ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIM TO COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE (WITHOUT MINOR CHILDREN)

AC - 1

Resource Center 1 South Sierra St., Third Floor Reno, NV 89501 775-325-6731

www.washoecourts.com

ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIM TO COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE (WITHOUT MINOR CHILDREN)

PACKET AC-1

Use this answer and counterclaim packet only if <u>all</u> of the following requirements have been met:

You are currently married.

You received a complaint for divorce.

You are filing a counterclaim.

The other party has not filed a default against you.

Attention

- An answer must be filed and served within 21 days after you have received the summons and complaint. If you do not file within that time, your spouse may take a default against you and be awarded what they have asked for in their complaint.
- If you received a request to waive service of summons, please contact the Resource Center for more information.
- If you received other motions with the complaint for divorce, you must answer to those motions with forms other than this answer and counterclaim. Please contact the Resource Center for more information.

The penalty for willfully making a false statement under penalty of perjury is a minimum of 1 year, and a maximum of 4 years in prison, in addition to a fine of not more than \$5,000.00. N.R.S. §199.145.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORMS

Carefully read all instructions before starting to fill out any of the forms.

Use black or blue ink only. Neatly print the information requested.

Do not use correction fluid/tape on the forms.

This packet contains the following forms:

- 1. EFile User Agreement (Standard)
- 2. Family Court Information Sheet
- 3. Answer and Counterclaim
- 4. General Financial Disclosure
- 5. Proof of Service

eFlex Account and eFile User Agreement:

To file your documents, you will need to sign up for an eFlex account and have a valid email address. There is no fee to sign up for a standard eFlex account. If you already have an eFlex account for a different case, you do not need to create another account and can skip this step.

To sign up:

 Carefully read and complete the eFile User Agreement (Standard) by filling in as much information as possible, signing, and dating page two;
Return the eFile User Agreement (Standard) to the Second Judicial District Court, or email it to <u>eflexsupport@washoecourts.us</u>;
Request an account at <u>https://wceflex.washoecourts.com/</u>.



If you need further assistance signing up for an account, please call the Resource Center at 775-325-6731.

Complete the Family Court Information Sheet as Shown:





Complete the Answer and Counterclaim as Shown:

Complete the General Financial Disclosure Form as Shown:



Electronically Filing the Documents

You will need to upload the original documents to eFlex. EFlex is available online at <u>https://wceflex.washoecourts.com/</u>, in the Law Library and Resource Center.

If you have not done so, you will need to sign up for an eFlex account and turn in the EFile User Agreement (*see INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 1*), to the Second Judicial District Court, or email to <u>eflexsupport@washoecourts.us</u>.

Sign into your eFlex account using the username and password you created and electronically file the:

- Family Court Information Sheet;
- Answer and Counterclaim and any exhibits; and
- General Financial Disclosure form.

Make sure to keep the original documents you file for your personal records. Filestamped copies of your documents are available through your eFlex account.

Scanners are available at the Law Library and Resource Center.

There may be a filing fee charged when documents are filed. Fee information is available at the Resource Center and online at: <u>www.washoecourts.com</u>.

FILING FEE WAIVERS

If you cannot afford the filing fee, you may apply to have your filing fee waived. To apply, you must fill out and file the application found in the **Application for Waiver of Fees and Costs packet**, which may be obtained at the following locations:

- Resource Center, 1 South Sierra Street, Reno, NV, Third Floor
- Law Library, 75 Court Street, Reno, NV, First Floor
- Online at: <u>www.washoecourts.com</u> (select the "Forms & Packets" tab on the top right hand side of the home screen)

Setting a Case Management Conference

You must have a case management conference. If one was not set by your spouse when filing the complaint, you need to set one by filling out and filing the **F-1 Notice to Set** packet. The notice to set packet can be found at the Resource Center, Law Library, or on our website at <u>www.washoecourts.com</u>, under the Forms and Packets tab.

INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 7

Serving the Documents

Once a document has been electronically filed, a Notice of Electronic Filing will be automatically generated and sent to any electronic filers in the case. All electronic filers have agreed to accept the notice as valid and effective service. This replaces the need for paper service.

If the other party has not yet signed up for electronic filing, or you do not know whether the other party is an electronic filer, please contact the Resource Center. Additional steps are required to complete service if the other party is not an electronic filer.

The Notice of Electronic Filing does not replace the Proof of Service (*see* INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 8).

Complete the Proof of Service as Shown:

This form must be completed by the person who serves the documents.



Filing the Proof of Service

After service is completed, you must file the proof of service with the court. See INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 6. There will not be a filing fee for the proof of service.

Without proof of service on the other party, the court cannot consider you answer.

INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 10

Time to Respond

Your spouse has 21 days to respond, starting the day after being served. If you served your spouse by mail, your spouse has 24 days to respond.

Your documents are not filed until any filing fees are paid.

If your spouse does not respond within that time period, you may move for default on the counterclaim. A default packet is available at the Resource Center, Law Library, or online at <u>www.washoecourts.com</u>.

Legal Assistance Information

The information in this packet is provided as a courtesy only. This packet is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. Counsel is always recommended for legal matters.

If you do not have an attorney, you are encouraged to seek the advice of a licensed attorney or contact the Resource Center or the Law Library. **The Resource Center and the Law Library staff cannot give legal advice** but can give information regarding court procedures.

You may wish to speak with a lawyer at no cost through the Law Library's Lawyer in the Library program. The Lawyer in the Library program is held via Zoom; you must register ahead of time to participate. No walk-ins accepted as space is limited.

LAWYER IN THE LIBRARY

Sign up on our website: <u>https://www.washoecourts.com/LawLibrary/LawyerInLibrary</u> For questions, contact the Law Library at 775-328-3250

To seek assistance from other free or reduced-cost legal resources in the area, please contact:

NEVADA LEGAL SERVICES

449 S. Virginia St. Reno, NV 89501 775-284-3491 – leave a message, if necessary https://nevadalegalservices.org

NORTHERN NEVADA LEGAL AID

1 S. Sierra St., 1st Floor Reno, NV 89501 775-321-2062 – leave a message, if necessary <u>https://nnlegalaid.org</u>

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