

Case Number

Division Number

Answer all questions on this form completely.

Petitioner's Information

The full name of the person that filed this case is:			
_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>(First Name)</i>	<i>(Middle Name)</i>	<i>(Last Name)</i>	<i>(Jr./Sr./III)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Wife filed this case and is the Petitioner.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Husband filed this case and is the Petitioner.			

Respondent's Information

The full name of the person that did NOT file this case:			
_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>(First Name)</i>	<i>(Middle Name)</i>	<i>(Last Name)</i>	<i>(Jr./Sr./III)</i>

What does this form cover?

There are two parts to this document. Part One is your division of property and debt and Part Two pertains to spousal support or "maintenance." This document does not have anything to do with child support or custody. Issues addressing child support and custody are contained in a parenting plan.
--

What is a Separation Agreement?

<p>It is an agreement in which you and your spouse agree to a distribution of property and debt and to provisions concerning maintenance and attorney's fees. If both you and your spouse sign this document, it is called a "Separation Agreement." It does not include provisions for child custody and child support.</p> <p>Even if both you and your spouse have signed the agreement, the court is not bound by it. If the court finds that your agreement is "unconscionable" or does not divide all property and marital debt, it will not be approved by the court. The court can divide the property in any manner it considers fair, and it may or may not order maintenance to be paid.</p>

How do I complete Part One of this Form?

<p>You must list all of your marital and nonmarital property and marital debt on one of the four tables.</p> <p>Use a separate row for each item of property or debt. You should draw a line through all rows that do not contain an item of property. This is very important because someone could alter this document after you have signed it. Keep a copy of this document after you have signed it.</p>
--

Part One – Division of Property and Debt

You must answer “Yes” or “No” to each of the following questions.

**Property
Owned by
Wife**
(either alone or
with anyone else)

Does Wife own a house, condominium or other real estate?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife own a car, truck or motorcycle?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife own a boat, airplane, mobile home or trailer?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any bank accounts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any right to receive any pension or retirement benefits other than Social Security?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have an IRA or 401(k) or other retirement account?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any furniture, appliances or other household goods worth more than \$100?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any jewelry, clothing or other personal items worth more than \$100?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife own a business?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife own any stocks or bond?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any life insurance that could be cashed in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does anyone owe Wife any money?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any lawsuits against anyone?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any farm equipment, animals or crops?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any interest in any trusts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife have any other asset or property?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Property
Owned by
Husband**
(either alone or
with anyone else)

Does Husband own a house, condominium or other real estate?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband own a car, truck or motorcycle?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband own a boat, airplane, mobile home or trailer?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any bank accounts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any right to receive any pension or retirement benefits other than Social Security?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have an IRA or 401(k) or other retirement account?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any furniture, appliances or other household goods worth more than \$100?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any jewelry, clothing or other personal items worth more than \$100?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband own a business?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband own any stocks or bond?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any life insurance that could be cashed in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does anyone owe Husband any money?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any lawsuits against anyone?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any farm equipment, animals or crops?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any interest in any trusts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband have any other asset or property?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

If you answered “Yes” to any of the above questions, you must list each item of property in either Table 1 or Table 2 on the following pages.

**Debts that
Wife Owes**
(either alone or
with anyone else)

Does Wife owe a mortgage on a house or condominium or land?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife owe money on a car?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife owe money on any credit cards?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife owe any money to any family or friends?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is Wife currently in a bankruptcy proceeding? (Chapter 7 or Chapter 13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife owe any medical or dental bills?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Wife owe any other debts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Debts that
Husband
Owes** (either
alone or with
anyone else)

Does Husband owe a mortgage on a house or condominium or land?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband owe money on a car?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband owe money on any credit cards?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband owe any money to any family or friends?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is Husband currently in a bankruptcy proceeding? (Chapter 7 or Chapter 13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband owe any medical or dental bills?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does Husband owe any other debts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

If you answered “Yes” to any of the above questions, you must list each item of debt in either Table 3 or Table 4 on the following pages.

What debts should I list on this form?

You should list all loans from any individual, bank, credit card company, credit union, savings and loan association or other lending institution. Include all debts owed by either you or your spouse. Make sure to list all credit cards and any amounts owed pursuant to any bankruptcy or other repayment plans.
Debts that the Wife should pay are to be listed in Table 3 and Debts that the Husband should pay are to be listed in Table 4.

What does “security” mean?

The mortgage on a home is traditionally secured by the home. When you finance the purchase of an automobile, the company that loans you the money is listed on the title to the automobile. They too have a security interest in your car. Usually, a debt is secured by an item of property if the person to whom you owe the money can take the item of property if you fail to pay the debt. The schedules of debt ask you to list any security for that debt. You must also list the property that secures the debt under the property listings.

How do you get the other party’s name off of this debt?

This agreement does not affect the rights of the person to whom you or your spouse owe the money. They can still collect the money from both or your spouse.
Each party is to attempt to refinance or obtain the release of any liability of the other party as soon as reasonably practicable after the dissolution of marriage.

TABLE 4. DEBTS TO BE PAID BY HUSBAND - List all loans from any individual, bank, credit card company, credit union, savings and loan association or other lending institution which are to be paid by HUSBAND. Husband is to indemnify and hold Wife harmless for all debts listed on Table 4.

The creditor's rights to collect these debts from Wife are NOT affected without the consent of the creditor. Husband is to refinance or obtain the release of any liability of Wife on all debts listed in Table 4 as soon as reasonably practicable.

Item of Debt <i>(Who is the money owed to?)</i>	Current Balance	Monthly Payment	What is the security for this debt, if any? <i>(This property should be listed in Table 1 or Table 2)</i>	Marital or Separate Debt
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both
				<input type="checkbox"/> Marital <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmarital <input type="checkbox"/> Both

Part Two – Maintenance and Other Provisions

What is maintenance?

Maintenance is money paid on a regular schedule by one spouse to the other after the dissolution of marriage. It may be for a set period of time or it may be for an indefinite period of time. It usually terminates upon the death of either party or the remarriage of the party receiving maintenance unless the parties agree otherwise. It may or may not be subject to future modification upon a showing of changed circumstances. Maintenance used to be referred to as "alimony."

Maintenance to Wife

The court lacks jurisdiction to enter any orders with respect to maintenance of Wife.
 No maintenance is to be paid to Wife by Husband. This agreement is not subject to modification.
 Husband shall pay to Wife the sum of _____ per month as and for maintenance. Said maintenance is _____ subject to modification. Said maintenance shall terminate upon the death of either party, the remarriage of Wife, or at such earlier time as set forth herein.

Maintenance to Husband

The court lacks jurisdiction to enter any orders with respect to maintenance of Husband.
 No maintenance is to be paid to Husband by Wife. This agreement is not subject to modification.
 Wife shall pay to Husband the sum of _____ per month as and for maintenance. Said maintenance is _____ subject to modification. Said maintenance shall terminate upon the death of either party, the remarriage of Husband, or at such earlier time as set forth herein.

Wage Withholding for Maintenance

(Answer only if maintenance is to be paid by either party.)
 Income withholding shall be prepared by the person receiving maintenance and issued by the Circuit Clerk upon the effective date of this order.
 Income withholding shall not issue for the following reason(s):

Non-maintenance Payments

_____ shall pay to _____ the sum of _____ as and for _____

Attorney's Fees

Neither party is to receive attorney's fees from the other party.
 Wife shall pay to _____ the sum of _____ as and for Husband's attorney's fees herein.
 Husband shall pay to _____ the sum of _____ as and for Wife's attorney's fees herein.

Additional Provisions

I certify under oath that I have given my spouse a copy of this Statement of Property and Debt pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rule 43.01(d) by: (You MUST check at least ONE of the following three boxes)

- Serving a copy with the petition.
- Mailing a copy to my spouse or his or her attorney on _____, 20____ at the following address:

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

- Handing a copy to my spouse or his or her attorney on _____, 20_____.
- Sending a copy to my spouse or his or her attorney by fax to _____(telephone number) on _____, 20____ at _____(time).

Instructions: The following information MUST be filled in before a notary public. Your Statement of Property and Debt is required to be verified before a notary public.

COUNTY OF _____)
) ss.
 STATE OF _____)

Wife, of lawful age, being duly sworn on her oath, states that she is the Wife named herein and that the facts stated in this Statement of Property and Debt are true according her best knowledge and belief, and that she agrees with the terms and conditions set forth herein.
 Further, Wife states that she executed this Statement of Property and Debt as her free act and deed.

► _____ WIFE – SIGN HERE WIFE – PRINT YOUR NAME HERE

Subscribed and sworn to this ____ day of _____, 20____.

 Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

COUNTY OF _____)
) ss.
 STATE OF _____)

Husband, of lawful age, being duly sworn on his oath, states that he is the Husband named herein and that the facts stated in this Statement of Property and Debt are true according his best knowledge and belief, and that he agrees with the terms and conditions set forth herein.
 Further, Husband states that he executed this Statement of Property and Debt as his free act and deed.

► _____ HUSBAND – SIGN HERE HUSBAND – PRINT YOUR NAME HERE

Subscribed and sworn to this ____ day of _____, 20____.

 Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

Form CAFC040 - Directions and Information

Do I have to file this form?

Yes. You must file this document with either your "Petition for Dissolution of Marriage" or your "Answer," even if it is not signed by both parties.

What is marital property?

RSMo §452.330 defines marital property. Usually marital property is property acquired by either spouse during the marriage of the parties other than property acquired by gift, inheritance, or in exchange for nonmarital property. This means that all wages earned during the marriage are marital property. All property owned by the parties is presumed to be marital property.

Nonmarital property can be converted to marital property by placing a spouse's name on an account or title. Also, a marital interest can be acquired in nonmarital property by the contribution of marital assets to the increase in value of the nonmarital property. Finally, income from nonmarital property during the marriage of the parties is marital property.

What is nonmarital property?

Nonmarital property is property that was acquired prior to the marriage or property that was acquired during the marriage by gift, inheritance, or in exchange for nonmarital property. Nonmarital property is sometimes also called "separate property." Additionally, some state teacher retirement benefits are considered nonmarital. RSMo. §169.572.

Can property be marital and nonmarital?

Yes. If an item of property is partly marital and partly nonmarital, then it should be listed under both the marital and nonmarital sections. For example, if one party had earned pension benefits for five years prior to the marriage and continued to earn the same pension benefits for five years during the marriage, one-half or 50% of the pension and retirement benefits are marital and one-half or 50% are nonmarital. In that situation, the pension and retirement benefits would be listed both under marital and nonmarital property.

What is "fair market value"?

This is the amount someone would pay for this item of property today. It is not what the property cost when you purchased it. A ten year old automobile has a value far less than the amount you paid for the automobile.

What if I don't agree with this proposed separation agreement?

You must take appropriate actions to protect your interests. **CONSULT A LAWYER.** Do not fail to respond if you have been served with these papers as the court may proceed without any further notice to you.

Do we have to list our property even if we've already divided it?

Yes, all property and all debt must still be included on one of the tables.

What property should I list on this form?

ALL PROPERTY AND MARITAL DEBT must be divided in a dissolution of marriage proceeding. Your dissolution of marriage may not be final unless this is done. This includes the following types of property and debt:

Real estate, motor vehicles, bank accounts, pension and retirement plans and profit sharing plans, stocks, bonds or other securities, life insurance, cash on hand, household goods, personal goods, trust interests, businesses or partnerships, debts owed to you or your spouse by others, any interests in pending litigation or suits to be filed, farm equipment, animals or crops, interests in contracts made and not performed, and any other assets.

Do I have to list property even if my spouse's name is not on it?

Yes, you must list all property owned by you alone, by your spouse alone, and by you and your spouse together. You must list property even if it is not in joint names. Any property in which either you or your spouse claim ANY interest whatsoever, MUST be listed.

In many instances, you will not be able to sell your property or receive your retirement unless you prove that these items were listed in your dissolution of marriage judgment.

Do I have to list property that either of us is buying at the present time?

YES. You must list all property that either you or your spouse is purchasing by making monthly payments. So, even if you owe money on your car or home, it still must be listed. Actually, it must be listed twice: once as an item of property and once as a debt secured by the property.

Do I have to list property I owned before the marriage?

Yes. This is normally nonmarital property, but under some circumstances it may be considered marital property.

Do I have to list property my spouse owned before the marriage?

Yes. Just as you had to list property you owned before the marriage, you should also list property your spouse owned before the marriage. Once again, this is normally nonmarital property, but under some circumstances it may be considered marital property.

I don't know what my spouse owns so how can I list it?

You should hire a lawyer to assist you. A lawyer has the ability to assist you in locating the assets of your spouse.

Do I have to list property I acquired after we separated?

You are still married so any property or debt that you have acquired since your separation has to be included.

What happens if I don't list all the property and marital debt?

It would be a VERY BIG mistake not to list all your property and marital debt. Your dissolution of marriage may not be final, and your spouse will be able to come back in the future and try and get this item of property. In some cases, you may not be able to receive your pension or sell your property without proof that your dissolution of marriage judgment listed the property.

Should I list my pension even though I can't receive any benefits now?

Yes. It is very important that you list all pension plans in which you or your spouse participates. They should be listed even if you can't receive any benefits for a long time.
If you don't list a pension plan, you may not be able to receive any benefits in the future without further legal proceedings.

Do I have to list every last dish and towel?

No. You do not need to list property if it is of minimal value. If the item of property is worth less than \$100.00, you may omit it from your list.

What if I acquire some property or debt after I file my case?

If you acquire any additional property or debt during the time this case is pending, you must notify the court of that fact at the time of your hearing. If you dispose of any property or pay off any debt during the time this case is pending, you must notify the court of that fact at the time of your hearing.

What if I need more space on the tables?

You may make copies of any of the four tables if you need additional room for more property or debt. When you have listed all the property and debt, you should number the pages. Make sure you write "Not Applicable" or "N/A" in each box under "Item of Property" or "Item of Debt" that you do not fill. (Someone could fill this in later with some other information)

IMPORTANT

This document is placed in a court file, which is an open document available to the public. In listing your bank or other accounts, or your credit card or other debt, do not include the entire account number. You should include only enough information to distinguish your account from other accounts owned by you and your spouse. For example, in listing a credit card number, you should include only the last four digits of the account, such as xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-1234.

Form CAFC401 – Petition for Change of Name (For Adult Individual)

I am a resident of the following county
in the State of Missouri:

In the Circuit Court of	MISSOURI
-------------------------	-----------------

If this is an amended petition, what is
the case number of the pending case?

Case Number

Division Number

Answer all questions on this form completely.

Your Information

1. My current full legal name is: *(You are the "Petitioner" in this case.)*

_____ (First Name) _____ (Middle Name) _____ (Last Name) _____ (Jr./Sr./III)

2. I want to change my name to:

_____ (First Name) _____ (Middle Name) _____ (Last Name) _____ (Jr./Sr./III)

3. This is the first petition I have filed in this case. (Original Petition)
 This is the second petition I have filed in this case.

4. My mailing address is:

_____ (Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

_____ (Telephone Number) _____ (E-Mail Address)

5. My mother's full MAIDEN is:

_____ (First Name) _____ (Middle Name) _____ (Last Name)

6. My father's full name is:

_____ (First Name) _____ (Middle Name) _____ (Last Name) _____ (Jr./Sr./III)

7. My husband's or wife's full name is:

_____ (First Name) _____ (Middle Name) _____ (Last Name) _____ (Jr./Sr./III)

8. My birth date is: *(mm/dd/yyyy)* _____

9. My place of birth is: *(City)* _____ *(State)* _____

10. The change of my name would not be detrimental to any other person.

Residence Information

- 11. I reside in the Country of _____.
- 12. I reside in the State of _____.
- 13. I reside in the County of _____.

Children's Information

14. I have _____ child(ren) who is/are listed below.
- a. _____ Age: _____
(Child's full name as it appears on the birth certificate) (Child's Age)
 - b. _____ Age: _____
(Child's full name as it appears on the birth certificate) (Child's Age)
 - c. _____ Age: _____
(Child's full name as it appears on the birth certificate) (Child's Age)
 - d. _____ Age: _____
(Child's full name as it appears on the birth certificate) (Child's Age)
 - e. _____ Age: _____
(Child's full name as it appears on the birth certificate) (Child's Age)
 - f. _____ Age: _____
(Child's full name as it appears on the birth certificate) (Child's Age)
15. The place of the residence of the child(ren) is/are: *(State the address(es) of the children)*
- _____
- _____

Information about Previous Names

16. Check one of the two boxes.
- My name has never been changed.
 - My name has previously been changed as follows: *(State when and where and by what court)*
- _____
- _____

Information about Judgments against Me

17. Check one of the two boxes.
- There are no unsatisfied money judgments against me.
 - There are unsatisfied money judgments against me in the following cases: *(State the style of the case in which the judgment was entered and the court in which the judgment was entered.)*
- _____
- _____

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF _____, MISSOURI

Petitioner(s),

Case No. _____
Division No. _____

Change of Name Judgment

Parties

1. **Appearances** *(Check all that apply)*

- Petitioner(s) appears in person.
- _____ appears in person.
- Petitioner(s) appears by attorney.
- _____ appears by attorney.
- Petitioner(s) appear by Next Friend.

2. The court finds that the change of name(s) would be proper and would not be detrimental to the interests of any other person.

3. The names of Petitioner(s) are changed as follows:

From	To	Birth Date

Change of Birth Records

- 4. It is further ordered that the Division of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of Vital Statistics for the State of Missouri alter the birth certificate(s) of Petitioner(s) to reflect this judgment. This judgment shall be mailed by the Petitioner(s) to the Division of Health and Senior Services
- it is further ordered that the State of _____ alter the birth certificates(s) of Petitioner(s) to reflect his judgment. This judgment shall be mailed by the Petitioner(s) to the appropriate state of birth of Petitioner(s).

Court Costs

- 5. Court costs are to be paid from the court cost deposit(s) previously posted.
- Court costs are waived.

Notice

- 6. Notice of the change of name(s) shall be published at least once each week for three consecutive weeks in the following newspaper of general circulation:

Form CAFC721 – Request for Service by Publication

(For use in Dissolution of Marriage Cases)

In what Missouri county is this case pending?

In the Circuit Court of MISSOURI
--

What is the case number in the pending case?

Case Number

Division Number

Your Information

1. My current full name is:

(First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name) (Jr./Sr./III)

2. I am the Petitioner/Plaintiff in this case.
 I am the Respondent/Defendant in this case.

3. Gender

- Female
 Male

Warning – If you know where the party to be served by publication can be found and you fail to disclose it on this form, the judgment in this case can be set aside in the future!

Information for Service by Publication

1. The current name of the party to be served by publication is:

(First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name) (Jr./Sr./III)

2. The last known address of the party to be served by publication is

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Telephone Number) (E-Mail Address)

3. I have attempted to locate the party to be served by publication by doing the following things: *(Check all that apply)*

- I have contacted the following family and friends of the party to be served by publication in an attempt to find his or her current whereabouts, but they were not able to tell me where he or she can be located:

- I have looked in the phone book for the phone number and/or address of the party to be served by publication.
 I have attempted to have the party to be served by publication personally served, but the party to be served by publication could not be found.

Form CAFC701 – Notice of Change of Address

In what Missouri county is this case pending?

In the Circuit Court of	MISSOURI
-------------------------	----------

What is the case number in the pending case?

Case Number

Division Number

Important Warning

Your address will NOT be changed in the court file and you will continue to receive mail from the court at your old address until you complete and sign this form in front of a notary public and file the completed form with the court. You must send a copy of this form to all other parties in this case.

Your Information

1. My full name is:

(First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name) (Jr./Sr./III)

2. I am the Petitioner/Plaintiff in this case.
 I am the Respondent/Defendant in this case.
 I am a third party in this case.
 Other (Please specify) _____

3. Gender
 Female
 Male

4. My OLD mailing address was:

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Telephone Number) (E-Mail Address)

5. My NEW mailing address is:

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Telephone Number) (E-Mail Address)

Other Parties' Information

6. The full name of the other party that is to receive this notice is:

(First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name) (Jr./Sr./III)

You must send a separate copy of this form to every party to this case.

The Litigant Awareness Program

You must do this program if you plan to represent yourself in a family law court case. Print out the certificate at the end of this program and file it in your court case file.

The program tells you about the Missouri court system and the type of case that interests you. We also talk about the dangers and duties of representing yourself in court.

Go it alone or get a lawyer? You can ask a lawyer to help you with part of your case. This is called “limited scope representation.” You and your lawyer decide what each of you will do to handle your case. A lawyer who agrees to help you with part of your case may charge a fixed fee or charge by the hour. Some things a lawyer may do as part of your case: talk with you about your legal rights, review paperwork, draft legal forms, or appear in court with you. A free lawyer may be available in some cases.

You have two ways to do the Litigant Awareness Program:

Choice one: WATCH A VIDEO (in English or Spanish – 25 minutes)

Click here  to watch the video. Then take the Self Assessment Survey. Next, read about the type of case that interests you. Lastly, print the Certificate of Completion. File it with the court clerk.

Choice two: READ ONLINE (in English – estimated time 30 minutes)

Click here  to read the program online. Take the Self Assessment Survey, learn how the court system works and the steps in a court case. Then read about the type of case that interests you. Lastly, print the Certificate of Completion. File it with the court clerk.

After completing this Program you can go to approved court forms.

BACK

Page 39813

Flesch reading Ease	current: 34.4	revision: 66.7
Flesh-Kincaid Grade Level	current: 12	revision: 7.1
Words per sentence	current: 18	revision: 13

CURRENT PAGE

The Litigant Awareness Program in Video

INSTRUCTIONS: Chose your video language below. After watching the video you will have the opportunity to complete a self assessment survey and read additional information about the type of case in which you are interested.

[WATCH VIDEO IN ENGLISH](#) (25 minutes)

[WATCH VIDEO IN SPANISH](#) (25 minutes)

AFTER YOU WATCH THE VIDEO [click here](#) to continue. Complete the Litigant Awareness Program, then print the Certificate of Completion provided at the end. File it with the court clerk along with other paperwork for your case.

REVISED IN PLAIN LANGUAGE

The Litigant Awareness Program in Video

[WATCH VIDEO IN ENGLISH](#) (25 minutes)

[WATCH VIDEO IN SPANISH](#) (25 minutes)

AFTER YOU WATCH THE VIDEO [click here](#). This survey helps you decide if you want to do your case yourself. Next, print out the Certificate that follows. If you do your own case, file this certificate with the court clerk..

Page 39814

Flesch reading Ease	current: 41.9	revision: 68.6
Flesh-Kincaid Grade Level	current: 11.9	revision: 6.6
Words per sentence	current: 18.4	revision: 11.8

CURRENT PAGE

The Litigant Awareness Program Online

INSTRUCTIONS: Please read the following information. Click "NEXT PAGE" to move to the next section of the program. You will have the opportunity to complete a self assessment survey, learn about how the Missouri court system works, and read additional information about the type of case in which you are interested. Read through the information provided (estimated time 30 minutes), then print the Certificate of Compliance provided at the end of the program. File the certificate with the court clerk along with other paperwork for your case.

REVISED IN PLAIN LANGUAGE

The Litigant Awareness Program Online

This section is just text. Click "NEXT PAGE" to move to more information (reading time about 30 minutes). The survey helps you decide if you want to do your case yourself. Print out the Certificate at the end of the program. If you do your own case, file the certificate with the court clerk.

Page 39833

Flesch reading Ease	current: 45.4	revision: 50.9
Flesh-Kincaid Grade Level	current: 11	revision: 9.2
Words per sentence	current: 17.3	revision: 12.5

CURRENT

How the Missouri Court System Works

The better you understand how the court system works, the better chance you have of successfully representing yourself. In Missouri, family law cases are filed in the [circuit court](#). Some areas have special courts called "[family courts](#)" that are part of the circuit court. Family court cases include dissolutions, annulments, paternity actions, name changes, modifications, child support, domestic violence, etc. The Missouri [Court of Appeals](#) and the [Supreme Court of Missouri](#) deal with legal mistakes made in the circuit court. [Click here](#) to view a diagram of the Missouri court system.

If you are representing yourself, there are a variety of resources available that may help you.

- **Court Clerks & Court Staff:** Missouri does allow court clerks to help you with certain information; however, **court clerks are limited in the assistance they can provide you**. [Click here](#) to review the list of items court staff can and cannot do for you: [Court Staff Assistance](#)
- **Domestic Violence:** If domestic violence is an issue in your case and you meet certain income guidelines, you may be eligible for free representation through [Legal Aid/Legal Services](#). For a directory of domestic violence resources available by county, [click here](#) for more information.
- **Disability or Language Barrier:** Everyone has a right to come to court and participate in the legal system. This includes people who use wheelchairs, people with hearing and vision problems, and people who don't speak English. If you or anyone participating in your case needs special arrangements, first contact the court where you filed the case.
- **Mediation:** You may be able to resolve some issues through a process called [mediation](#). Mediation gives people a chance to discuss their disputed issues with a neutral [mediator](#). A mediator is a trained problem-solver who can help parties reach an [agreement](#). Mediators usually charge a fee for their services, but mediation could save you time and money in the long run. The mediator can help you and your spouse think of possible solutions and alternatives. Ask the court for a list of trained mediators available in your area, or [click here](#). If an agreement is reached through mediation, the parties must still present their agreement to the court for approval by the judge.

REVISED

How the Missouri Court System Works

Family law cases are filed in the [circuit court](#). Some circuits have special "[family courts](#)." They hear dissolutions, paternity actions, child support, domestic violence, name changes, and similar cases. Circuit Courts hold hearings to hear evidence and decide cases. Higher Courts, the Missouri [Court of Appeals](#) and the [Supreme Court of Missouri](#), do not try cases. They review

cases for legal mistakes made in the Circuit Court. [Click here](#) to view a diagram of the Missouri court system.

Here are some resources available to help you.

- **Court Clerks & Staff** can give some help but **court clerks have limits on what they can do**. Click here to see what court staff can and cannot do: [Court Staff Assistance](#)
- **Domestic Violence**: If you experience domestic violence and meet income guidelines, you may qualify for free legal help through [Legal Aid/Legal Services](#). Other domestic violence resources are listed by county, [click here](#) for more information.
- **Disability or Language Barrier**: Everyone has a right to come to court. Accommodation is made for people who use wheelchairs, have trouble hearing or seeing, or speak limited English. Contact the court where your case is on file for help.
- **Mediation**: Courts encourage people to settle their case. A process called [mediation](#) helps people discuss their issues. A [mediator](#) is a trained problem-solver who works with people to reach an [agreement](#). Mediators usually charge for their services, but some courts have free mediation. Mediation may save you time and money in the long run. The court may have a list of trained mediators, or [click here](#). When an agreement is reached through mediation, it is presented to the Court for approval by the judge.

Missouri Supreme Court Access to Justice Committee Reports New Self-Representation Resources Help Those Who Need it Most

Prior to 2008, many low income citizens in Missouri had few choices when they found themselves trapped in a bad marriage and in need of a divorce. Most have little or no extra money, so paying a lawyer to guide them through the process presented significant and often insurmountable obstacles. Financial roadblocks coupled with the lack of resources to help them access the courts on their own behalf often left them with only one choice - staying in a dysfunctional and sometimes dangerous living situation.

Today, thanks to the work of the Supreme Court of Missouri's Access to Family Courts Committee, these low income individuals have more options and an ever expanding collection of resources to help them navigate through the Missouri family courts on their own and achieve legal resolutions that allow them to move on with their lives.

Thousands of citizens have used the cache of forms and guiding resources available on the Supreme Court of Missouri's website, and their feedback - collected through an ongoing survey of those using the self-help site - indicates that the resources are targeting the intended audience and giving them the help they need. The Committee on Access to Family Courts has put the results from almost two years of survey data into a report to the Supreme Court of Missouri.

According to the report, about half of the users who completed website evaluations had incomes of less than \$20,000 per year. Another 20 percent reported household incomes of \$30,000 or less. While not correlated to specific individual household incomes within the survey questioning, approximately 70 percent of respondents reported that they support children with their household income.

"Understanding the household income levels of those who use the website and its resources is very important, says Lori Levine, chair of the Committee on Access to the Courts. This effort was designed specifically to provide access to those whose financial situation would make it very difficult, if not impossible, to ever hire an attorney."

It is no surprise that the low income levels correlate with lower levels of education. About one-third of users completed high school or earned their GED, while 14 percent do not even have a high school diploma. About twenty-eight percent have some college. But, the usage by those with Bachelor's degrees or above falls off sharply.

Almost half of respondents have been married for five years or less. Most use the site to get a divorce (about 61 percent) while child custody and support issues represent another 20 percent of the matters.

Early concerns as to whether low income citizens would find it difficult to find a way to go online to access the resources seem to be quelled by the user survey data. More than six out of ten respondents said that they access to the Internet at home. Another 26 percent access the site from work or the public library.

A key goal was to develop a site that was easy to use and navigate. Almost 70 percent of the respondents found the "Representing Yourself" site easy to navigate and find the information they needed. More than sixty percent found the forms easy to identify and use. And a similar percentage rated the educational information as "easy to understand and indicated that the educational information and other resources on the site helped them feel more prepared to represent themselves in court.

While responses indicate that the site and resources appear to be targeting the intended user - low income citizens - and they are satisfied with the information and forms provided, the Committee on Access to Family Courts Committee believes that all citizens are far better off, if they are able to have the benefit of counsel from a licensed attorney.

The findings indicate that more work needs to be done in making access to legal counsel a viable option and efforts continue to address that side of the issue as well. Sixty-six percent of those responding said they had not even talked with a lawyer, prior to deciding to represent themselves. Of that group, 36 percent assumed without talking with a lawyer that they could not afford counsel.

Levine sees these findings as troubling. "I think it is important that people consult a lawyer before making any decision about representing themselves. First, most lawyers offer a free or low cost initial consultation that everyone should take advantage of."

The "Representing Yourself" website currently contains educational resources and forms for use in divorce, child custody, child support, name change, paternity, visitation, modifications, enforcement of orders, and domestic violence orders of protection. It can be accessed by going to the Supreme Court of Missouri's website www.courts.gov. The Committee on Access to Family Courts April 2010 Annual Report to the Supreme Court of Missouri can be downloaded here. [add link]

###

DOMESTIC LAW SELF REPRESENTATION JUDICIAL CHECKLIST

The purpose of this checklist is to provide suggested best practices for judges dealing with self-represented litigants in domestic litigation.

- Warn litigants about representing themselves without a lawyer.
- Explain that you cannot act as an advocate for either side.
- If the opposing party is represented, explain that the other party's attorney cannot provide assistance or advice.
- Provide information about *pro bono* resources (if available), lawyer referral resources, and limited scope representation.
- Explain that litigants who represent themselves without a lawyer must complete the "Litigant Awareness Program" at www.selfrepresent.mo.gov. Rule 88.09.
- Explain that litigants who represent themselves without a lawyer must use legal forms found at www.selfrepresent.mo.gov.
- Inform self-represented litigants that they have the responsibility to become familiar with and attempt to comply with the rules of procedure.
 - Direct self-represented litigants to resources available to self-represented litigants where rules of procedures can be located such as court's website or local law library.
 - Consider providing self-represented litigants with an information sheet or hand out explaining courtroom procedures and expectations (an example can be found at the end of this checklist).
- Be generous in granting extensions of time to self-represented litigants to obtain counsel or comply with other requirements as long as the litigant appears to be acting in good faith, making an effort, and giving notice to the other side.
- Inquire into the need for a Guardian Ad Litem
- Ensure court interpreters are available for all court proceedings (including settlement discussions) involving self-represented litigants (and others) who have language barriers.

-Explain the prohibition on ex parte communications and filing papers with the court that are not served on the other side.

-Actively manage and schedule cases involving self-represented litigants.

-Construe pleadings liberally:

- Look behind the label of a document filed by a self-represented litigant and give effect to the substance rather than the form or terminology.
- Consider information in other documents filed by a self-represented litigant.
- Allow amendment freely.

-Give a self-represented litigant notice of any substantive defect in a pleading and an opportunity to remedy the defect unless it is absolutely clear that no adequate amendment is possible.

-Do not use legal jargon, abbreviations, acronyms, shorthand, or slang.

-Provide all litigants with clear written notice of further hearings, referrals, or other obligations.

-Ensure all orders (for example, regarding discovery) clearly explain the possible consequences of failure to comply.

-Bring up the possibility of settling the matter or referring it to mediation.

- Encourage, but do not try to coerce, settlement or mediation.

-If the parties present you with an agreement settling a case determine whether the self-represented litigant understands the agreement and entered into it voluntarily.

- Explain that if an agreement is approved it becomes an order of the court with which both parties will be required to comply.

-Explain the process and ground rules (e.g., that you will hear from both sides, who goes first, everything said will be recorded, witnesses will be sworn in, witnesses may be cross-examined, how to make an objection).

-Explain the kinds of evidence that can be presented and the kinds of evidence that cannot be considered.

- Explain that you will make your decision based only on the evidence presented.
- Encourage the parties to stipulate to uncontested facts and the admission of as much of the documentary evidence as possible.

-Take breaks or recesses if a litigant is becoming confused or tempers on either side are becoming frayed (or your patience is running low).

-Question any witness for clarification when the facts are confused, undeveloped, or misleading.

- Explain at the beginning of a hearing that you will ask questions if necessary to make sure you understand the testimony and have the information you need to make a decision.
- Ask the same type of questions of witnesses called by a represented party if warranted.
- Take care that your language and tone when asking questions does not indicate your attitude towards the merits or the credibility of the witness.

-If necessary to prevent obvious injustice, allow a brief recess or adjourn for the day (or longer) to allow a self-represented litigant (or even a represented litigant) to obtain additional evidence or witnesses.

-Do not allow counsel to bully or confuse self-represented litigants or their witnesses.

-Announce and explain your decision immediately from the bench with both parties present unless the volatility of the proceedings suggests that the matter should be taken under advisement and the judgment forwarded to the parties.

-If you decide to take a matter under advisement, inform the parties you wish to consider their evidence and arguments and will issue a decision shortly.

- If possible, announce a date by which a decision will be reached.

Going to Court on Your Own Basic Courtroom Manners

Tip: Go to the courthouse before your hearing and watch other cases being heard by the court.

- Come to court on time.
- Dress appropriately. How would you dress for church? The Cole County Circuit Court dress code prohibits: “t-shirts, tank-tops, tube-tops, cut-offs, shorts or other inappropriate clothing.” Other counties have similar codes.
- Be courteous to the Judge, court staff and all other parties. Address the Judge as “Your Honor.”
- Do not chew gum.
- Speak up when responding to the Judge’s questions. Not only does the Judge want to hear but also a court reporter is recording your answers.

- Rise when the Judge enters or leaves the courtroom.
- Do not interrupt when others are speaking. Wait your turn.

Be prepared

- Keep your documents in a safe place. Binding them in a notebook or folder in order is helpful.
- Know your case number that is on your filed petition. This is how the court keeps track of your matter.
- Outline the facts of your case which you plan to tell the Judge.
- Come with a proposed Judgment for the Judge to use if he/she decides in your favor.

Order of Events

- When you arrive at court check-in with the bailiff (Look for his badge.)
- Do not leave the courtroom area near the time your case may be called. If the bailiff does not know where you are, the Judge may proceed with your case without you there.
- The Judge will call your case for hearing.
- When your case is called for hearing, respond that you are here and you may come forward and sit at the counsel's table.
- The Judge may make preliminary remarks about the process. Listen attentively. If you do not understand, ask the Judge after he/she is done.
- An official court reporter will be taking down the testimony. Speak up so that the reporter can hear you.
- After hearing the facts (evidence) the Judge will decide your case and tell you the decision. The decision will be sent to you in writing in the form of a Judgment.

Uncontested Case

If the Respondent does not contest the case, the Judge may ask you questions about the facts of your case to get them in the official record or the Judge may ask you to proceed with you telling the Court the facts. You will be sworn under oath before you begin. Follow your outline of the facts when you present your case to the Judge.

Contested Case

If the Respondent appears and contests the case, the Judge will ask you to proceed to tell the Court the facts (evidence) under oath.

- The Petitioner/Plaintiff will be heard first. At this time you or other witnesses will be heard by the court to tell your side of the case. Follow your outline to present your case.
- Before the witnesses testify they will be given an oath by the Judge.
- When you question witnesses (other than yourself), be sure to ask questions. Do not make statements. It is the witness giving testimony, not you.
- The Respondent or opposing party may object to evidence which you offer. You may respond to their objection. The Judge will decide if the objection is valid. Wait for the Judge's decision before you proceed.
- The Respondent/Defendant is heard next. The Petitioner may object to evidence offered by the Respondent.
- During the course of the hearing the Judge may ask questions at anytime. Listen attentively to the question and then answer, if they are directed to you.
- After the Respondent's presentation, the Petitioner may present rebuttal evidence.

Tips for Presenting Evidence

- The Petitioner/Plaintiff has the burden of proving his/her case.
- The Judge can only decide the case based on admissible evidence offered at the hearing. Evidence may include your testimony, testimony of other witnesses, documents or exhibits.
- Generally hearsay or irrelevant evidence will not be admitted. Hearsay is a written or oral statement by a person who is not in court as a witness. Irrelevant evidence is testimony or exhibits that do not help the Judge understand or decide the issues. The Judge will tell you what evidence is inadmissible.
- If you have documents or other exhibits, you must describe them to the Judge and ask that they be offered in evidence. All exhibits need to be marked with a number or letter. The court reporter will help you with this. Be prepared with extra copies of your documents or exhibits for the Judge and opposing party.
- If you are a witness for yourself, tell the Judge that you wish to testify. Come to the witness stand, wait to be sworn then tell your story to the Judge. Follow your prepared outline.
- If you have other witnesses, ask the Judge to call them to the witness stand. After they are sworn ask them your prepared questions. When you are done, tell the Judge.