PETITION FOR CHILD VISITATION BY CERTAIN RELATIVES OR OTHER PERSONS

(NOT FOR USE BY PARENTS)

D-21

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

PETITION FOR CHILD VISITATION BY VISITATION BY CERTAIN RELATIVE OR OTHER PERSONS

PACKET D-21

Use this packet only if <u>all</u> of the following statements are true:

The minor child(ren) live in Washoe County.

The minor child(ren) are unmarried.

The parent(s) or agency in custody of the minor child(ren) has/have denied or unreasonably restricted your visits with the minor child(ren).

-AND-

You are the grandparent, great-grandparent, step-parent, or sibling; and a parent of the minor child(ren) is deceased –**OR**– the parents are divorced or separated –**OR**– the parents were never married, but lived together, and are now separated or deceased.

-OR-

You are someone other than the parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, or sibling, and the child(ren) has/have previously resided with you and the child(ren) established a meaningful relationship with you.

ATTENTION

If a parent's rights are being terminated or an adoption is occurring; please contact the Resource Center, attend Lawyer in the Library, or meet with a licensed attorney for further information.

If none of the above apply, you may not be eligible for visitation. Please attend Lawyer in the Library or meet with a licensed attorney for further information.

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. Petition for Child Visitation
- 4. Summons
- 5. Declaration of Personal Service

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: STEP 1

If you already have an eFlex account for a different case, you do not need to create another account and can skip this step.

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.

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>; and
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.

INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 2

Complete the Family Court Information Sheet as Shown:



INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 3

Complete the Petition for Child Visitation as Shown:



INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 4

Electronically Filing the Petition

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 the 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; and
- Petition for Child Visitation.

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 in the Law Library and the 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

There will be a filing fee charged when you file the documents. Fee information is available at the Resource Center, and online at: www.washoecourts.com.

FILING FEE WAIVERS

If you cannot afford the fee, you may apply to have it waived. To apply, you must fill out and file the **F-6 Application to Waive Fees and Costs**, which you can get at:

- 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 and Packets" tab on the right hand side of the home screen)

INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 5

Complete the Summons as Shown:



INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 6

Getting the Summons Issued

You will need to bring the Summons to the Resource Center or mail a copy of the Summons to the Filing Office using the following address:

75 Court Street Reno, Nevada 89501 Attention Mail Desk

Once received, a filing clerk will issue the Summons by dating and signing the Summons and placing an embossed seal.

If you bring in the Summons in person, the Summons will be immediately returned to you.

If you mail in the Summons, you will receive the issued Summons back in the mail.

You will need to make a copy of the Summons to serve your spouse with.

Copy machines are available at the Law Library located on the first floor of the courthouse at 75 Court Street, Reno, NV. There is a per page charge to use the copy machine. Cash only.

INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 7

Setting a Hearing

You must set a hearing. The court will not automatically set one for you.

To set up your hearing, you will need to contact the department in which your case will be heard. Once you have filed your documents, the Resource Center will assign you a case number and department. For contact information for each department, visit <u>www.washoecourts.com/judges</u>.

Alternatively, you can set a hearing in person. To do so visit the Resource Center.

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INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 8

Serving the Documents

The other party **must be personally served** within 120 days after the petition is filed or your case may be dismissed. You must have the other party personally served with the summons and petition. The file-stamped documents should be stapled together with a copy of the "issued" summons on top. The original summons must be filed with the court after service is completed.

Personal Service

Personal service is completed by a person other than yourself by:

- handing a copy of the summons and petition along with all other documents you have filed with the court to the other party; or
- leaving a copy at the other party's home with a person of suitable age and discretion who lives there; or
- delivering a copy to an agent authorized to receive service (such as an attorney).

You cannot complete personal service. Service may be completed by:

- the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Office in the county in which the other party resides or works; or
- a responsible adult over the age of 18 years (such as a friend or relative); or
- a private process service.

INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 9

Complete the Declaration of Personal Service as Shown:

The person who serves the other party must complete this declaration (see Instructions: Step 8). You cannot serve the other party.

The person who completes service must fill out the declaration and sign it. It is your responsibility to file the original summons and declaration of service with the court after service is completed.



INSTRUCTIONS: STEP 10

Filing the Summons and Declaration of Service

After service is completed, **you must file the original summons and declaration of service with the court.** Without proof of service on the other party, the court cannot grant you visitation.

The other party has 21 days after the date of service in which to file an answer to the petition. If the other party does not file an answer, please contact the Resource Center for further information regarding a **Default packet**.

ATTENTION

Please attend your hearing. If you do not attend your hearing, your case may be dismissed, or orders may be made without you.

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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