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

_____
PRINT YOUR SPOUSE'S NAME

_____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

PLAINTIFF,

v.

_____
PRINT YOUR NAME

_____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

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

DEFENDANT.

DR _____

Related Cases:

_____

_____

**CONTESTED ANSWER TO COMPLAINT FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE AND COUNTERCLAIM**

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

**1. With regard to this Court's authority to decide my spouse's request for divorce and related issues, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement that this Court has the authority to decide my spouse's request for divorce and related issues.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement that this Court has the authority to decide my spouse's request for divorce and related issues.

2. **With regard to my marriage to my spouse, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about how, when and where we were married.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about how, when and where we were married.

3. **With regard to my separation from my spouse, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about when we separated.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about when we separated.

4. **With regard to my spouse's married name, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about his or her name change.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about his or her name change.

5. ☐ **I further state** that I changed my name when I married my spouse and I now wish to return to my birth name or another legal name I used before my marriage. I have no illegal or fraudulent reason for making this request. The former name I want restored is:

_____.

PRINT THE FORMER NAME YOU WOULD LIKE THE COURT TO RESTORE

## Marital Property & Marital Debt

6. **With regard to property from my marriage, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about marital property, **and I agree** with all of my spouse's statements on Attachment A.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about marital property **and further state** that I have completed and attached to this Complaint the additional information required on Attachment A, which I incorporate into this Answer and Counterclaim.

7. **With regard to debt from my marriage, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement that we have marital debt that we are asking the Court to assign, **and I agree** with all of my spouse's statements on Attachment A.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about marital debt **and further state** that I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment A, which I incorporate into this Answer and Counterclaim.

## Alimony

**8. With regard to my spouse's statement about temporary financial support, I answer and state that** [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about temporary financial support.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about temporary financial support at this time and will file an "Opposition to Motion for Temporary Alimony" if my spouse files a separate motion requesting temporary alimony.

☐ **I further state** that I need temporary financial support and will file a separate motion ("Motion for Temporary Alimony") asking the Court to grant this request.

**9. With regard to my spouse's statement about alimony, I answer and state that** [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about alimony.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about his or her need for alimony **and/or I disagree** that I have the ability to pay alimony.

☐ **I further state** that I need alimony from my spouse and I believe my spouse has the ability to pay alimony to me.

## Custody

**10. With regard to my spouse's statement about children of this marriage, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about custody.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about custody, and I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment B, which I incorporate into this Answer and Counterclaim.

## Child Support

**11. With regard to my spouse's statement about my legal obligation to contribute to the support of our eligible child(ren), including any adult disabled children, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about my legal obligation.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about my legal obligation.

**12. With regard to my spouse's request for child support, I answer and state that** [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about child support.

☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about child support, and I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment C, which I incorporate into this Answer and Counterclaim.

☐ **I further state** that I am asking the Court to award child support to me, **and** I have completed and attached the additional information required on Attachment C, which I incorporate into this Answer and Counterclaim.

## Attachments

**13. With regard to my spouse's statement that he or she included attachment(s) to his or her Complaint for Absolute Divorce, I answer and state that** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **I agree** with my spouse's statement about attachments.
☐ **I disagree** with my spouse's statement about attachments.

**14. I further state that in support of my Answer and Counterclaim, I have included the following attachment(s):**

☐ No attachments.
☐ Attachment A (Marital Property and Marital Debt)
☐ Attachment B (Custody)
☐ Attachment C (Child Support)

## Request for Relief

**I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST that** (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

☐ The Court ☐ *grant* my spouse's request for an Absolute Divorce.
☐ *deny* my spouse's request for an Absolute Divorce.

☐ The Court divide marital property and/or assign marital debts in a manner that is equitable, just and reasonable.

☐ The Court award alimony in a manner that is fair and just.

☐ The Court award custody in the best interests of the child(ren).

☐ The Court deny my spouse's request for child support according to the Child Support Guideline of the District of Columbia and other applicable laws.

☑ The Court hold a hearing on any request for child support within 45 days of filing and issue a Notice of Hearing and Order Directing Appearance ("NHODA") to the other parent with the date and time of the hearing.

☐ The Court award child support according to the Child Support Guideline of the District of Columbia and other applicable laws, including:
- ☐ current child support (support starting today and continuing into the future)
- ☐ retroactive child support (support for time before today)
- ☐ medical support

☐ The Court ☐ *include* our Settlement Agreement as a part of its order.
☐ *not include* our Settlement Agreement as a part of its order.

☐ The Court ☐ *restore me* to my former name.
☐ *grant my spouse's request* to be restored to his or her former name.

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

[CHECK ONE]

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

_____
SIGN YOUR NAME

_____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

_____
TELEPHONE NUMBER

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

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

_____ _____
SIGN YOUR NAME DATE

_____
PRINT YOUR NAME

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
**FAMILY COURT**

_____
PRINT PETITIONER'S/PLAINTIFF'S NAME

Case No. _____

PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF,

v.

_____
PRINT RESPONDENT'S/DEFENDANT'S NAME

RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT.

## RULE 5
## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

**IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SERVED THE OTHER PARTY**, YOU CAN FILL OUT AND FILE THIS CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE ON THE SAME DAY YOU FILE YOUR PAPERS.

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY SERVED THE OTHER PARTY**, YOU MUST FILL OUT AND FILE THIS CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AFTER YOU SERVE THE OTHER PARTY.

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

**The papers were delivered** [CHECK ONE]

☐ **by handing it to the other party**

☐ **by first class mail to:**

_____
PRINT NAME OF PERSON SERVED WITH PAPERS

_____
STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

☐ **by fax to:**

PRINT NAME OF PERSON SERVED WITH PAPERS

FAX NUMBER

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

PRINT NAME OF PERSON SERVED WITH PAPERS

STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

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

PRINT NAME OF PERSON SERVED WITH PAPERS

STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

SIGN YOUR NAME DATE