

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent/Father

_____,
Respondent/Mother.

**ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR
CONCURRENT CUSTODY BY EXTENDED FAMILY**

This case came before this Court for a hearing on a Petition for Concurrent Custody by Extended Family. The Court, having reviewed the file and heard the testimony, makes these findings of fact and reaches these conclusions of law:

SECTION I. FINDINGS:

1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties.

2. The minor child(ren) at issue in this matter are:

Name

Date of Birth

3. The Petitioner, *{full legal name}* _____ is the
{extended family relationship} _____ of
the child(ren).

4. The Petitioner currently has physical custody of the child(ren) and has had physical custody of the child(ren) for at least 10 days in any 30-day period within the last 12 months.

5. The Petitioner does not have signed, written documentation from the parent(s) which is sufficient to enable the custodian to do all the things necessary to care for the child(ren) which are available to custodians who have an order for temporary custody by extended family.

6. The Mother *{full legal name}* _____ of the child(ren):
 (choose **one** only)
 Filed a Waiver and Consent
 Was served with the petition and failed to file an Answer
 Is deceased as evidenced by: _____

7. The Father *{full legal name}* _____ of the child(ren):
 (choose **one** only)
 Filed a Waiver and Consent
 Was served with the petition and failed to file an Answer
 Is deceased as evidenced by: _____

8. It is in the best interest of the child(ren) for the Petitioner to have concurrent custody.

SECTION II: CONCURRENT CUSTODY

1. The Petitioner, _____, is granted concurrent custody of the minor child(ren).

2. The Petitioner shall have all the concurrent rights and responsibilities of a legal parent.

3. The Petitioner is authorized to make all reasonable and necessary decisions for the minor child(ren), including but not limited to:
 - a) Consent to all necessary and reasonable medical and dental care for the child(ren), including nonemergency surgery and psychiatric care;
 - b) Secure copies of the child(ren)'s records, held by third parties, that are necessary for the care of the child(ren), including, but not limited to:
 - i. Medical, Dental, and psychiatric records;
 - ii. Birth certificates and other records; and
 - iii. Educational records.

4. Enroll the child(ren) in school and grant or withhold consent for the child(ren) to be tested or placed in special school programs, including exceptional education; and

5. Do all other things necessary for the care of the child(ren).

SECTION III. CHILD SUPPORT

1. The Petitioner ___ did ___ did not request the establishment of child support.
2. ___ **If child support is requested**, the parents have received personal or substituted service of process, the petition requests an order for support of the child(ren), and there is evidence of the parents' ability to pay the support ordered. The ()Mother () Father has the present ability to pay child support

(Choose **one** only)

___ The amounts in the Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e) filed by the ()Mother () Father are correct;

OR

___ The Court makes the following findings: The Mother's net monthly income is \$_____, (Child Support Guidelines ___%). The Father's net monthly income is \$_____, (Child Support Guidelines ___%) Monthly child care costs are \$_____. Monthly health/dental insurance costs are \$_____.

OR

___ The () Mother () Father is currently ordered to pay child support to the other parent in the amount of \$_____ per _____ as established in the case of *(style of case and number)* _____.

() All of the child support or () a portion of the child support in the amount of \$_____ shall be **redirected** to the Petitioner.

3. Amount

a) Father's Obligation

The Father shall be obligated to pay child support in the amount of \$_____ for the _____ children *{total number of parties' minor or dependent children}* commencing _____ *{month, day, year}* and terminating _____ *{month, day, year}*.

Upon the termination of child support for one of the parties' children, child support in the amount of \$_____ for the remaining _____ children *{total number of remaining children}* shall be paid commencing _____ *{month, day, year}* and terminating _____ *{month, day, year}*.

{Insert paragraph for the child support obligation, including the amount, commencement, and termination dates, for the remaining minor or dependent children, which shall be payable as the obligation for each child ceases.}

The Father shall pay child support until all of the minor or dependent children: reach the age of 18, become emancipated, marry, join the armed services, die, or become self-supporting; or until further order of the court or agreement of the parties. The child

support obligation shall continue beyond the age of 18 and until high school graduation for any child who is dependent in fact, between the ages of 18 and 19, and is still in high school, performing in good faith with a reasonable expectation of graduation before the age of 19.

If the child support ordered deviates from the guidelines more than 5%, the factual findings which support that deviation are: _____

_____.

Child support shall be payable () at least once a month and in accordance with the Father's employer's payroll cycle, or () other *{explain}* _____

b) Mother's Obligation

The Mother shall be obligated to pay child support in the amount of \$_____ for the _____ children *{total number of parties' minor or dependent children}* commencing *{month, day, year}* and terminating _____ *{month, day, year}*.

Upon the termination of the obligation of child support for one of the parties' children, child support in the amount of \$_____ for the remaining _____ children *{total number of remaining children}* shall be paid commencing _____ *{month, day, year}* and terminating _____ *month, day, year}*.

{Insert paragraph for the child support obligation, including the amount, commencement, and termination dates, for the remaining minor or dependent children, which shall be payable as the obligation for each child ceases.}

The Mother shall pay child support until all of the minor or dependent children: reach the age of 18; become emancipated, marry, join the armed services, die, or become self-supporting; or until further order of the court or agreement of the parties. The child support obligation shall continue beyond the age of 18 and until high school graduation for any child who is dependent in fact, between the ages of 18 and 19, and is still in high school, performing in good faith with a reasonable expectation of graduation before the age of 19.

If the child support ordered deviates from the guidelines more than 5%, the factual findings which support that deviation are: _____

_____.

Child support shall be payable () at least once a month and in accordance with the Mother's employer's payroll cycle, or () other {explain} _____
_____.

4. Arrearages/Retroactive Child Support

a) The () Mother () Father owes child support arrearages in the amount of \$_____ as of {date} _____ to the other parent. The child support arrearages shall be repaid in the amount of \$_____ per month, payable () in accordance with the employer's payroll cycle, and in any event at least once per month () other {explain} _____
_____ commencing {date} _____, until paid in full including statutory interest.

b) The () Mother () Father owes retroactive child support in the amount of \$_____ as of {date} _____ to the Petitioner. The retroactive child support shall be repaid in the amount of \$_____ per month, payable () in accordance with the employer's payroll cycle, and in any event at least once per month () other {explain} _____
_____ commencing {date} _____, until paid in full including statutory interest.

5. Insurance

(Choose **all** that apply)

a) () Mother () Father shall be required to maintain () health and/or () dental insurance for the parties' minor child(ren), so long as reasonable in cost and accessible to the child(ren). The party providing insurance shall be required to convey insurance cards demonstrating said coverage to the Petitioner and other parent.

OR

() health and/or () dental insurance is either not reasonable in cost or accessible to the child(ren) at this time.

b) ___ Reasonable and necessary uninsured medical/dental/prescription drug costs for the minor child(ren) shall be assessed as follows:

() Shared equally by both parents.

() Prorated according to the child support guidelines percentages.

() Other {explain} _____

As to these uninsured medical/dental/prescription drug expenses, the party who incurs the expense shall submit a request for reimbursement to the parent or

parents within 30 days, and the parent or parents, within 30 days of receipt, shall submit the applicable reimbursement for that expense.

SECTION IV. METHOD OF PAYMENT

The parent(s) shall pay court-ordered child support and arrearages, if any, as follows:

1. **State Disbursement Unit**

(Choose if applies)

- a) Parent(s) shall pay court-ordered support directly to the State Disbursement Unit along with the deposit service charge.

- b) The Petitioner and the Parents have requested and the court finds that it is in the best interest of the child(ren) that support payments need not be directed through the State Disbursement Unit at this time; however, any party may subsequently apply, pursuant to section 61.13(1)(d)(3), Florida Statutes, to require payment through the State Disbursement Unit.

2. **Income Deduction**

(If applies)

- a) **Immediate.** () Mother () Father shall pay through income deduction, pursuant to a separate Income Deduction Order which shall be effective immediately. Payor is individually responsible for paying this support obligation until all of said support is deducted from his/her income. Until support payments are deducted, the Payor is responsible for making timely payments directly to the State Disbursement Unit or the Petitioner as previously set forth in this Order.

- b) **Deferred.** Income deduction is ordered this day, but it shall not be effective until a delinquency of \$ _____, or, if not specified, an amount equal to one month's obligation occurs. Income deduction is not being implemented immediately based on the following findings: Income deduction is **not** in the best interests of the child(ren) because: *{explain}* _____

_____.

AND

There is proof of timely payment of a previously ordered obligation without an Income Deduction Order,

AND

() there is an agreement by the Payor(s) to advise the State Disbursement Unit of any change in Payor(s) or health insurance **OR** () there is a signed, written agreement providing an alternative arrangement between the Petitioner and Payor(s).

3. **Bonus/one-time payments.**

[Choose **one** only]

() All () _____% () No income paid in the form of a bonus or other similar one-time payment, up to the amount of any arrearage or the remaining balance thereof owed pursuant to this order, shall be forwarded to the Petitioner pursuant to the payment method prescribed above.

4. **Other provisions relating to method of payment:** _____

SECTION V. ATTORNEY FEES, COSTS, AND SUIT MONEY

(Choose **one** only)

1. ___ () Petitioner's () Respondents' request(s) for attorney fees, costs, and suit money is (are) denied because _____
_____.

2. ___ The Court finds there is a need for and ability to pay attorney fees, costs, and suit money. () Petitioner () Respondent(s) is (are) ordered to pay the other party \$_____ in attorney fees, and \$ _____ in costs. The Court further finds that the attorney fees are awarded based on the reasonable rate of \$_____ per hour and _____ reasonable hours. Other provisions relating to attorney fees, costs, and suit money are as follows: _____
_____.

SECTION VI. OTHER PROVISIONS

1. **Other Provisions** _____

2. The Court reserves jurisdiction to modify and enforce this Order for Concurrent Custody.

3. The granting of concurrent custody does not affect the ability of the child(ren)'s parent or parents to obtain physical custody of the child(ren) at any time.

DONE AND ORDERED in _____, Florida on *{date}* _____

CIRCUIT JUDGE

A copy of this Order for Concurrent Custody was:

[Choose **one** only] () mailed () faxed and mailed () hand delivered to the parties listed below on *{date}* _____ by _____ . *{Clerk of court or designee}*

Petitioner (or his or her attorney)

Respondents (or his or her attorney)

State Disbursement Unit

Other _____