How to Get an Agreed Divorce in Tennessee

If you have NO children who are under 18, disabled or in high school

and you do NOT own buildings or land or a business with your spouse, or have retirement benefits.

This packet has the court forms you will need to get an agreed divorce. It also explains:

- What an agreed divorce is.
- Who can get an agreed divorce.
- Steps to get an agreed divorce.

What is an agreed divorce?

Agreed means that you and your spouse agree on all points of your divorce **AND** you must meet all the rules below. An agreed divorce is easier and faster. It costs less than a regular divorce because:

- There are fewer court papers to fill out.
- You don't **have to** have a lawyer. But it's best to talk to a lawyer before starting any divorce.

Can anyone get an agreed divorce with this packet?

NO! It is **only** for couples if **ALL** of these are true:

- One or both of you lived in Tennessee for at least the past 6 months OR you both lived in Tennessee when you decided to divorce;
- You and your spouse have no children together who are under 18, in high school, or are disabled.

Children together means children you had together that were born before your marriage **AND** any born or adopted during your marriage.

- Neither spouse is pregnant;
- You both want to end your marriage;
- You don't own buildings or land or a business together or have retirement benefits; AND
- You can agree on alimony and how to divide your property, and will **both** sign a Divorce Agreement (Form 5).

If <u>any</u> of these are **not** true for you, you **can't** use this packet! Talk to a lawyer.

- How to get ready for your court hearing.
- Answers to common questions about divorce.
- What goes in a Divorce Agreement.

Do I need a lawyer?

It is always good to talk to a lawyer if possible. You need a lawyer if:

- You find the court papers hard to understand;
- You or your spouse has an IRS qualified pension or retirement plan;
- You or your spouse own buildings or land (this is called **real property**);
- You or your spouse own a business;
- Your spouse won't sign the Divorce Agreement;
- Your spouse has a lawyer;
- You have questions about your divorce. The court can't give you legal advice;
- You don't know how to locate your spouse;
- Your spouse over controls you or makes you afraid to disagree; OR
- There is domestic violence. (See page 2 of these instructions for free legal help.)

Important! Only want a lawyer for part of the case? It is always best to talk to a lawyer, if possible. Having a lawyer look at your Divorce Agreement can help you.

Where can I find a lawyer?

- Your county's Bar Association. This is a group that lawyers join. They may have programs that can give you free advice. Or they can refer you to a lawyer.
- Look under "lawyer" in the yellow pages.
- Search for "lawyer" on the internet.
- Ask divorced friends which lawyer they used.
- Check the Administrative Office of the Court's website at: <u>www.tncourts.gov</u> and the Court's Access to Justice website, <u>www.justiceforalltn.com</u>.

Where can I get legal help and information?

- Legal information and advice hotline -1-844-Help4TN (1-844-435-7486)
- www.Help4TN.org
 - See if you qualify for free legal help online
 - Find legal information
 - Find a list of free legal advice clinics across the state

Free Legal Help for Domestic Violence Victims

Does your spouse hurt or threaten you? There are special programs that can help you. They can also help if your spouse won't agree to a divorce. Call these **FREE** hotlines to find help near you.

- TN Coalition for Domestic and Sexual Violence – 1-615-386-9406, toll free: 800-289-9018 / www.tcadsv.org
- TN Domestic Violence hotline 1-800-356-6767
- Domestic Violence hotline 1-800-799-7233

Mediation Can Help You and Your Spouse Agree.

You cannot use these forms or this packet if you and your spouse can't agree on everything in the Divorce Agreement. However, a mediator is someone who helps people agree. The mediator meets with you and your spouse to try to help you and your spouse find an agreement that is ok for both of you. Many Court Clerks have lists of mediators that you may contact.

Note: Are you a victim of domestic violence? Then you don't have to meet the mediator with your spouse. You and your spouse can have separate meetings. Sometimes a judge can waive mediation.

What if the mediator can't help us agree?

Then you can't use this packet. Talk to a lawyer about filing a regular divorce.



Before you fill out the forms, you need to know that it is against the law to commit perjury. Perjury is when you lie to the court on purpose.

Always tell the truth when you fill out the forms and when you are in court.

Steps to Get an Agreed Divorce

Tip! Make extra copies of the blank forms in this packet. This is in case you make a mistake. Also, make copies of all papers you give the Court Clerk. Ask the Clerk to date-stamp your copy. Keep all your date-stamped divorce papers in a folder or envelope. Bring it with you when you go to court.

The top of all the forms looks the same. There is a big box with 3 rows. There is an example of this box on page 3 of these instructions. The information in this box is important.

The first box in Row 1 shows that you are filing for divorce in Tennessee.

The second box in Row 1 shows the type of court where you will file for divorce. Fill out the type of court where you will file for divorce. If you don't know which court, leave this box empty. Ask the court clerk which court will hear your divorce. Then write that court in this blank. See page 5 of these instructions for more information.

The third box in Row 1 shows the name of the county where you will file for divorce. Page 5 of these instructions has information on what county you can file in. Write the name of the county where you will file for divorce in this box.

The first box in Row 2 tells the name of the form and the form number.

The second box in Row 2 has a blank for a file number and division.

Important! The court clerk will tell you the file number when you file the paperwork. Do not write in a file number until you get this information from the court clerk.

Important! Some large counties have different court divisions. Check with the court clerk to see if the court has divisions in your county. Do not fill in the division blank unless the court tells you that there is a division.

Row 3 is where you list your name and your spouse's name. The spouse who is filing the divorce is the Plaintiff. The other spouse is the Defendant.

The information you fill out in the big box must be the same on each form.

State of Ter	nnessee Court	County
	Form Name and Number	File No (Must Be Completed) Division (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff	(Name: First, Middle, Last of spouse filing the	divorce)
Defendant	(Name: First, Middle, Last of the other spouse)

Step 1	fo	ou and your spouse MUST fill out these papers. The Court Clerk can't do this r you. When they are filled out, go to the Court Clerk's office and give them le) these papers:
		Ie) these papers: Request for Divorce, Form 1. Must be signed and notarized.
		Spouses' Personal Information, Form 2 Fill it out and put it in a letter-size envelope. On the outside, write both spouses' (names and your case number. The Court Clerk will give you your case number.
		Check with your Court Clerk to see if you need to fill out a Civil Case Cover Sheet or a summons.
Step 2	I	f you can't afford to pay the filing fee, also fill out and give the Court Clerk (file):
lf you need i	u t	Request to Postpone Filing Fees and Order, Form 3 The court may let you pay the filing fees at the end of your case. You and your spouse must decide how you will split the cost of the filing fees
Step 3	Co	mplete the Health Insurance Notice for Divorcing Spouses (Form 4):
		Health Insurance Notice, Form 4 Fill it out, file with Clerk and mail a copy to your spouse by certified mail. Keep a copy for your records. Not on each other's health insurance or don't have health insurance? Then write that on the paper.

Step 4	Fill out these papers and give them to the Court Clerk (file):				
	Divorce Agreement, Form 5. Must be signed and notarized by both you and your spouse.				
	 Final Decree of Divorce, Form 6. Must be signed by both you and your spouse. Court Order for Divorcing Spouses, Form 7. Must be signed by both you and your spouse. Both spouses must obey this order! 				
	Divorce Certificate Ask the Clerk for this paper. Don't use a copy. Fill out as much of it as you can. Ask the Clerk about the deadline for this paper.				
	Notice of Hearing to Approve Irreconcilable Differences Divorce, Form 8				
Step 5	Wait at least 60 days after filing your Request for Divorce (Form 1) then:				
	Call the Clerk. Has it been more than 180 days since the last person signed the Divorce Agreement? Then you must fill out a new Divorce Agreement.				
	Ask the court clerk how to get a court date for the Final Divorce Hearing. Ask if you need any other papers to set the hearing date.				
	If needed, complete and file the Notice of Hearing to Approve Irreconcilable Differences Divorce, Form 8, with the Court Clerk. You must mail your spouse a copy.				
Step 6	Go to the Courthouse on the date of your Final Divorce Hearing.				
	It's best if both spouses go, but if you are the spouse who filed the divorce, you must go to the hearing. It's best if both spouses go to the hearing. Even though you and your spouse agree on the divorce, the judge still must approve the forms. The judge may have questions on the forms. It's in your best interest to be in court so you can answer the judge's questions. Some counties require that both spouses go to the hearing. Check with the Court Clerk.				
	What if only one spouse goes and the judge changes something? You will have to go back to court later. Bring copies of all the date-stamped divorce papers with you. Bring a copy of the Final Decree of Divorce, Form 6.				
Step 7	After the hearing, go to the Court Clerk's office. Ask how to get the signed copy of the Final Divorce Order. You may have to pay for copies. You will have to pay for certified copies.				
	 If you asked that your name be changed in the divorce papers, get a certified copy of the Final Divorce Order. If your spouse did not go to the hearing, you must mail him/her a copy of this Order. 				

Get ready for your Court Hearing

Before the hearing:

- Dress neatly. Wear clothes that look like a businessperson. Wear clothes that show respect for the court. This means:
 - \odot No shorts.
 - $\odot~$ No tank tops or low cut tops.
 - $\odot~$ No crop tops that show your belly.
 - \odot No T-shirts with words or pictures.
 - \odot Turn off your cell phone or pager.
- Take all of your court papers.

- It's best if both spouses go to the hearing. Some counties require both spouses to go. Check with the Court Clerk. You don't need witnesses.
- Get to court **early** on the day of your hearing. You may need to find parking and go through security.
- Go to the Clerk's Office to make sure your case is on the calendar.
- Sit down in the courtroom. Wait for your name to be called. (There may be other cases ahead of you.)

At the hearing:

•

- j. j.
- oath to tell the truth.
 After you swear to tell the truth, say this:

Step forward when your

You will be asked to raise

your right hand and take an

"My name is

name is called.

I am the Plaintiff in this case. I am here to get a Final Divorce Order."

- Don't sit down until your case is over.
- When you speak to the judge, say, "Your Honor." Be polite.
- The judge will look at your court papers and may ask questions. Listen carefully. Never butt in. Don't talk until the judge asks you a question. Answer all questions fully and tell the truth. What if you don't understand a question? Then ask the judge to explain or repeat it.

The judge may ask you:

- Your name and your spouse's name.
- How long you have lived in Tennessee.
- If either spouse wants their old name back.
- If a spouse is pregnant.
- If your Divorce Agreement divides the property fairly.
- If you want the court to grant the divorce.
- If you and your spouse have irreconcilable differences (cannot get along).

You may answer, like this:

- I have lived in Tennessee for at least 6 months.
- We are **not** expecting a child now.
- My spouse and I have no children together.
- My spouse and I have made a Divorce Agreement that is fair. We have divided all property and debt.
- I want a divorce.
- My spouse and I can't get along any more.
 We have no hope of working our marriage out.

What if there are mistakes on the divorce papers? The judge may ask both spouses to make the changes and initial them. If both spouses aren't there, you will have to come back another day to correct them.

At the hearing:

Once approved, the judge will sign the Final Divorce Order. Your divorce is not final until the judge signs the Final Divorce Order and it is filed with the Clerk.

Helpful Tip! After the court makes the Final Divorce Order, each spouse has 30 days to appeal. During this 30-day period, you shouldn't get married again or buy any property.

After the hearing, ask the Court Clerk for certified copies of the Final Divorce Order and Divorce Agreement. You may need this later.

Common Questions About Agreed Divorce

To get an agreed divorce, do I have to prove that my spouse did something wrong?

No. You just have to say that you and your spouse can no longer get along and that you have no hope of working out your marriage problems. The court calls this "irreconcilable differences".

Do I have to live in Tennessee to file for divorce here?

One or both spouses must have lived in Tennessee for at least the last 6 months **OR** you lived in Tennessee when you decided to divorce.

Where do I file my divorce papers?

- In the county where your spouse lives now.
- **OR** in the county where you and your spouse lived when you all separated.

What if your spouse is in jail or doesn't live in Tennessee? Then file in the county where <u>you</u> live.

The court in each county is different. The divorce court in your county could be a Circuit, Chancery, or General Sessions Court. Ask the Court Clerk if their court hears divorce cases. **DON'T** file them in more than one court.



Will my divorce papers be public?

Yes, except for the paper called Spouses' Personal Information, Form 2. The information in that form will be kept secret. The other papers you and your spouse file at court are public record. That means anyone can look at your file. Anyone can get copies of any papers in your file.

Is there a fee to file my divorce papers?

Yes. Each county has its own fee **plus** state fees. Ask the Court Clerk's office how much you will have to pay. Bring cash with you. You must pay the Court Clerk when you file your Request for Divorce. Many Court Clerks don't take checks or credit cards.

What if I can't pay the filing fee up front?

If you can't afford the fee now, you can ask if you can pay it later. Fill out a Request to Postpone Filing Fees and Order, Form 3. Take it to the Court Clerk's office.

How soon can the divorce be granted?

The soonest is 60 days after you file your Request for Divorce. It usually will take longer.

Helpful Tip! After the court makes the Final Divorce Order, each spouse has 30 days to appeal. During this 30-day period, you shouldn't get married again or buy any property.

Important! Until the divorce is final, you and your spouse can't do some things. You and your spouse can't:

- Disobey the Court Order for Divorcing Spouses (Form 7) **OR**
- Spend, give away, destroy, waste or use up property from the marriage **OR**
- Harass each other OR
- Stop or change insurance policies **OR**
- Hide, change, or destroy electronic evidence kept on a computer or memory storage device.

What if I am a victim of domestic violence?

Did your spouse hurt or threaten you? To get an agreed divorce you must talk to your spouse. What if it is not safe to contact your spouse? Then an agreed divorce may not work for you. These **free** resources can help you. They can also help if your spouse doesn't want the divorce. TN Coalition for Domestic and Sexual

- Violence 1615-386-9406, toll free: 800-289-9018 – <u>www.tcadsv.org</u>
- TN Domestic Violence Helpline: 1-800-356-6767
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: 1-800-799-7233
- Legal Aid or Legal Services
 To find a legal aid program near you go to <u>www.Help4TN.org</u>
- Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services (615) 627-0956 / 50 Vantage Way, Suite 250, Nashville, TN 37228

What is a Divorce Agreement?

The Divorce Agreement is one of the papers you must file to get an agreed divorce. It tells the court what you and your spouse agreed about alimony. It says how you will divide your money, personal property and debts. You can't use these forms if you or your spouse own buildings or land (real property).

Doesn't the court divide our property?

In an agreed divorce, the spouses decide these things together but the court has to approve. The court wants to see that you divide your property and debts fairly. You have to list how <u>all</u> the property is divided, even if you think the property belongs only to one of you. The property division does not have to be equal. The court may change things if the agreement is not fair. The court may change things if one spouse will not have enough to live on.

Do you and your spouse agree about how to divide the property fairly? Then most of the time the court will OK your agreement.

Important! The court will not OK your agreement if it is unfair.

Important! If a debt is in both spouses' names, creditors may try to collect after the divorce from either spouse even if the Divorce Agreement says that one spouse or another will pay for it. If you or your spouse have a mortgage together, you cannot use these forms.

Important! If either spouse is thinking of filing bankruptcy, talk to a lawyer. It may cause problems for the other spouse.

What if my spouse will not sign the Divorce Agreement?

Then you can't get an agreed divorce. **Don't** use this packet.

You can still file a petition for divorce **but** you can't use these forms or this packet!

Will the court decide on alimony?

Alimony is money that one spouse pays the other for support. In an agreed divorce, the spouses decide whether there should be alimony, how much it should be and for how long it should be paid. This goes in your Divorce Agreement. The Court has to approve it.

For example, some spouses decide that alimony will be paid until:

- The supported spouse remarries or lives with another person, or
- The supported spouse finishes school, or
- One of the spouses dies.

Alimony may make a significant difference in your taxes. Talk to a tax expert before you sign the Divorce Agreement.

The judge will review the proposed alimony to make sure it is fair.

What if we can't agree on alimony?

Then you can't get an agreed divorce. **Don't** use this packet. Is alimony important? Or is there a big difference in salaries? Then talk to a lawyer. You and your spouse may:

- Talk to a mediator, who may be able to help you agree, or
- Talk to a lawyer, or
- File a regular divorce.

How do we divide retirement funds?

If either spouse has retirement funds, then you need to talk to a lawyer. You can't use these forms or this packet.

Should I talk to a lawyer about the Divorce Agreement?

Yes! Talk to a lawyer about your property, debt, and alimony. Some lawyers will help with just the Divorce Agreement. You do the rest of the case on your own.

State of Tennessee	Court(Must Be Completed)	County(Must Be Completed)
Request for Divorce (Complaint) (Form 1)		File No. (Must Be Completed) Division (Large Counties Only)
Defendant	liddle, Last) of Spouse Filing the Di Aiddle, Last of the Other Spouse)	vorce)

This form is **only** for spouses who:

- Have no children together who are under 18, in high school, or disabled, AND
- Agree how to divide their personal property and debts, and have no land, or businesses, or retirement benefits, except for Social Security, **AND**
- Agree to sign and notarize the Divorce Agreement, AND
- Lived in Tennessee when they decided to divorce **OR** one or both spouses lived in Tennessee for at least 6 months.

If you do not meet these rules, you cannot use these forms. Please talk to a lawyer.

You cannot use these forms if a spouse is pregnant no matter who the father is.

You may not be able to use these forms if either spouse is in the military. See sections 8 and 9.

Divorce Certificate - Get this official state paper from the court clerk. You must fill it out before going to court.

ANSWER EACH QUESTION.

- (1) **Residency -** (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):
 - □ My spouse or I have lived in Tennessee for at least 6 months.
 - □ My spouse and I were living in Tennessee when the reason for this divorce happened.
 - □ Our differences arose in Tennessee.

Venue – (CHECK ONE) I am filing for divorce in this County because:

My spouse and I lived in this County when we separated. Address:

Street Address	City	State	Zip

 \Box My spouse lives in this County.

- □ I live in this County and my spouse does not live in Tennessee, or is in jail.
- ③ **Reason for Divorce -** My spouse and I can no longer get along, and we have irreconcilable differences.
- Children My spouse and I have no children together who are under 18, in high school, or disabled. Children together means children you had together, born before the marriage, and all children born or adopted during the marriage. This includes all children either spouse had during the marriage.
 - □ No spouse is pregnant. (If a spouse is pregnant, you cannot use this form.)

5	Marriage				
	Date:	Place:			
6	 Date of Separation - My spouse and I decided to divorce on (CHECK ON The date of filing this paper (REQUEST FOR DIVO The date we started living apart: (MM/DD/YYY) We were married on (MM/DD/YYYY): 	ORCE); or Y):			
7	Orders of Protection and Other Court Orders: Check the box that is true for you.				
	There is no Order of Protection.The Order of Protection has ended (expired).				
	There is an Order of Protection now in this co	ourt. It will stay in effect until the divorce			

- judge changes it. Attach a copy of the Order of Protection and write the case number
- There is an Order of Protection now in a different court. It will stay in effect until the other court ends it. Attach a copy of the Order of Protection. Write the case number here:

Restraining Order (check one):

- □ No Restraining Order other than the Statutory Injunction, which applies in every divorce case, has been in effect during this case. The Statutory Injunction tells both spouses not to spend, give away, destroy, waste or use up property from the marriage.
- Other (describe:

here:

VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

You do not have to list a home address below. You may list an alternative address instead. For example, you can list a P.O. Box instead. The local domestic violence agency can help you. Call **1-800-356-6767** or go to **www.tcadsv.org**

(8) Plaintiff's Information

Name:	Name: First Name Middle Name		Maiden Name	Last Name (now)		
Address	: Street Address		City	State	Zi	
Birtholar			2	Oldic	ייש	
Dirtiplat	City and State or	Foreign Country				
Birth Da	te (MM/DD/YYY	′):				
Race: 🗆	White 🗆 Hispa	anic 🗆 Black 📄 Native	American 🛛 Other:			
How m	any marriages be	fore this one?	How long has he/sh	ne lived in T	ennessee?	
			years	months		
Plaintiff	s Employer:					
Active N	lember of the Arr	med Services of the Unite	ed States?	□ Yes	🗆 No	
Reserve	e Member of the A	Armed Services of the Ur	nited States on Active Duty?	P 🗆 Yes	🗆 No	
Guard N	Member of the Arr	med Services of the Unit	ed States on Active Duty?		🗆 No	
If the ar these fo	•	any of the questions abov	ve, talk to a lawyer. You ma	ay not be ab	le to use	
	ant's Informatior					
	First Name	Middle Name	Maiden name	Last nam	ne (Now)	
Address				Otata	7:	
Distinutor	Street address		City	State	Zi	
Birtinpiad	City and State or	Foreign Country				
Birth dat):				
Race:	🗆 White 🗆 Hi	spanic 🗆 Black 🗆 Nativ	ve American			
How ma	any marriages be	fore this one?	How long has he/sh	e lived in Te	ennessee?	
			years	_months		
Active N	lember of the Arn	ned Services of the Unite	ed States?	□ Yes	□ No	
Reserve	Member of the A	rmed Services of the Un	ited States on Active Duty?	□ Yes	🗆 No	
Guard M	lember of the Arr	ned Services of the Unite	ed States on Active Duty?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No	
	swer is "yes" to a		re, talk to a lawyer. You may	y not be abl	e to use	

9

10 Financial Information

Real Property (House, Land, or Mobile Homes that are permanently attached to the ground) My spouse and I:

Do **NOT** own Real Property. If either of you have REAL Property, you cannot use these forms.

Personal Property (such as Cars, Mobile Homes (not permanently attached to the ground), Bank Accounts)

- Own personal property and have filed the **Divorce Agreement (Form 5)** that lists how our property is divided.
- Do not own Personal Property (such as Cars, Mobile Homes, Bank Accounts)

(If **either** of you has a Pension or Retirement Account, except for Social Security, or own a Business, you **cannot** use these forms. Please see a lawyer first.)

Debts – My spouse and I (check one):

- Do **NOT** have debts.
- Have debts and have filed a **Divorce Agreement (Form 5)** that lists how our debts are divided.
- One or both of us has filed for a Bankruptcy and it is still active.

Alimony (check one):

(11)

- □ Neither spouse wants alimony.
- One of the spouses wants alimony, as agreed to in our Divorce Agreement.

Name Change (check below to change a spouse's name back to the name used before this marriage, either a maiden name or previous married name)

	Plaintiff requests						
		First Name	Middle Name	Last Name			
	Defendant requests						
		First Name	Middle Name	Last Name			
(13) Court Costs (check one):							
	Who will pay the court costs for this divorce?						
 Spouses will each pay half of the costs. Plaintiff will pay all costs. 							

- Defendant will pay all costs.
- Other agreement: _____

(14) Divorce Agreement

Our signed **Divorce Agreement** (Form 5) is attached, and we ask the Court to approve it.

I ask the Court to grant this divorce, make the other orders I have asked for above, and to make any other orders I am entitled to.

READ THE TEXT BELOW THEN SIGN ONLY IN FRONT OF A NOTARY

Signed at (City):	on (Date):
• • • <i></i>	(MM/DD/YYYY)
State of Tennessee, County of	
	County Where Notarized)
I know that Tennessee has laws against lying on pu	rpose (perjury). I swear and affirm that:
 As far as I know, the information on this for 	rm is true.
 My request for divorce is serious. 	
 My spouse and I have agreed not to lie about 	out the information in this divorce. As
 far as we know, we meet all the rules to us 	e these forms.
SWORN to and SUBSCRIBED before me, on (date)	:
Signed at (City):	
State of Tennessee, County of	
By (Name of Person Filing for Divorce):	
(Signature of Person Filing for Divorce):	

Signature of Notary Public, State of Tennessee

My commission expires: ____

MM/DD/YYYY

(NOTARY'S SEAL)

State of T	ennessee	Court (Must Be Completed)	County _	(Must Be Completed)
Both Parties' Personal Information- To Be Filed Under Seal		File No.	(Must Be Completed)	
	(Form 2)			(Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff				
(Name: First, Middle, Last) of Spouse Filing the Dive			ivorce)	
Defendant				
	(Name: First, N	Middle, Last of the Other Spouse)		

This form asks for the personal contact information and Social Security Number of both spouses.

To protect your personal information, follow these steps:

- 1) Fill out this form.
- 2) Put the form in an unsealed envelope.
- 3) Write this information on the envelope: Names of both spouses, and Case Number of your case.
- 4) Give it to the clerk when you file your other court forms.
- 5) The court clerk will keep this information secret.

Plaintiff's Information

Name:					
	First Name	Middle Name	Maiden Name	Last Name (now)	
	Street Address				
	City		State	Zip	
Telephon	e Number:				
			Birth date (MM/DD/YY	YY):	
)ofondant's	Information				
	Information				
Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Maiden Name	Last Name (now)	
Address:				. ,	
	Street Address				
	City		State	Zip	
Telephon	e Number:				
			Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY):		
Birth Plac	e (State or Foreign	Country):			

	State of Tennesse	e ^{Co}	urt (Must Be Complete	d)	County(Must B	e Completed)	
	(Uniform Civil		e Filing Fees and Order fidavit of Indigency					
	Plaintiff (Name: First Defendant	, Middle,	Last of Spouse Filing t	he Divor				
		st, Middle	e, Last of the Other Spo	use)				
	, k	And file	to pay the filing fees it with the complete this form, you may ha	ed case	documents.		he case.	
1	Your Information: Address:							
	Street Address				City	St	ate Z	Ϊp
	Telephone Number	'S:						
	(Home) Birth Date: (MM/DD/Y	YYY):	(W	'ork)		(C	cell)	
2	List your dependen Dependents can be: • Your children, a	Ind	w. as a dependent on yo	ur taxes	5.			
	Name	Age	Relationship		Name	Age	Relationshi	ip
	1.			4.				

2.

3.

5.

6.

Employment: If you are working now, fill out below. If you are **not** working now, check here: (3)

Employer's Address:

Employer's Address:		
Street Addr	ess	
City	State	Zip
How much do you earn after taxes are deducted?		

\$_____ Each (Check **One**): □Week □Month □Other: _____

(4) Other Income: List any other income that you get now or expect to get.

Source of Income	How much do you get?	Source of Income	How much do you get?
□ AFDC	\$ / month	Unemployment	\$ / month
□ Social Security	\$ / month	U Worker's Comp.	\$ / month
□ Retirement	\$ / month	□ Other*	\$ / month
Disability	\$ / month		\$ / month

*Explain Sources of Other Income Here:

Other:

(5)

Assets: List all assets that you own separately, with your spouse, or with someone else:

Asset type:	Fair Market Value (what it's worth now)	- Money still owed	= Balance
1. Car, truck, or other vehicle			\$
2. Other car, truck, or other vehicle			\$
3. House, condominium, land			\$
4. Other house, condominium, land			\$
List all bank/financial institutions below:			
Bank name. Do not put account number.			Balance
1.			\$
2.			\$
Cash			\$
		Total:	\$

6

Expenses:

	How much each month?		How much each month?
Rent/House Payment	\$	Gas Gas	\$
D Phone	\$	Child Care	\$
Groceries	\$	Court-ordered Child Support	\$
School Supplies	\$	Transportation	\$
Electricity	\$	Medical/Dental	\$
Clothing	\$	Other	\$
Water	\$	Other	\$

Debts:

Who do you owe?	How much do you owe?	Who do you owe?	How much do you owe?
1.	\$	4.	\$
2.	\$	5.	\$
3.	\$	6.	\$

8

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Tennessee that:

- The information I have provided is true, correct, and complete.
- I cannot afford to pay the filing fees at this time.

Perjury means lying on purpose. If I lie on purpose I may have to pay a fine or go to jail.

Sign here:	Date:		
Sworn and subscribed before me this	day of	, 20	

Notary Public or Deputy Clerk

My Term Expires

IMPORTANT!

Take any proof that supports your case to the hearing, including: witnesses, photos, papers, receipts, etc. The court will not accept written statements from witnesses. The person must go to court in person. If you think a witness may not want to go to court, ask the clerk for subpoena forms. Complete the subpoena as soon as possible so the sheriff can serve them before court.

The court and clerks are not allowed to give you legal advice, even if you don't have a lawyer. This form is a public record. It is not legal advice. The law may change and it is best to consult with a lawyer if possible.

Do Not Fill Out This Section Below. The Judge Will Fill This Section Out	<u>At Court.</u>
 The court denies this Request because (judge will check all that apply): The applicant did not prove s/he cannot afford to pay costs associated with this case at this time. The applicant did not go to the court hearing concerning this Form. This Request is dismissed. The applicant must pay court costs of: \$ 	
□ The court approves this Request and the applicant may file without paying the this time.	filing fees or costs at
Judge's signature:Date:	

NOTICE: After reading this paper, the judge may decide you must pay the fees up front. If that happens, you have the right to a hearing before the judge. An appeal gives you a chance to tell your side. You may be able to appeal your case to a Circuit Court. If so, you have a right to a hearing before the Circuit Court Judge.

State of Tennessee	Court (Must Be Completed)	County (Must Be Completed)
	surance Notice form 4)	File No (Must Be Completed) Division (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff		
(Name: First, M	liddle, Last) of Spouse Filing the D	vorce)
Defendant		
(Name: First, N	/liddle, Last of the Other Spouse)	

You must:

- Fill out this form completely, **OR** ask the person in charge of employee benefits where you work to fill it out.
- File the copy with the Court.
- Mail a copy to your spouse by certified mail. Keep a copy of this form for your records.

Important! Your spouse must receive this notice at least 30 days before the insurance coverage ends. Most courts require you to send this to your spouse before you can get a hearing date.

To (Spouse's Name): _____

(Spouse's Address):			
	Street address or P.O. Box	City	State	Zip
From (Your Name):				
(Your Address):				
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Street Address or P.O. Box	City	State	Zip

If you do NOT have health insurance, check here. Fill out the Certificate of Service section below. Mail a copy of the paper to your spouse. File this form with the court clerk's office.

If you do HAVE health insurance that covers your spouse now, check here.
Then fill out the information about your health insurance policy that covers your spouse now:

Health Insurance Company: _____ Policy Number: _____

(Employee Benefits Contact Person): (Name/Phone #/Street Address/City/State/Zip)

Check one:

- □ This policy has COBRA. That means your spouse can keep the insurance after the divorce. BUT s/he must apply by the deadline and pay the premiums and any fees. To learn more, speak to the employee benefits person listed above.
- □ This is a group insurance policy. Your spouse might be able to continue coverage under TCA §56-7-2312(d)(1). To learn more, speak to the employee benefits person listed above. Your spouse may also get insurance somewhere else.
- ☐ This policy does not offer COBRA. That means your spouse will lose this insurance after the divorce. Your spouse must get health insurance somewhere else.
- □ My spouse is not covered by my policy.

Certificate of Service:

I hereby certify that a true and exact copy of this **Health Insurance Notice** was mailed to my insured spouse on

(Date) _____. (MM/DD/YYYY) I sent it to the address listed above by certified mail.

Sign Here:

_Date (MM/DDD/YYY) _____

State of Tenne		Court	County
		(Must Be Completed)	(Must Be Completed)
	Divor	ce Agreement	File No
(Mar	ital Diss	solution Agreement)	(Must Be Completed)
-		(Form 5)	Division (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff			
(Nam	ne: First, N	liddle, Last of Spouse Filing the I	Divorce)
Defendant			
	ne: First, N	/liddle, Last of the Other Spouse)	
This for		ns how you and your spouse w st file this form with your Requ	vill divide your property and debts. est for Divorce, Form 1.
For info		Warning! Divorce cases s always good to talk with a on how to get legal help, call	
Check "yes" of		r each question below. ant?	
	Yes	No	
	105		
	-	e have a pension or retiremen Social Security. If you have a	
•	Yes	D No	
Does eith	ier spous	e own a business?	
	Yes	No	
		e have real property (real prop ttached to the ground, condom	perty is houses, land, mobile homes that niniums, and cooperatives)?
	Yes	D No	
If you checked '	"Yes" for	any of the questions above, yo	ou cannot use these forms. Please talk to a lawy

We promise the Court that: (Check Yes or No for each box)

1. We are the Plaintiff and Defendant listed above. We are filing a Request for Divorce in the county and court listed above. We can no longer get along as spouses. We understand our marriage rights and duties. We want to get an agreed divorce.



2. We agree on everything in the Request for Divorce. The Request for Divorce does not have to be served, and there is no need to file an Answer.

No

3. Each of us has read this whole Divorce Agreement. We agree it is fair. We agree that each of us has told the other all information on assets and/or debts that we each have. We understand that the Divorce Agreement will become part of our Final Divorce Order.



4. My spouse and I have no children together who are under 18, in high school or disabled.

Yes No

Children together means children you had together that were born before your marriage AND <u>all</u> children born or adopted during the marriage. This includes all children either spouse had during the marriage.

5. No one made us sign this Agreement. We will sign any other papers needed to carry out this Agreement.



6. Neither spouse is pregnant.

	Yes		No
--	-----	--	----

7. We agree that this **Request for Divorce** will take effect only if the Court finds it fairly divides our assets and debts and fully provides for the care and support of our children and if the Court grants a divorce.

Yes No

If you checked "No" on any box, you <u>cannot</u> use any of these forms to file for a divorce. If you have any questions about the Request for Divorce, or about what might happen if either of you change your mind, you need to speak with a lawyer before signing it.

Plaintiff: Initials	Date Signed:
	Date Olyneu.

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _

Plaintiff's Personal Property

The **Plaintiff** will own the following property:

a. Vehicles (cars, motorcycles, trucks, boats, etc.)

	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 1				
	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 2				
	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 3				

b. Other personal property like bank accounts, cash, furniture, jewelry, trailers, etc., not houses or land!

Type of Account	Bank or Financial Institution	Account Number (Last four Digits)	Account Balance
Check Account			
Savings Account			
Money Market Account			
Other Account			
Other Account			

Describe other personal property:

c. D All personal property the Plaintiff has now is his/hers.

If you need more lines, copy this page. Make sure it is included when you file this paper.

Plaintiff: Initials	Date Signed:	
---------------------	--------------	--

```
Defendant: Initials ____ Date Signed: ___
```

Defendant's Personal Property

The **Defendant** will own the following property:

a. Vehicles (cars, motorcycles, trucks, boats, etc.)

	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 1				
	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 2				
	Year	Make	Model	VIN #
Vehicle 3				

b. Other personal property like bank accounts, cash, furniture, jewelry, trailers, etc., not houses or land!

Type of Account	Bank or Financial Institution	Account Number (Last four Digits)	Account Balance
Check Account			
Savings Account			
Money Market Account			
Other Account			
Other Account			

Describe other personal property:

c. D All personal property the Defendant has now is his/hers.

If you need more lines, copy this page. Make sure it is included when you file this paper.

Plaintiff: Initials	Date Signed:	
---------------------	--------------	--

Defendant: Initials _____ Date Signed: _____

Notice: The Final Decree does not necessarily affect the ability of a creditor to proceed against a party or a party's property, even though the party is not responsible under the terms of the decree for an account, any debt associated with an account or any debt. It may be in a party's best interest to cancel, close or freeze any jointly held accounts. T.C.A. §36-4-134.

What this means: This Order does not protect you against creditors. They may try to collect from you, even if your spouse is supposed to pay the debt. It may be best to cancel, close, or freeze any accounts you have together.

Plaintiff will pay all debts he or she has made since separating from the other spouse. He or she will also pay for the following debts:

List all loans, including car notes, credit card, cash advance debts	Name of Creditor (person or company you owe)	Account Number (last four digits)	Name on the account	Amount still owed
1.				\$
2.				\$
3.				\$
4.				\$

If you need more lines, copy this page. Make sure it is included when you file this paper.

Are any of these debts listed above joint debts? It is a joint debt if both spouses signed a Note or legal paper to pay the debt.

The Plaintiff will do his or her best to refinance or pay off these joint debts.

The Plaintiff has (choose one): 90 days 1 year from the date 180 days the Court approves this Agreement to do so or otherwise take the other spouse's name off of these joint debts.

What if the Plaintiff does not refinance or pay off the joint debts in that time?

Then the other spouse may take him or her back to Court. The Court may order the Plaintiff's assets sold to pay off the joint debt(s).

Defendant will pay all debts he or she has made since separating from the other spouse. He or she will pay for the following debts:

List all loans, including car notes, credit card, cash advance debts	Name of Creditor (person or company you owe)	Account Number (last four digits)	Name on the account	Amount still owed
1.				\$
2.				\$
3.				\$
4.				\$

If you need more lines, copy this page. Make sure it is included when you file this paper.

Are any of these debts listed above joint debts? It is a joint debt if both spouses signed a Note or legal paper to pay the debt.

The Defendant will do his or her best to refinance or pay off these joint debts.

date the Court approves this Agreement to do so or otherwise take the other spouse's name off of these joint debts.

What if the Defendant does not refinance or pay off the joint debts in that time?

Then the other spouse may take him or her back to Court.

The Court may order the Defendant's assets sold to pay off the joint debt(s).

We Both Agree on How to Divide the Debts

(Hold Harmless Provision)

Both the spouses agree to divide their debts as listed above. The Plaintiff agrees to pay all the debts listed under "Plaintiff's Debts." The Defendant agrees to pay all the debts listed under " Defendant's Debts." The Plaintiff will not try to make the Defendant pay his/her debts. The Defendant will not try to make the Plaintiff pay his/her debts.

The Plaintiff and Defendant understand that creditors can try to collect from both of them. A creditor may get one spouse to pay the other spouse's debt, even after the divorce is final. If that happens, the spouse who has agreed to pay the debt will pay the other spouse back. He or she will pay back any payments and reasonable lawyer's fees the spouse paid. He or she will pay back any costs of trying to stop a creditor from collecting the debt.

Plaintiff: Initials_____ Date Signed:

Alimony (check one):

Warning! This section can be very hard. Please talk with a lawyer if you need help with this section.

Alimony can only be changed if there are significant life changes. Sometimes it cannot be changed at all. You have to get a court order to change alimony.

If you want alimony but do not agree on all the sections below, you cannot use this form.

You must fill out each section.

□ Neither spouse wants alimony

OR

1.	The	Plaintiff	Defendant agrees to pay (amount) \$:

2. We agree that the alimony (check all the boxes that are true for your agreement):

Will be paid until this date	
•	

- Will end when the one who gets the alimony dies or gets married again.
- Or if this happens _____
- Will not be modified.

The court can modify the alimony due to significant changes in our lives, or if the person receiving alimony lives with another person, with or without a romantic relationship.

- 3. We agree that the alimony will be paid (you must check **one**):
 - Weekly
 - Monthly
 - Other:
 - Lump sum paid all at one time.

Important! Both of us understand alimony may change our federal taxes. Unless we specifically agree otherwise, the payor will be able to deduct it on his/her tax return and the person receiving it will have to declare it as income. Our initials at the bottom of this page show we understand this. We agree we are responsible for knowing, understanding and accepting this.

Name Change

Check below to change a spouse's name back to the name used before this marriage (maiden name or previous married name). A government agency or other business may need proof of this name change. If so, give them a filed copy of this form.

Plainti	ff		
	First	Middle	Last
Defend	dant		
	First	Middle	Last
intiff Initials:	Date Signed:	Defendant Initials:	Date Signed:
/ 2017	/1	Form E) Diverse Agreement	Daga

Pla

Court Costs will be paid by (check one)

- □ Plaintiff
- Defendant
- □ Plaintiff and Defendant will each pay half
- Other (explain):

Waiver of Service

By signing this Agreement, the Plaintiff and Defendant agree they do not have to serve each other with divorce papers. This form is only good for 180 days after the last spouse signs it. Your final hearing must be within those 180 days. If the 180 days has passed, you will have to fill out, sign, and file this form again. The spouses understand that they do not have to file an Answer to a Complaint for Divorce.

Entire Agreement

This document says everything the Plaintiff and Defendant agreed to in this divorce. If they agreed with each other about anything else, the court cannot make them do it.

Warning - Changes Modification

This form is a legal contract. It is very important this contract is completely filled out. Make sure that you are OK with everything that is in it before you sign it. Speak to a lawyer before signing or if you have any questions.

Read below, but only sign in front of a notary. You may sign at a different time than your spouse, if you want.	Read below, but only sign in front of a notary. You may sign at a different time than your spouse, if you want.		
Plaintiff	Defendant		
I know that Tennessee has laws against lying on purpose (perjury). I swear and affirm that:	I know that Tennessee has laws against lying on purpose (perjury). I swear and affirm that:		
• As far as I know, the information on this form is true.	• As far as I know, the information on this form is true.		
 I have told my spouse about all property and all debts that I know about. I have not kept any property or debts a secret from my spouse before I signed this agreement. 	• I have told my spouse about all property and all debts that I know about. I have not kept any property or debts a secret from my spouse before I signed this agreement.		
 This is everything we have agreed to. 	 This is everything we have agreed to. 		
 Any Agreements we have that are not listed above are no longer any good. 	 Any Agreements we have that are not listed above are no longer any good. 		
I understand that even if one of us changes his or her mind after we both sign it, the Court may still enforce the Request for Divorce.	I understand that even if one of us changes his or her mind after we both sign it, the Court may still enforce the Request for Divorce.		
SWORN to and SUBSCRIBED before me, on	SWORN to and SUBSCRIBED before me, on		
(date): MM/DD/YYYY	(date): MM/DD/YYYY		
Signed at (city):	Signed at (city):		
State of Tennessee, County of	State of Tennessee, County		
By (Plaintiff):	of By (Defendant):		
Signature of Notary Public, State of Tennessee My commission expires on:	Signature of Notary Public, State of Tennessee My commission expires on:		
MM/DD/YYYY	MM/DD/YYYY		
(Notary's seal)	(Notary's seal)		

State of Tennessee		Court(Must Be Completed)	County(Must Be Completed)
Final Decree of Divorce (with Marital Dissolution Agreement) (Form 6)		tal Dissolution reement)	File No. (Must Be Completed) Division (Large Counties Only)
Plaintiff	laintiff (Name: First, Middle, Last of spouse filing the divorce)		
Defendant	(Name: First,	, Middle, Last of the other spouse)	

If you are ready to finalize your divorce, you must fill out this form and file it with the court clerk. Only the spouse asking for the divorce must sign it, and that spouse **must go** to the court hearing. **BUT**, it is a good idea for **both** spouses to go in case the court has questions. Ask the court clerk for the rules in your county.

The Judge does not have to sign this Order if he/she thinks your Divorce Agreement is not fair.

Take a copy of this form with you to your court hearing. It is best to take all copies of documents you have filed in this case and take:

- **Divorce Agreement**, Form 5, signed by both spouses and notarized if not filed with Request for Divorce
- Divorce Certificate you must get the official state form and have it filled out before court.

Court Hearing and Findings:

On (Date) ______, there was a court hearing at the court and county listed above ______, before

(Judge's Name)

Parties at the Hearing:

□ Plaintiff (Spouse filing the divorce):

Street or P.O. Box	City	State	Zip	Phone #	
Defendant (The other spouse):					
Street or P.O. Box	City	State	Zip	Phone #	

The Court affirmatively finds as follows:

1	The spouses have sworn and affirmed that they do not have any children together who are under 18, in high school, or disabled and neither spouse is pregnant. Children together means children they
	had together before the marriage and all children born or adopted during their marriage.

The spouses have both signed under penalty of perjury a Divorce Agreement (Marital Dissolution Agreement). That Agreement has disclosed fully the spouses' assets and liabilities and the court finds it equitably settles any and all property rights between them.

③ ^{Alimony}

Neither spouse wants alimony OR	
The (check one): Plaintiff Defendant agrees to pay (amount): until (date):each	
Week Month Other	
The alimony will end on (date): OR	
The alimony will end when this happens	

The spouses are now divorced based on irreconcilable differences and are restored to the rights and privileges of unmarried persons. The Divorce Agreement (Marital Dissolution Agreement) is now a part of this Final Decree of Divorce.

(5) Orders of Protection (check one):

	Neither	party	has a	current	Protective	Order.
--	---------	-------	-------	---------	------------	--------

The Court continues the current Protective Order from this Court until (MM/DD/YYYY): ______.

Attach a Copy of the Order of Protection. Write the Case Number here: _

The parties have an Order of Protection in a different court. This Final Divorce Order does not change that Order of Protection.
 Attach a Copy of the Order of Protection. Write the Case Number here:

Restraining Order (check one):

- Neither party has a current restraining order or wants a restraining order.
- The Court order both parties not to hurt or threaten the other.
- The Court further orders that they cannot contact each other after the divorce is final. They also cannot send messages to each other through other people.

Name Change (check all that apply):

- This Order does not change either party's name.
- This Order changes the Plaintiff's name to:

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
This Order changes the Defendant's n	ame to:	

First Name Mid	ddle Name	Last Name
----------------	-----------	-----------

Important! You need to change your name on your driver's license or other records. You may need a certified copy of this Order to do that.

C Lawyers' fees (check one):

- Neither side has a lawyer.
- The Plaintiff will pay for his/her lawyer's fees. The Defendant will pay for his/her lawyer's fees.
- Other (explain):

8 Court Costs will be paid as follows (check one):

- The Plaintiff and Defendant will each pay half of the court costs.
- Plaintiff will pay all costs.
- Defendant will pay all costs.
- Other agreement:

(9) Other Orders

Notice: The Final Decree does not necessarily affect the ability of a creditor to proceed against a party or a party's property, even though the party is not responsible under the terms of the decree for an account, any debt associated with an account or any debt. It may be in a party's best interest to cancel, close or freeze any jointly held accounts. T.C.A. §36-4-134.

What this means: This Order does **not** protect you against creditors. They may try to collect from you, even if your spouse is responsible for the debt. It may be best to cancel, close, or freeze any accounts you have together.

Judge's signature

This Order is not final until 30 days after the Judge signs it. During those 30 days, you may have questions about remarrying or buying property. If so, talk to a lawyer.

Presented by:	
Person Getting the	
Plaintiff's Signature	
Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	Plaintiff's Phone Number:
Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Defendant's Phone Number:
If your spouse did not go to this he Then fill out the part below.	earing, you must mail him/her a copy of this signed Final Divorce Order.
	Certificate of Service:
I swear and affirm that a copy of t or sent by first-class U.S. Mail to t	he Final Divorce Order was given to my spouse. It was delivered in person this address:
I did so on the day	of20

Spouse who mails it signs here

Date (MM/DD/YYYY):

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Phone number:

ATTACHED:

- Divorce Agreement Marital Dissolution Agreement (if not already submitted)
- Divorce Certificate (if not already submitted)
- Other: _____
 July 2017

State of Tennessee		Court(Must be completed)	County(Must be completed)		
(Statutory		or Divorcing Spouses Injunction) rm 7)	File No(Must Be Completed) Division(Large Counties Only)		
Plaintiff:	(Name: First, Middle, I	_ast of spouse filing this paper)			
Defendan		_ast of the other spouse)			
Behavior	-	bey <u>all</u> state law below until the c not obey them, you may be held	-		
	 Talk about your spo your spouse's employ 	oyer.	e. our children, your spouse's children, or mputer hard drive or memory storage		
Property & Money					
Children	Children You must not move the children:				
	 Out of Tennessee, or More than 50 miles from the home where you lived while married. This is true unless the court orders it or your spouse agrees. 				
Then you n emergency Important!	nay go with your childre hearing and new Orders. If you want to move wit	n to a safe place. Later, the o The court can hold the hearing by	or more than 50 miles away after the		
Insurance	 Change, cancel, or f Change, cancel, or children as beneficial 	transfer any insurance policy that	covers either spouse or the children. names either spouse or the		
		court changes or ends it, OR your nent. Either spouse may ask the co	case is final or dismissed. OR ourt to change or cancel this Order.		
Plaintiff's Sig	gnature				

Defendant's Signature

	State of Tennessee	Court: (Must Be Completed)	County:(Must Be Completed)
	Notice of Hearing to Approve Irreconcilable Differences Divorce (Form 8)		File No.:
	Plaintiff:		
Tr	is case is set for hearing at		
Location: Room #(Street) (City, State, Zip) Presented by:			
Person asking for the Hearing to approve the irreconcilable differences divorce			
	wear and affirm that a copy of ss U.S. Mail to this address:	Certificate of Service	e. It was delivered in person or sent by first-
١d	lid so on the c	ay of2	0
Person asking for the Order:			
St	reet Address:		
Ci	ty, State, Zip		
Pł	none number:		
Jul	y 2017	(Form 8) Notice of Hearing Approved by the Tennessee Supre	/‱‱∭wwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwww