

# *County of Susquehanna*

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Courts' Self-Help/Pro Se – Packets

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## **OBTAINING A CUSTODY ORDER**

This packet is to be used to obtain a custody order in Susquehanna County, if no previous custody order has been entered in Susquehanna County.

If you have an existing custody case in Susquehanna County, and you wish to modify an existing custody order, please use the Modification of a Custody Order packet.

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### **DISCLAIMER**

Court and Prothonotary's Office staff are not able to give you legal advice or help you fill out/complete these forms. The information in this packet is not a substitute for professional legal advice. The Court assumes no responsibility and accepts no liability for actions taken by users of these documents, including reliance on their contents. Even if you fully complete and submit these forms, this does not mean that the court will decide the case in your favor. If you want to obtain the services of an attorney but do not know whom to contact, please call North Penn Legal Services (570) 265-6127. A list of Attorneys Practicing in Susquehanna County Available for Consultation can be obtained by inquiring with the Prothonotary.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### A. Introduction

1. This packet of information has been created by members of the Susquehanna County Court. These materials are intended to assist individuals involved in a custody action by providing general information and legal forms. **IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU HIRE AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN ANY CUSTODY ACTION.** The information provided herein is not legal advice and is not to be used as a substitute for professional legal advice.

### B. Legal Definitions

1. **Custody** means the legal right to keep, control, guard, care for and preserve a child and includes the terms “legal custody,” “physical custody,” and “shared custody.”
2. **Legal Custody** is the right to make major decisions on behalf of the child, including, but not limited to, medical, religious and educational decisions.
  - i. **Sole Legal Custody:** The right of one individual to exclusive legal custody of the child.
  - ii. **Shared Legal Custody:** The right of more than one individual to legal custody of the child.
3. **Physical Custody** is the actual physical possession and control of a child. When a person has physical custody of the children, regardless if they have legal custody, they can make decisions regarding the child’s health in an emergency situation. There are different types of physical custody schedules, including:
  - i. **Primary Physical Custody:** The right to assume physical custody of the child for the majority of the time. Child(ren) live with one party for the majority of the time.
  - ii. **Shared Physical Custody:** The right of more than one individual to assume physical custody of the child, each having significant periods of physical custodial time with the child. Child(ren) live with each party for an equal or substantially equal amount of time.
  - iii. **Partial Physical Custody:** The right to assume physical custody of the child for less than a majority of the time. Child(ren) live with one party some of the time but not the majority of the time. A common example is when one party has the children every other weekend from Friday to Sunday, and occasionally one day during the week that they do not receive the child(ren) on the weekend.
  - iv. **Sole Physical Custody:** The right of one individual to exclusive physical custody of the child.
  - v. **[Visitation]:** Pennsylvania no longer uses the term Visitation. Partial Physical Custody, defined above, is equivalent to Visitation as defined in some states.

- vi. **Supervised Physical Custody:** Custodial time during which an agency or an adult designated by the court or agreed upon by the parties monitors the interaction between the child and the individual with those rights.
4. **Relocation:** A change in a residence of the child which significantly impairs the ability of a non-relocating party to exercise custodial rights.
5. Further information about the preceding legal definitions and about custody law may be found in the statutes that govern custody, Title 23 Pa. Consolidated Statutes Sections 5321 to 5340 (23 Pa.C.S. §§ 5321 – 40), and in the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure, Pa.R.C.P. 1915.1 – 1915.25.

### C. Custody Factors

1. In ordering any form of custody, the Court shall determine the best interest of the child by considering all relevant factors, giving weighted consideration to those factors which affect the safety of the child, including:
  - i. Which party is more likely to encourage and permit frequent and continuing contact between the child and another party.
  - ii. The present and past abuse committed by a party or member of the party's household, whether there is a continued risk of harm to the child or an abused party and which party can better provide adequate physical safeguards and supervision of the child, and the information set forth in 23 Pa.C.S. § 5329.1.
  - iii. The parental duties performed by each party on behalf of the child.
  - iv. The need for stability and continuity in the child's education, family life and community life.
    - v. The availability of extended family.
    - vi. The child's sibling relationships.
  - vii. The well-reasoned preference of the child, based on the child's maturity and judgment.
  - viii. The attempts of a parent to turn the child against the other parent, except in cases of domestic violence where reasonable safety measures are necessary to protect the child from harm.
  - ix. Which party is more likely to maintain a loving, stable, consistent and nurturing relationship with the child adequate for the child's emotional needs.
    - x. Which party is more likely to attend to the daily physical, emotional, developmental, educational and special needs of the child.
  - xi. The proximity of residences of the parties.
  - xii. Each party's availability to care for the child or ability to make appropriate child-care arrangements.
  - xiii. The level of conflict between the parties and the willingness and ability of the parties to cooperate with one another. A party's effort to protect a child from abuse by another party is not evidence of unwillingness or inability to cooperate with that party.



- xiv. The history of drug or alcohol abuse of a party or member of a party's household.
- xv. The mental and physical condition of a party or member of a party's household.
- xvi. Any other relevant factor.

#### D. Confidential Information

1. The second form in this packet is the Confidential Information Form (Form #2). There is certain information that is deemed to be confidential. The Confidential Information Form is designed to protect this confidential information and to prevent the public from accessing this information. Any confidential information should NOT be placed on any documents filed with the Court, other than the Confidential Information Form (Form #2).

What is considered confidential information?

- i. Confidential Information that pertains to custody actions:
  - Child's Names and Dates of Birth
  - Abuse Victim's Address and Other Contact Information in family court actions (Including: employer's name, address, and work schedule).
    - a. An Abuse Victim is anyone who has been granted a protective order pursuant to the Protection from Abuse Act or the Protection for Victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation Act.
- ii. How to fill out the Order of Court (Form #4):
  - The Order of Court will ask you to fill in the name(s) of the child(ren). You should put the full initials of the child(ren) on this form.
- iii. How to fill out the Complaint (Form #5):
  - Fill out the Complaint, listing the initials and year of birth for each child. You should place your child's full name and full date of birth on the Confidential Information Form, which you will file with the Complaint. This information is considered confidential and the public should not be able to access your child's full name and full date of birth.
- iv. If you are an Abuse Victim and have a protective order:
  - You should write "AV Contact Information" anywhere your address, phone number, employer's name, employer's address, or any other contact information is requested. This will indicate to the Court that this information is confidential and that it can be found only on the Confidential Information Form.

## E. Criminal Convictions, Charges, and Abuse

1. Where a party seeks any form of custody the Court shall consider whether that party or member of that party's household has been convicted of or has pleaded guilty or no contest to any of the offenses listed below or an offense in another jurisdiction substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed below. The Court shall consider such conduct and determine that the party does not pose a threat of harm to the child before making any order of custody to that parent when considering the following charges:

Criminal homicide, aggravated assault, terroristic threats, stalking, kidnapping, unlawful restraint, false imprisonment, luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure, rape, statutory sexual assault, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault, indecent exposure, sexual intercourse with animals, offenses relating to sex offenders, arson, incest, concealing death of child, endangering welfare of children, offenses relating to dealing in infant children, prostitution, offenses related to obscene and other sexual materials and performances, corruption of minors, sexual abuse of children, unlawful contact with minor, sexual exploitation of children, contempt for violation of a permanent or temporary Protection From Abuse Order or agreement, driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance, driving after imbibing alcohol or utilizing drugs, and offenses related to The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act prohibiting manufacture, sale or delivery, holding, offering for sale or possession of any controlled substance or other drug or device.

2. Where a party seeks any form of custody subject to the examination of the parties, the Court shall determine:
  - i. With respect to child abuse under Chapter 63 (relating to child protective services) or a child who is a victim of a crime under 18 Pa.C.S. (relating to crimes and offenses) which would constitute abuse under Chapter 63: Whether the child is the subject of an indicated or founded report of child abuse; Whether a party or a member of the party's household has been identified as the perpetrator in an indicated or founded report of child abuse; the date and circumstances of the child abuse; and the jurisdiction where the child abuse investigation took place.
  - ii. With respect to child protective services or general protective services under Chapter 63: Whether a party or a member of a party's household has been provided services; the type of services provided; the circumstances surrounding the provision of services; the status of services; the date the services were provided; and the jurisdiction where the services were provided.
3. If you have obtained information about a criminal charge filed against the other party for an offense listed above, you may move for a temporary Custody Order or modification of an existing Custody Order. The Court must schedule an



expedited hearing and the Court shall consider whether the party who is or has been charged with an offense poses a risk of physical, emotional or psychological harm to the child.

4. You can find out information about pending criminal charges, criminal convictions, guilty pleas and no contest pleas in Pennsylvania several ways. A law known as the “Jen & Dave Program” provides an information line that allows you to fill out an application in the Prothonotary’s Office after which you will be provided a number to call to get this information. There is a small per-minute fee for the call. This information can also be obtained for free from a website link on the program’s site, <http://www.jendaveprogram.us>. Another alternative is to log on to the Web Portal for the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania at <http://ujportal.pacourts.us/>. Once on this website, you can look up the dockets for all minor courts (Magisterial District Judges) and Common Pleas Courts in Pennsylvania. If you have correctly spelled the last name of the individual, you can find out if there are convictions or charges pending against the individual in all counties in Pennsylvania.
5. Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification
  - i. A party must file and serve with the Complaint for Custody a Verification regarding any criminal record or abuse history of that party and anyone living in that party’s household. The party must attach a blank Verification form to a Complaint served upon the other party. The party served must file with the court a Verification regarding his or her own criminal record or abuse history and anyone living in his or her household on or before the initial in-person contact with the court, but not later than 30 days after service of the Complaint. A party’s failure to file a Verification may result in sanctions against that party. If a trial is scheduled, both parties shall file and serve updated Verifications five days prior to trial.

#### F. Rules of Civil Procedure

1. A copy of the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure can be obtained online at <https://www.pacode.com/secure/data/231/chapter1915/chap1915toc.html>. The applicable rules of court are Rules 1915.1 through 1915.25 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure.

#### G. Basic Procedure

1. This packet contains forms and instructions on how to obtain a Custody Order. If a Custody Order already exists or if there are problems with enforcing the already existing Order, then you should not use this packet but rather you should obtain one of the other packets – Modification of a Custody Order or Enforcing a Custody Order – from the Courts’ Self-Help/Pro Se Center in the Prothonotary’s Office.

## H. Service

### 1. **STOP!! READ THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH CAREFULLY!**

2. The Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure require that **all documents** (including Petitions, Complaints and Orders) that you file with the Court **must be served** by you on the other party, or their attorney of record, if any. This includes any Orders you receive scheduling an appearance before the Judge as a result of your filing. Although the Prothonotary's Office may send a copy of a Scheduling Order to the parties, **THIS IS NOT SERVICE**. If you do not properly serve all other parties, your case may be delayed, or even dismissed. This packet includes information on how to properly serve the other party.

## I. Obtaining a Custody Order

1. **If there is a Custody Agreement:** You can initiate a custody action by yourself or through an attorney. Even if there is an agreement about custody, you still need to complete a Complaint for Custody, file the Complaint at the Prothonotary's Office, and follow the instructions in this packet for service. The Court will schedule a time for all parties involved to meet at the Courthouse to place the agreement on the record for entry of an Order.
2. **If there is NO Custody Agreement:** you must complete various documents that need to be filed at the Prothonotary's Office. After the Court receives all of your properly filed documents, a custody conference will be scheduled by Court Order. You must then pick up the Court Order that schedules the custody conference from the Prothonotary, as well as your Complaint for Custody, completed Plaintiff's Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification and blank Defendant's Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification, and properly serve or provide a copy of those documents to the other side. You must prove, by filling out and filing an appropriate document, that you served the other side. The filing party shall then present the complaint to the Court of Common Pleas during Motions Court on any Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. Once presented, the Court Administrator will schedule a custody conference within forty-five (45) days. If the parties can agree to a custody schedule before the custody conference, that schedule shall be accepted by the Court if it is in the best interests of the minor child or children. If the parties cannot agree as to any part of the custody schedule, or if the Court does not accept the proposed agreement at the custody conference, the case shall be set down for mediation.
3. **What is a Custody Conference?** In Susquehanna County, the first time that you come to Court in a custody case will not be a trial, unless a Judge has signed an Order that says otherwise. Normally, the first time that you come to Court will be for a Custody Conference.
  - i. A Custody Conference is held for the following reasons:
    - To make the Judge familiar with your custody case.
    - To have you and the other party meet with the Judge and tell the Judge what the case will be about if there is a hearing.



- To find out whether it is possible for everyone in the case to agree to a custody schedule without having a hearing.
  - To have the Judge establish a custody schedule between the time of the conference and the time of the custody trial if the parties are unable to resolve their differences by agreement.
- ii. You will need to attend the custody conference at the date, time and place set forth in the Court Order. The Court will determine whether the parties can agree on an appropriate custody schedule. If no agreement is reached the Court will order Mediation.

**4. What is a Mediation?**

- i. The parties will meet with a court appointed Child Custody Mediator who will gather relevant facts from the parties and then recommend a custody arrangement. If full agreement has been reached, the Mediator will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding which will be presented to the Court. The Court will then issue a final order.
- ii. If the parties do not agree fully with the recommendation, the Mediator will prepare and file a report and a child custody hearing will be scheduled.
- iii. \*There is an initial \$500 fee for this mediation, split between the parties or in cases where both parties are indigent, the parties can petition to proceed in forma pauperis. (These forms are available in the Self Help area.) Additional fees may be assessed.

**5. What is a Custody Hearing?**

- i. At the hearing, you will present witnesses and exhibits in support of your request for custody. At the end of the hearing, the Court will enter an Order resolving the custody dispute.
- ii. \*If the Judge schedules a hearing, you may do a great disservice to yourself and your children if you do not consult with and hire a licensed attorney. If you end up having a trial before the Judge and do not have an attorney representing you, you will be considered to have all the knowledge and training of a lawyer during the trial.
- iv. If the other side does not have a lawyer at the trial and you do not have a lawyer, the Judge may, but is not required to, be more understanding of the situation and may relax some of the formal rules that govern how the trial is conducted. If, however, you do not have a lawyer and the other side has a lawyer at the trial, you may become very frustrated and feel defeated by the process. To prevent this from happening, you really should hire a lawyer if a custody trial is scheduled.

**J. Enforcing a Custody Order**

- 1. If someone violates the provisions of a Custody Order, then you can file a Petition for Civil Contempt along with a Notice and Order to Appear. After the Court receives a completed Petition for Civil Contempt along with a Notice and Order to Appear, a date and time will be scheduled for a hearing. These documents must

be properly served on all parties and proper documentation of service must be submitted to the Court. At the hearing, the Court will review the evidence, and if necessary, take testimony from any witnesses. If someone violates a Custody Order, then he/she can be subject to a fine and/or imprisonment. The Enforcing a Custody Order Packet is available for your use regarding enforcing a Custody Order should the need arise, and can be obtained in the Self Help/Pro Se area of the Prothonotary's Office.

#### K. Modifying a Custody Order

1. If a Custody Order already exists but circumstances have changed, then you can file a Petition for Modification along with an Order of Court. The Court will schedule a date and time for a hearing. These documents must be properly served on all parties and proper documentation of service must be submitted to the Court. At the hearing, the Court will review the evidence, and if necessary, take testimony from any witnesses. If the Court determines that the modification is warranted, then a new Court Order will be issued. The Modification of Custody Order Packet is available for your use regarding modifying a Custody Order should the need arise, and can be obtained in the Self Help/Pro Se area of the Prothonotary's Office.

#### L. Relocation

1. If one party wants to move, and the change in residence of the child will significantly impair the ability of the non-relocating party to exercise custodial rights, the moving party must file a Notice of Proposed Relocation no later than 60 days before the move. In certain circumstances, this Notice can be filed later than 60 days before the move. Relocation is complicated and it is strongly suggested that you talk to an attorney if you plan to relocate with the child or if the other party plans to relocate with the child. The Relocation of Custody Packet is available to help all parties in a relocation case and contains important information about the relocation process. The Relocation of Custody Packet can be obtained in the Self Help/Pro Se area of the Prothonotary's Office.



## INSTRUCTIONS

If you have not already done so, prior to beginning this Section, please detach the forms at the end of this packet. Please note that the forms at the end of the packet are in the same order as these instructions.

You must use forms #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #10 and #11 and either form #8, #9, or #10

A checklist is provided for you to chart your progress. The checklist is arranged in chronological order. Please refer to the checklist as you complete the materials in this packet.

**A. Instructions** for completing the CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FORM-Form #1

**1. CAPTION**

- i. Print your name on the Plaintiff line and the name of the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child(ren) on the Defendant line(s).
- ii. The line for the Case No. should be left blank because the Prothonotary will fill in this blank when you bring your completed form to their office, along with your COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY.

**2. Sign and date the form. THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE OTHER DOCUMENTS IN THE PACKET WILL INDICATE WHEN YOU NEED TO PRINT OUT, FILL OUT, AND FILE THIS DOCUMENT WITH THE OTHER DOCUMENTS.**

- i. For example: When you fill out the Complaint for Custody form, you must also fill out and file the Certificate of Compliance form and attach the Certificate of Compliance form to the back of the Complaint for Custody form.

**B. Instructions** for completing the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORM- Form #2

**1. CAPTION**

- i. Print your name on the Plaintiff line and the name of the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child(ren) on the Defendant line(s).
- ii. The line for the Case No. should be left blank because the Prothonotary will fill in this blank when you bring your completed form to their office, along with your COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY.

**1. BOX 1 (page 1 and 3 of Form #1)**

- i. Print the initials and the full name of the first minor child where the form states "This information pertains to a minor with the initials of \_\_\_\_ and the full name of \_\_\_\_\_."
  - ii. This form provides enough space for two minor children. If you have additional minor children, then you will need to use the third page of the form with the heading "Additional page (if necessary). If you have more than four minor children, then you will need to make copies of the Additional Page and include them with the Confidential Information Form. You will repeat step (i) for each minor child.
- 2. If you are an abuse victim, then please complete the Abuse Victim Addendum in step 4.**

3. If you are not an abuse victim, then you should sign and date the second page of the Confidential Information Page. You will also need to include your printed name, address, telephone, and email address.
4. **NOTE:** Please note that the second page of the Confidential Information Form, the Certification of Compliance, **MUST** be filed with every filing, regardless of whether the filing includes any confidential information or not.
5. **ABUSE VICTIM ADDENDUM (pg. 4)**
  - i. If you have been granted a protective order pursuant to the Protection from Abuse Act or the Protection for victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation Act, then you should include this form with the Confidential Information Form.
  - ii. First, you should check which type of family court action this applies to. In this case, you will check "Child Custody."
  - iii. In the first block on the first line you should print your full name. On the second line you should print the case number of the Protection Order you received. This is not the Child Custody docket number. This is a separate docket number that will appear in the caption of the Protection Order you received. On the third line you should print the Court or County in which you received the Protection Order.
  - iv. In the second block you should print your address, your Employer's Name and Address, your Work Schedule, and any Other Contact Information.
  - v. There is also an additional Abuse Victim Addendum page, if you have additional information that will not fit on the first Abuse Victim Addendum page.
  - vi. Once you have completed the Confidential Information Form and the Abuse Victim Addendum, then you should sign and date the second page of the Confidential Information Page. You must also include your printed name, address, telephone, and email address, so the Court can reach you.

**C. Instructions for completing the ENTRY OF APPEARANCE OF SELF REPRESENTED PARTY – Form #3.**

**1. CAPTION**

- i. Print your name on the Plaintiff line and the name of the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child on the Defendant line(s).
- ii. The line for the Case No. should be left blank because the Prothonotary will fill in this blank when you bring your completed form to their office, along with your COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY.

**2. PARAGRAPH 1**

- i. Check the box indicating that you are the Plaintiff.

**3. PARAGRAPH 2**

- i. Check the box indicating that this is a custody case.



**4. PARAGRAPH 3**

- i. Check the box next to “a” to indicate that you are representing yourself in this custody case.

**5. PARAGRAPH 4**

- i. State your name, address, and telephone numbers in the spaces provided, or an alternate address and phone number where you may be served by mail and contacted by telephone.

**6. PARAGRAPH 5**

- i. Sign and date the ENTRY OF APPEARANCE.

- 7. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (Form #1):** Fill in the caption of the Certificate of Compliance. Then sign and date the Certificate of Compliance. This document is to be attached to the back of the Entry of Appearance. File the completed Entry of Appearance, with the Certificate of Compliance attached to the back, with the Prothonotary.

- 8.** The ENTRY OF APPEARANCE must be filed in the Prothonotary’s Office and you must file a new form every time your address or telephone number changes.

**D. Instructions** for completing the ORDER OF COURT FOR COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY – Form #4. The ORDER OF COURT FOR COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY has blank spaces and boxes for you to fill in the appropriate information or select an option. Below is a step by step guide for completing the ORDER OF COURT.

**1. CAPTION**

- i. Print your name on the Plaintiff line and the name of the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child on the Defendant line(s).
- ii. The line for the Case No. should be left blank because the Prothonotary will fill in this blank when you bring your completed form to their office, along with your COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY.

**2. ORDER OF COURT**

- i. Print the name of the Defendant(s) on the line provided.
- ii. Check either sole or shared legal custody.
- iii. Check primary, shared, partial, sole, or supervised physical custody.
- iv. List the initials and address(es) of all child(ren).

**DO NOT FILL IN ANYTHING FURTHER.**

**THE COURT WILL FILL IN THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR THE CUSTODY CONFERENCE AND THE COURT WILL INDICATE WHETHER THE CHILD(REN) ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.**

**AFTER THE COURT FILLS IN THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR THE CUSTODY CONFERENCE, THE ORDER WILL BE SENT DOWN TO THE PROTHONOTARY.**

**ONCE THE PROTHONOTARY RECEIVES THE COURT ORDER, YOU MUST PICK UP COPIES OF THE ORDER AND SERVE THE “ORDER OF COURT FOR COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY,” AS WELL AS YOUR “ENTRY OF APPEARANCE,” YOUR “COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY,” YOUR “PLAINTIFF’S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION,” AND BLANK “DEFENDANT’S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION” ON THE DEFENDANT(S). NEITHER THE COURT NOR THE PROTHONOTARY WILL SERVE THESE DOCUMENTS ALTHOUGH THE PROTHONOTARY MAY MAIL A COPY OF THE ORDER TO THE PARTIES, THIS IS NOT SERVICE!**

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING SERVICE IN THIS SECTION.**

**IF YOU DO NOT SERVE THE “ORDER OF COURT FOR COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY,” “ENTRY OF APPEARANCE,” “COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY,” AND “CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE VERIFICATIONS,” OR IF YOU DO NOT SERVE THESE DOCUMENTS CORRECTLY, THEN YOUR CASE MAY BE DELAYED OR EVEN DISMISSED.**

E. **Instructions** for completing the COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY – Form #5. The COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY has blank spaces and boxes for you to fill in the appropriate information or select an option. Below is a step-by-step guide for completing the COMPLAINT.

**1. CAPTION**

- i. Print your name on the Plaintiff line and indicate who is the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child on the Defendant line(s).
- ii. The line for Case No. should be left blank because the Prothonotary will fill in this blank when you bring your completed form to the Prothonotary’s Office. Take note of the case number for your records. This is the number that the Court will use to track your custody action throughout the entire process. From this point on, all documents filed with the Court should include this Case No.
- iii. DO NOT submit any other materials to the Prothonotary’s Office without this Case No.

**2. EMERGENCY ORDER REQUESTED**

- i. If you believe the circumstances in your case require the Court’s immediate attention, please check “Yes” in the box provided.
- ii. Check “Yes” ONLY if you have an emergency situation which requires an immediate Court Order AND which cannot wait until a normally scheduled conference – usually held in about three weeks. Check “Yes” ONLY in the most extreme situations such as when the other parent is



threatening to leave the area with the child and permanently hide the child from the Court or the other parent.

- iii. Please also complete PARAGRAPH 10 Request for Emergency Order (see instructions below).
- iv. Check "No" if this is NOT an emergency situation. Do NOT complete PARAGRAPH 10 if you checked "No."

**3. PARAGRAPH 1**

- i. Print your name as Plaintiff and current address in the space provided.

**4. PARAGRAPH 2**

- i. Print the name of the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child on the Defendant line(s), current address(es), and indicate what relationship they have with the child.

**5. PARAGRAPH 3**

- i. 3(a) – Check the boxes to indicate whether you are seeking sole or shared legal custody and/or primary, shared, partial, sole, or supervised physical custody of the child(ren).
- ii. 3(b) – Circle whether the child(ren) were or were not born out of wedlock.
- iii. 3(c) – Print the name(s) and address(es) of all persons with whom the child(ren) is presently living.
- iv. 3(d) – Print the name(s), address(es), and time period of all persons with whom the child(ren) has resided within the last five years.
- v. 3(e) – Print the name and address of a parent of the child(ren). Also, please check whether the parent is married, divorced, or single.
- vi. 3(f) – Print the name and address of a parent of the child(ren). Also please check whether the parent is married, divorced or single.

**6. PARAGRAPH 4**

- i. Indicate what relationship the Plaintiff has to the child(ren) and print the names of all persons with whom the Plaintiff resides, and their relationship to the children.

**7. PARAGRAPH 5**

- i. Indicate what relationship the Defendant(s) has to the child(ren) and print the names of all persons with whom the Defendant resides, and their relationship to the children.

**8. PARAGRAPH 6**

- i. 6(a) – Circle whether you have or have not participated as a party or witness or in any capacity in other litigation concerning the child(ren). If you have been involved in litigation, then please provide the name of the court, case number, and its relationship to this custody action.
- ii. 6(b) – Circle whether you have or don't have any information of a custody proceeding concerning the child(ren) pending in this Commonwealth or

another state. If you have information, then please provide the name of the court, term and number, and its relationship to this action.

- iii. 6(c) – Circle whether you know or don't know of a person not a party to the proceedings who has physical custody of the child(ren) or claims to have custody or visitation rights with respect to the child(ren). If you have information, then please provide their name(s) and address(es).

**9. PARAGRAPH 7**

- i. Explain fully why you believe it would be in the best interests of the child(ren) for the Court to grant your request.

**10. PARAGRAPH 8**

- i. Print the name and address of any person who may claim a right to custody of the child(ren) along with the basis for their claim.

**11. PARAGRAPH 9**

- i. 9(a) – If you, the plaintiff, are a grandparent of the child, who is not in loco parentis to the child, and you are seeking physical and/or legal custody of the child, you must state facts that establish standing pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(3).
- ii. 9(b) – If you, the plaintiff, are a grandparent or great-grandparent of the child, who is seeking partial physical custody or supervised physical custody of the child, you must state facts that establish standing pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5325.
- iii. 9(c) – If you, the plaintiff, are a person seeking physical and/or legal custody pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(2) as a person who stands in loco parentis to the child, you must plead facts establishing standing.

**12. PARAGRAPH 10: REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY ORDER**

- i. Complete this section only if you have checked “Yes” to Emergency Order Requested on Page 1 of Form #3. Describe in detail the emergency situation which needs the Court’s immediate attention. Be sure to complete Paragraph 11 with Emergency Contact Information for all parties.

**13. PARAGRAPH 11: EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

- i. Please include Emergency Contact Information for both the Plaintiff and the Defendant(s).

**14. PARAGRAPH 12**

- i. Attach the completed Plaintiff’s Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification form to the Complaint.

**15. FOR THESE REASONS**

- i. Check all of the box(es) which apply to your request. Remember, the court may not grant all of your requests.



**16. VERIFICATION**

- i. Read carefully, and then date and sign the form.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (Form #1):** Fill in the caption of the Certificate of Compliance. Then sign and date the Certificate of Compliance. This document is filled out and attached to the back of the Custody Complaint. File the completed Custody Complaint, with the Certificate of Compliance attached, with the Prothonotary.

**D. Instructions** for completing the PLAINTIFF'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION – Form #6.

**1. CAPTION**

- i. Print your name on the Plaintiff line and indicate who is the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child on the Defendant line(s).
- ii. The line for Case No. should be left blank because the Prothonotary will fill in this blank when you bring your completed form to the Prothonotary's Office. Take note of the case number for your records. This is the number that the Court will use to track your custody action throughout the entire process. From this point on, all documents filed with the Court should include this Case No.
- iii. DO NOT submit any other materials to the Prothonotary's Office without this Case No.

**2. BELOW THE CAPTION**

- i. Print your name again in the blank below the caption.

**3. PARAGRAPH 1**

- i. If you or any member of your household has been convicted or pled guilty or pled no contest or was adjudicated delinquent where the record is publicly available pursuant to the Juvenile Act, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6307, to any of the listed crimes, check the box next to the listed crime, check the correct box indicating if you or a member of your household, state the date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea or pending charges, and indicate the sentence.

**4. PARAGRAPH 2**

- i. If you or any member of your household has a history of violent or abusive conduct, check all that apply, check the correct box indicating if you or a member of your household, and state the date.

**5. PARAGRAPH 3**

- i. List any evaluation, counseling or other treatment received following conviction or finding of abuse.

**6. PARAGRAPH 4**

- i. If any conviction applies to a household member, not a party, state that person's name, date of birth, and relationship to the child.

**7. PARAGRAPHS 5, 6, 7, and 8**

- i. If you are aware that the other party or members of the other party's household has or have a criminal record/abuse history, please explain.
- ii. If the child/children involved with this custody case have been the subject of an indicated or founded report of child abuse, and/or if a party or a member of a party's household has been identified as a perpetrator in an indicated or founded report of child abuse, please explain.
- iii. If a party or a member of a party's household has been provided services by children & youth services, child protective services, or general protective services, please explain.
- iv. If you aware of any pending investigations of abuse, please explain.

**8. VERIFICATION**

- i. Read carefully, and then sign, date and complete the form.

- 9. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (Form #1):** Fill in the caption of the Certificate of Compliance. Then sign and date the Certificate of Compliance. This document is filled out and attached to the back of Plaintiff's Criminal Record/Abuse History Verification. File the completed Plaintiff's Criminal Record/Abuse History Verification, with the Certificate of Compliance attached to the back, with the Prothonotary.

**E. Instructions for completing the DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION – Form #7.**

**1. CAPTION**

- i. Print your name on the Plaintiff line and indicate who is the other parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child on the Defendant line(s).
- ii. State the case number in the blank.

**2. DO NOT COMPLETE ANY OTHER PART OF THIS FORM**

- i. You will be serving the blank DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION on the Defendant, see below.

**F. Instructions for making copies, creating envelopes and filing with the Prothonotary.**

- 1. After completing the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORM, ENTRY OF APPEARANCE, the ORDER OF COURT, the COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY, and the PLAINTIFF'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION, copies must be made:**

- i. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORM: No copies shall be made.



- ii. **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE:** make one copy of the **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE** for each Plaintiff and Defendant in the case. If you are the only Plaintiff and there is one Defendant, for example, make two copies.
  - iii. **ORDER OF COURT:** make one copy of the **ORDER OF COURT** for each Plaintiff and Defendant in the case. If you are the only Plaintiff and there is one Defendant, for example, make two copies.
  - iv. **COMPLAINT:** make one copy of the **COMPLAINT** for each Plaintiff and Defendant in the case. If you are the only Plaintiff and there is one Defendant, for example, make two copies.
  - v. **PLAINTIFF'S VERIFICATION:** make one copy of the **PLAINTIFF'S VERIFICATION** for each Plaintiff and Defendant in the case.
2. **You must also make a SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE for yourself and one for each Defendant in the case at their respective addresses in order for the Prothonotary to mail to you and the Defendants the ORDER OF COURT after the Judge signs it.**
- i. For each Plaintiff and Defendant in the case, make up one envelope. Put a first class stamp on each envelope and the mailing address of the Plaintiff or Defendant. Do NOT seal the envelopes. The Prothonotary will use these envelopes to mail the **ORDER OF COURT** to the Plaintiffs and Defendants.
3. **File the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORM, ENTRY OF APPEARANCE, the ORDER OF COURT, the COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY, the PLAINTIFF'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION, and the ENVELOPES with the Prothonotary. Pay the proper FILING FEE.**
- i. Call the Prothonotary at (570) 278-4600 for the proper **FILING FEE**.
  - ii. File the original of the Confidential Information Form.
  - iii. File the Original and ALL Copies of the **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**. The Prothonotary will keep the Original and give you back all of the Copies at this time.
  - iv. File the Original and ALL Copies of the **ORDER OF COURT**.
  - v. File the Original and ALL Copies of the **COMPLAINT** and **PLAINTIFF'S VERIFICATION**. The Prothonotary will keep the Originals and give you back all of the Copies at this time.
  - vi. File the **ENVELOPES** that you made.
4. **After you have filed your documents with the Prothonotary, you must wait until the Prothonotary gets the signed ORDER OF COURT back from the Judge.**
- i. Pick up the signed copies of the **ORDER OF COURT** in the Prothonotary's Office after the Judge signs the Order and it is sent back to the Prothonotary.

- ii. You may call the Prothonotary at (570) 278-4600 to find out if the Prothonotary has received the Order back from the Judge.

5. A copy of the **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**, the **COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY**, the **PLAINTIFF'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION**, the blank **DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION**, and a copy of the **signed ORDER OF COURT** must then be served on each Defendant. **Instructions on serving these documents are below.**

G. **Instructions** for serving the **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**, **ORDER OF COURT**, **COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY**, **PLAINTIFF'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION**, and blank **DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION**.

1. **How do you SERVE documents (i.e. give them to the other parties)?**

- i. You will need to have all parties served with a copy of ALL papers that you filed with the Prothonotary's Office, including the **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**, **ORDER OF COURT**, **COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY**, and **PLAINTIFF'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION**. You must also serve a blank **DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION** on all parties. You must prove that the other person received these papers. You may use any method in this packet, but you must be able to provide the Court with the correct documentation regarding the method you used.
- ii. **ATTENTION: YOU MUST SERVE ALL OF THE DOCUMENTS IN THIS CASE.** Neither the Court nor the Prothonotary's Office will serve any documents for you. Although the Prothonotary may mail a copy of the Order to the parties, **this is not service!**
- iii. If you come to court and cannot prove to the Judge that you properly served all documents in your case, then the Judge may not be able to give you a Custody Order. This is because the other party in this case has a right to know that you have filed for custody and that you are asking the Court for a Custody Order.

2. **What Methods of Service are available?**

- i. Certified Mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested (Use Form #8)
- ii. Personal Service, by Sheriff, Constable, or other person over the age of 18 years (**THIS OTHER PERSON OVER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS CANNOT BE YOU**), (Use Form #9).
- iii. Personal Service, by you handing the party(ies) a copy of ALL papers: **HOWEVER**, this is only considered proper and valid service if the other party or parties cooperate by signing an **ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE** (Form #10) as set forth below. If they will not cooperate and will not sign the **ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE**, then you must use one of the previous two methods of service set forth above.



3. **What type of Documentation should be completed?**
- i. If you serve the other party(ies) by Certified Mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested, then complete the **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE (CERTIFIED MAIL) (Form #8)** for each party and attach the Certified Mail Receipt (which is green in color) and file this form with the Prothonotary's Office.
  - ii. If a Sheriff, Constable or other person over the age of 18 (**OTHER THAN YOU**) hands the papers to the defendant(s), then complete the **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE (BY THIRD PARTY) (Form #9)** for each party and file this form with the Prothonotary's Office. This form requires the signature of the third party.
  - iii. If you hand the papers to the Defendant(s), then complete the top part of the **ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE (Form #10)** and have the Defendant sign and date the form. File this form with the Prothonotary's Office. This form requires the signature of the Defendant. If the Defendant refuses to sign, then you must use another method of service such as Certified Mail or Service by a third party.
  - iv. **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (FORM #1)**: Fill in the caption of the Certificate of Compliance. Then sign and date the Certificate of Compliance. This document is to be attached to the back of the Certificate of Service. File the Certificate of Service with the Certificate of Compliance attached to the back with the Prothonotary.

You will need to attend the custody conference at the date, time and place set forth in the Court Order. The Court will determine whether the parties can agree on an appropriate custody schedule. If no agreement is reached the Court will order a temporary custody arrangement and set a date and time for trial.

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name **PLAINTIFF**

**vs.**

**CASE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name **DEFENDANT 1**

**and** (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name **DEFENDANT 2**

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Case Record Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts* that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_





**Instructions for Completing the Confidential Information Form**

The following information is confidential and shall not be included in any document filed with a court or custodian, except on a Confidential Information Form filed contemporaneously with the document:

1. Social Security Numbers
2. Financial Account Numbers, except an active financial account number may be identified by the last four digits when the financial account is the subject of the case and cannot otherwise be identified. "Financial Account Numbers" include financial institution account numbers, debit and credit card numbers, and methods of authentication used to secure accounts such as personal identification numbers, user names and passwords.
3. Driver License Numbers
4. State Identification (SID) Numbers
5. Minors' names and dates of birth except when a minor is charged as a defendant in a criminal matter (see 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355). "Minor" is a person under the age of eighteen.
6. Abuse victim's address and other contact information, including employer's name, address and work schedule, in family court actions as defined by Pa.R.C.P. No. 1931(a), except for victim's name. "Abuse Victim" is a person for whom a protection order has been granted by a court pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. No. 1901 et seq. and 23 Pa.C.S. § 6101 et seq. or Pa.R.C.P. No. 1951 et seq. and 42 Pa.C.S. § 62A01 et seq. **If necessary, this information must be provided on the separate Abuse Victim Addendum. Please note there are separate instructions for the completion of the Addendum located on the form.**

Please note this form does not need to be filed in types of cases that are sealed or exempted from public access pursuant to applicable authority (e.g. juvenile, adoption, etc.).

- **The best way to protect confidential information is not to provide it to the court. Therefore, only provide confidential information to the court when it is required by law, ordered by the court or is otherwise necessary to effect the disposition of a matter.**
- Do not include confidential information in any other document filed with the court under this docket.
- If you need to refer to a piece of confidential information in a document, use the alternate references. If you need to attach additional pages, sequentially number each alternate reference – i.e. SSN 3, SSN 4, etc.
- This form, and any additional pages, must be served on all unrepresented parties and counsel of record.

A court or custodian is not required to review or redact any filed document for compliance with *Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts*. A party's or attorney's failure to comply with this section shall not affect access to case records that are otherwise accessible.

If a filed document fails to comply with the requirements of the above referenced policy, a court may, upon motion or its own initiative, with or without a hearing, order the filed document sealed, redacted, amended or any combination thereof. A court may impose sanctions, including costs necessary to prepare a compliant document for filing in accordance with applicable authority.

**CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMATION  
FORM**



**APPELLATE/TRIAL COURT  
CASE RECORDS**

*Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania:  
Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts  
204 Pa. Code § 213.81  
[www.pacourts.us/public-records](http://www.pacourts.us/public-records)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Party name as displayed in case caption)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Docket/Case No.

Vs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Party name as displayed in case caption)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Court

This form is associated with the pleading titled \_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_.

Pursuant to the *Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts*, the Confidential Information Form shall accompany a filing where confidential information is **required by law, ordered by the court, or otherwise necessary to effect the disposition of a matter**. This form, and any additional pages, shall remain confidential, except that it shall be available to the parties, counsel of record, the court, and the custodian. This form, and any additional pages, must be served on all unrepresented parties and counsel of record.

This Information Pertains to:	Confidential Information:	References in Filing:
<p>_____ (full name of adult)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>This information pertains to a minor with the initials of _____ and the full name of _____</p> <p>_____ (full name of minor)</p> <p>and date of birth: _____</p>	<p>Social Security Number (SSN): _____</p> <p>Financial Account Number (FAN): _____</p> <p>Driver's License Number (DLN): _____</p> <p>State of Issuance: _____</p> <p>State Identification Number (SID): _____</p>	<p>Alternative Reference: SSN 1</p> <p>Alternative Reference: FAN 1</p> <p>Alternative Reference: DLN 1</p> <p>Alternative Reference: SID 1</p>
<p>_____ (full name of adult)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>This information pertains to a minor with the initials of _____ and the full name of _____</p> <p>_____ (full name of minor)</p> <p>and date of birth: _____</p>	<p>Social Security Number (SSN): _____</p> <p>Financial Account Number (FAN): _____</p> <p>Driver's License Number (DLN): _____</p> <p>State of Issuance: _____</p> <p>State Identification Number (SID): _____</p>	<p>Alternative Reference: SSN 2</p> <p>Alternative Reference: FAN 2</p> <p>Alternative Reference: DLN 2</p> <p>Alternative Reference: SID 2</p>



**CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMATION  
FORM**



**APPELLATE/TRIAL COURT  
CASE RECORDS**

Additional page(s) attached. \_\_\_\_\_ total pages are attached to this filing.

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts* that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Attorney or Unrepresented Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Number: (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Parties and attorney of record in a case will have access to this Confidential Information Form. Confidentiality of this information must be maintained.**

**CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMATION  
FORM**



**APPELLATE/TRIAL COURT  
CASE RECORDS**

Additional page (if necessary)

This Information Pertains to:	Confidential Information:	References in Filing:
<p>_____</p> <p>(full name of adult)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>This information pertains to a minor with the initials of _____ and the full name of _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(full name of minor)</p> <p>and date of birth: _____</p>	<p>Social Security Number (SSN): _____</p> <p>Financial Account Number (FAN): _____</p> <p>Driver's License Number (DLN): _____</p> <p>State of Issuance: _____</p> <p>State Identification Number (SID): _____</p>	<p>Alternative Reference: SSN _____</p> <p>Alternative Reference: FAN _____</p> <p>Alternative Reference: DLN _____</p> <p>Alternative Reference: SID _____</p>
<p>_____</p> <p>(full name of adult)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>This information pertains to a minor with the initials of _____ and the full name of _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(full name of minor)</p> <p>and date of birth: _____</p>	<p>Social Security Number (SSN): _____</p> <p>Financial Account Number (FAN): _____</p> <p>Driver's License Number (DLN): _____</p> <p>State of Issuance: _____</p> <p>State Identification Number (SID): _____</p>	<p>Alternative Reference: SSN _____</p> <p>Alternative Reference: FAN _____</p> <p>Alternative Reference: DLN _____</p> <p>Alternative Reference: SID _____</p>





**Abuse Victim Addendum**

**Instructions for Completing the Abuse Victim Addendum:** The Abuse Victim Addendum shall accompany a filing where confidential information is being provided by an abuse victim, as defined in this policy, in family court actions (see Pa.R.C.P. No. 1931(a)), as required by law, ordered by the court, or otherwise necessary to effect the disposition of a matter. This addendum, and any additional pages, shall only be provided to the court and shall remain confidential. The best way to protect confidential information is not to provide it to the court. Therefore, only provide confidential information to the court when it is required by law, ordered by the court or is otherwise necessary to effect the disposition of a matter.

<b>Type of Family Court Action</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Divorce, Annulment, Dissolution of Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Custody	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Paternity	<input type="checkbox"/> Protection from Abuse
<b>This Information Pertains to:</b>	<b>Confidential Information:</b>	<b>References in Filing:</b>
_____	AV Address:	Alternative Reference: AV 1 Address
(full name of abuse victim)	_____	
_____	AV Employer's Name & Address:	Alternative Reference: AV 1 Employer's Name & Address
Docket/Case No. of Protection Order	_____	
_____	AV Work Schedule:	Alternative Reference: AV 1 Work Schedule
Court/County	_____	
	AV Other contact information:	Alternative Reference: AV 1 Other contact information
	_____	

Attach additional page(s) if necessary.



**Abuse Victim Addendum**

Additional page (if necessary)

<b>Type of Family Court Action</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Divorce, Annulment, Dissolution of Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Custody	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Paternity	<input type="checkbox"/> Protection from Abuse
<b>This Information Pertains to:</b>	<b>Confidential Information:</b>	<b>References in Filing:</b>
<p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(full name of abuse victim)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Docket/Case No. of Protection Order</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Court/County</p>	<p>AV Address:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>AV Employer's Name &amp; Address:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>AV Work Schedule:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>AV Other contact information:</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Address</p> <p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Employer's Name &amp; Address</p> <p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Work Schedule</p> <p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Other contact information</p>

<b>Type of Family Court Action</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Divorce, Annulment, Dissolution of Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Custody	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Paternity	<input type="checkbox"/> Protection from Abuse
<b>This Information Pertains to:</b>	<b>Confidential Information:</b>	<b>References in Filing:</b>
<p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(full name of abuse victim)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Docket/Case No. of Protection Order</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Court/County</p>	<p>AV Address:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>AV Employer's Name &amp; Address:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>AV Work Schedule:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>AV Other contact information:</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Address</p> <p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Employer's Name &amp; Address</p> <p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Work Schedule</p> <p>Alternative Reference: AV __ Other contact information</p>



**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

Name	v.	Plaintiff	:	Case No.
			:	
			:	
			:	
Name		Defendant	:	

**ENTRY OF APPEARANCE OF SELF-REPRESENTED PARTY  
PURSUANT TO Pa.R.C.P. 1930.8**

To the Prothonotary:

Please enter my appearance as a self-represented party.

1. I am the  Plaintiff,  Defendant, or  Other in the above captioned action. (select one)
2. This is a  custody,  divorce,  support,  protection from abuse, or  paternity case. (select one)
3. Select from one of the following three options, a, b, or c:
  - a.  I do not currently have an attorney representing me, I have decided not to hire an attorney to represent me, and I am representing myself in this case.
  - b.  \_\_\_\_\_ is my attorney of record and I want to terminate the services of my attorney and proceed as a self-represented party. I will provide notice to my attorney.
  - c.  I am entering my appearance as a self-represented party (sign) \_\_\_\_\_ and my attorney acknowledges his/her withdrawal as my attorney of record in this case. (Attorney signature)
4. NOTE: You must provide the Court with an address where you agree that pleadings and other legal papers may be served, and a telephone number through which you may be contacted. The address and phone number that you provide need not be your home address and phone number. If this is a protection from abuse (PFA) case or other case where the confidentiality of your home address and phone number is essential, please use an alternate address and phone number where you may be served by mail and contacted by telephone.

Papers may be served at the address set forth below:

Name of Party	Home Phone Number – include area code
Street Address	Cell Phone Number – include area code
City                      State      Zip Code	Fax Number (optional) – include area code

5. I understand that I must file this form in the Prothonotary's Office and that I must file a new form every time my address or telephone number changes. Please see Pennsylvania Rule of Civil Procedure 1930.8 for more information.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_





If you fail to appear as provided by this order, an order for custody may be entered against you or the Court may issue a warrant for your arrest.

You must file with the court a verification regarding any criminal record or abuse history regarding you and anyone living in your household on or before the initial in-person contact with the court (including, but not limited to, a conference with a conference officer or judge or conciliation) but not later than 30 days after service of the complaint or petition.

No party may make a change in the residence of any child which significantly impairs the ability of the other party to exercise custodial rights without first complying with all of the applicable provisions of 23 Pa.C.S. § 5337 and Pa.R.C.P. 1915.17 regarding relocation.

**YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW. THIS OFFICE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HIRING A LAWYER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT AGENCIES THAT MAY OFFER LEGAL SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE PERSONS AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE.**

**North Penn Legal Services  
13 Main Street  
Towanda, PA 18848  
(570) 265-6127**

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990**

The Court of Common Pleas of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania is required by law to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For information about accessible facilities and reasonable accommodations available to disabled individuals having business before the Court, please contact our office. All arrangements must be made at least 72 hours prior to any hearing before the Court. You must attend the scheduled conference or hearing.

BY THE COURT,

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
J.





3. (a) I seek ( sole -  shared) legal custody, and ( primary -  shared -  partial -  sole -  supervised) physical custody of the following child(ren): (attach separate sheet if necessary)

_____ Initials of Child 1	_____ Year of Birth	_____ _____ _____ Address
_____ Initials of Child 2	_____ Year of Birth	_____ _____ _____ Address
_____ Initials of Child 3	_____ Year of Birth	_____ _____ _____ Address
_____ Initials of Child 4	_____ Year of Birth	_____ _____ _____ Address

3. (b) The child(ren) ( was/were  was not/were not) born out of wedlock.

3. (c) The child(ren) is/are presently in the custody of \_\_\_\_\_,  
 who resides at \_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

3. (d) The child(ren) have lived in the following places, with the persons indicated during the last five (5) years: (attach separate sheet, if necessary)

<b>Names of all persons with whom the child(ren) resided</b>	<b>Address, including County</b>	<b>Time period</b>
_____ Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided	_____ _____ _____ Address, including City, State, Zip and County	_____ Time Period
_____ Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided	_____ _____ _____ Address, including City, State, Zip and County	_____ Time Period
_____ Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided	_____ _____ _____ Address, including City, State, Zip and County	_____ Time Period

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Period \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Period \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Period \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Period \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person(s) with whom the child has resided \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Period \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

**3. (e)** A parent of the child(ren) is \_\_\_\_\_, currently residing  
Name  
at \_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

This parent is ( married -  divorced -  single).

**3. (f)** A parent of the child(ren) is \_\_\_\_\_, currently residing at  
Name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

This parent is ( married -  divorced -  single).



4. The relationship of the Plaintiff to the child(ren) is that of \_\_\_\_\_  
State relationship to Child(ren)

The Plaintiff currently resides with the following persons:

_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)

5. The relationship of Defendant 1 to the child(ren) is that of \_\_\_\_\_  
State Relationship to Child(ren)

Defendant 1 currently resides with the following persons:

_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)

and, (if applicable),

The relationship of Defendant 2 to the child(ren) is that of \_\_\_\_\_  
State Relationship to Child(ren)

Defendant 2 currently resides with the following persons:

_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)
_____	_____
Name	State Relationship to Child(ren)

**6. (a)** Plaintiff (has) - (has not) participated as a party or witness, or in any other capacity, in other litigation concerning the child(ren) in this or another court. If Plaintiff has participated in other litigation, then provide information regarding the Court, Case Number and its relationship to this action.

**6. (b)** Plaintiff (has) - (has no) information of a custody proceeding concerning the child(ren) pending in a court of this Commonwealth or another state. If Plaintiff has information of a custody proceeding, then provide information regarding the Court, Case Number, and its relationship to this action.

**6. (c)** Plaintiff (knows) - (does not know) of a person not a party to the proceedings who has physical custody of the child(ren) or claims to have custodial rights with respect to the child(ren). If Plaintiff knows of another such person, then provide the name(s) and address(es).

Name	
	Address, including City, State, Zip and County
Name	
	Address, including City, State, Zip and County



7. It is in the best interest and permanent welfare of the child(ren) to grant my request because:

8. Each parent whose parental rights to the child(ren) have not been terminated and the person who has physical custody of the child have been named as parties to this action. All other persons, named below, who are known to have or claim a right to custody of the child will be given notice of the pendency of this action and right to intervene.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Basis for Claim

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, including City, State, Zip and County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Basis for Claim

9. (a) If the plaintiff is a grandparent who is not in loco parentis to the child and is seeking physical and/or legal custody pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5323, you must plead facts establishing standing pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(3).

9. (b) If the plaintiff is a grandparent or great-grandparent who is seeking partial physical custody or supervised physical custody pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5325, you must plead facts establishing standing pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5325.

**9. (c)** If the plaintiff is a person seeking physical and/or legal custody pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(2) as a person who stands in loco parentis to the child, you must plead facts establishing standing.

**10. Request for Emergency Order**

The following emergency situation requires immediate attention by the Court.

Describe this situation in detail:

**11. Emergency Contact Information:**

Plaintiff: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant number 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant number 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**12.** Plaintiff has attached the Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification form required pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 1915.3-2.



**FOR THESE REASONS**, I request the Court (check all that apply):

- Grant me ( sole -  shared) legal custody of the child(ren).
- Grant me ( primary -  shared -  partial -  sole -  supervised) physical custody of the child(ren).
- Allow \_\_\_\_\_ to have the child(ren) in his/her custody  
Name  
at the following times and on the following terms:

- Allow \_\_\_\_\_ to visit with the child(ren) while I am present.  
Name

- Allow no custody or visitation because:

- (State other request relating to the children):

**VERIFICATION**

I verify that the statements made in the foregoing document are true and correct. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of perjury of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

Name	<b>PLAINTIFF</b>	:	
	<b>vs.</b>	:	<b>CASE NO.</b> _____
		:	
Name	<b>DEFENDANT 1</b>	:	<b>ACTION IN CUSTODY</b>
	<b>and</b> (if applicable)	:	
		:	
Name	<b>DEFENDANT 2</b>	:	

**PLAINTIFF'S CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby swear or affirm, subject to penalties of law including 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities that:

1. Unless indicated by my checking the "YES" box next to a crime below, I have checked the "NO" box to indicate that neither I nor any other member of my household have been convicted or pled guilty or pled no contest or was adjudicated delinquent where the record is publicly available pursuant to the Juvenile Act, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6307, to any of the following crimes in Pennsylvania or a substantially equivalent crime in any other jurisdiction, including pending charges:

Check YES to all that apply	Check NO to all that DO NOT apply	Crime	Self	Other household member	Date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea or pending charges	Sentence
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 25 (relating to criminal homicide)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2702 (relating to aggravated assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2706 (relating to terroristic threats)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2709.1 (relating to stalking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2901 (relating to kidnapping)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		



Check YES to all that apply	Check NO to all that DO NOT apply	Crime	Self	Other household member	Date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea or pending charges	Sentence
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2910 (relating to luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3121 (relating to rape)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3126 (relating to indecent assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3127 (relating to indecent exposure)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3129 (relating to sexual intercourse with animal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3130 (relating to conduct relating to sex offenders)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3301 (relating to arson and related offenses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4302 (relating to incest)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4303 (relating to concealing death of child)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4305 (relating to dealing in infant children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Check YES to all that apply	Check NO to all that DO NOT apply	Crime	Self	Other household member	Date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea or pending charges	Sentence
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5902(b) (relating to prostitution and related offenses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5903(c) or (d) (relating to obscene and other sexual materials and performances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6301 (relating to corruption of minors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6318 (relating to unlawful contact with minor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6320 (relating to sexual exploitation of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	23 Pa.C.S. § 6114 (relating to contempt for violation of protection order or agreement)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, offering for sale or possession of any controlled substance or other drug or device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		



2. Unless indicated by my checking the "YES" box next to an item below, I have checked the "NO" box to indicate that neither I nor any other member of my household have a history of violent or abusive conduct including the following:

Check YES to all that apply	Check NO to all that DO NOT apply		Self	Other household member	Date
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A finding of abuse by a Children & Youth Agency or similar agency in Pennsylvania or similar statute in another jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Abusive conduct as defined under the Protection from Abuse Act in Pennsylvania or similar statute in another jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3. Please list any evaluation, counseling or other treatment received following conviction or finding of abuse:

4. If any conviction above applies to a household member, not a party, state that person's name, date of birth, and relationship to the child:

5. If you are aware that the other party or members of the other party's household has or have a criminal record/abuse history, please explain:

6a. Has/have the child/children involved with this custody case been the subject of an indicated or founded report of child abuse? YES  NO

6b. Has a party or a member of a party's household been identified as the perpetrator in an indicated or founded report of child abuse? YES  NO

6c. If you answered YES to question 6a and/or 6b, please complete the following:

Name of perpetrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of incidents of child abuse: \_\_\_\_\_

Circumstances of child abuse incident(s):

County and state where child abuse investigation took place: \_\_\_\_\_

7a. Has a party or a member of a party's household been provided services by children & youth services, child protective services, or general protective services? YES  NO

7b. If you answered YES to question 7a, please complete the following:

Name of agency that provided services: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of services provided: \_\_\_\_\_

The circumstances surrounding the provision of services:

The status of services: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) services provided: \_\_\_\_\_

County and State where the services were provided: \_\_\_\_\_



8a. Are you aware of any pending investigations of abuse of either party or members of either party's household by any children & youth services agency, child protective services, or general protective services agency, or the equivalent agency in another jurisdiction, concerning the children in this custody case or any other children?

YES  NO

8b. If you answered YES to question 8a, please complete the following:

Name of agency where investigation is pending: \_\_\_\_\_

Status of the investigation: \_\_\_\_\_

The circumstances surrounding the investigation:

I verify that the information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information or belief. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home Phone)

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Work Phone)





Check YES to all that apply	Check NO to all that DO NOT apply	Crime	Self	Other household member	Date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea or pending charges	Sentence
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2910 (relating to luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3121 (relating to rape)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3126 (relating to indecent assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3127 (relating to indecent exposure)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3129 (relating to sexual intercourse with animal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3130 (relating to conduct relating to sex offenders)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3301 (relating to arson and related offenses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4302 (relating to incest)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4303 (relating to concealing death of child)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4305 (relating to dealing in infant children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Check YES to all that apply	Check NO to all that DO NOT apply	Crime	Self	Other household member	Date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea or pending charges	Sentence
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5902(b) (relating to prostitution and related offenses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5903(c) or (d) (relating to obscene and other sexual materials and performances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6301 (relating to corruption of minors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6318 (relating to unlawful contact with minor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6320 (relating to sexual exploitation of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	23 Pa.C.S. § 6114 (relating to contempt for violation of protection order or agreement)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, offering for sale or possession of any controlled substance or other drug or device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		



2. Unless indicated by my checking the "YES" box next to an item below, I have checked the "NO" box to indicate that neither I nor any other member of my household have a history of violent or abusive conduct including the following:

Check YES to all that apply	Check NO to all that DO NOT apply		Self	Other household member	Date
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A finding of abuse by a Children & Youth Agency or similar agency in Pennsylvania or similar statute in another jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Abusive conduct as defined under the Protection from Abuse Act in Pennsylvania or similar statute in another jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3. Please list any evaluation, counseling or other treatment received following conviction or finding of abuse:

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---



---



---

4. If any conviction above applies to a household member, not a party, state that person's name, date of birth, and relationship to the child:

---



---



---



---



---

5. If you are aware that the other party or members of the other party's household has or have a criminal record/abuse history, please explain:

---



---



---



---



---

6a. Has/have the child/children involved with this custody case been the subject of an indicated or founded report of child abuse? YES  NO

6b. Has a party or a member of a party's household been identified as the perpetrator in an indicated or founded report of child abuse? YES  NO

6c. If you answered YES to question 6a and/or 6b, please complete the following:

Name of perpetrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of incidents of child abuse: \_\_\_\_\_

Circumstances of child abuse incident(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

County and state where child abuse investigation took place: \_\_\_\_\_

7a. Has a party or a member of a party's household been provided services by children & youth services, child protective services, or general protective services? YES  NO

7b. If you answered YES to question 7a, please complete the following:

Name of agency that provided services: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of services provided: \_\_\_\_\_

The circumstances surrounding the provision of services:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The status of services: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) services provided: \_\_\_\_\_

County and State where the services were provided: \_\_\_\_\_



8a. Are you aware of any pending investigations of abuse of either party or members of either party's household by any children & youth services agency, child protective services, or general protective services agency, or the equivalent agency in another jurisdiction, concerning the children in this custody case or any other children?

YES       NO

8b. If you answered YES to question 8a, please complete the following:

Name of agency where investigation is pending: \_\_\_\_\_

Status of the investigation: \_\_\_\_\_

The circumstances surrounding the investigation:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I verify that the information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information or belief. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home Phone)

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Work Phone)







