



NORTH DAKOTA RESIDENTIAL RESPONSIBILITY/CUSTODY

Today's date: _____

How did you hear about our services? _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

YOU:

OTHER PARENT:

Full Name:		Full Name:	
Former Name(s):		Former Name(s):	
Address:		Address:	
Mailing Address:		Mailing Address:	
Date of Birth:		Date of Birth:	
Place of Birth:		Place of Birth:	
Home Phone No:		Home Phone No:	
Work Phone No:		Work Phone No:	
Hours:		Hours:	
Cell No.		Cell No.	
Email:		Email:	
SSN:		SSN:	
Military Status:		Military Status:	
Driver's License Number:		Driver's License Number:	
Emergency Contact: (Relationship)		Emergency Contact: (Relationship)	
Emergency Phone:		Emergency Phone:	
Employer: (company name)		Employer: (company name)	

Employer Address:		Employer Address:	
Position/Occupation:		Position/Occupation:	
Length of Employment:		Length of Employment:	
Work Schedule:		Work Schedule:	
Employment Benefits (i.e. bonuses, car, travel, club memberships, ets.)		Employment Benefits (i.e. bonuses, car, travel, club memberships, ets.)	
Highest Level of Education:		Highest Level of Education:	
Certificates/Degrees Held:		Certificates/Degrees Held:	

How long have you lived at the above address? _____

How long have you been a resident of this state? _____

Does the other parent at the above address? _____

How long has the other parent been a resident of this state? _____

Does the other parent have an attorney? If so, who? _____

RELATIONSHIP INFORMATION

Were you married to your child(ren)'s other parent? _____

If so, date of marriage (month/day/year): _____

Place of marriage: _____

Date of separation (if any) (month/day/year): _____

Date and reason for divorce (if applicable): _____

Where did the dissolution action take place? _____

Age of children at time of divorce (if applicable): _____



Date of Temporary Order (if applicable): _____

CHILDREN

Child's Full Name	Birthdate	Age	SSN

Who are the children living with? _____

Do any children have special needs? _____

Explain: _____

Is either party currently pregnant? _____

If so, who is the biological father? _____

Is custody of the child(ren) contested? _____

If custody is not an issue, please choose from the following arrangements:

- You have sole physical custody
- Other parent has sole physical custody
- Parties have equal/joint physical custody
- You have sole decision making
- Other parent has sole decision making
- Parties have equal/joint decision making

Who will provide health insurance for the children? _____

What is the cost of health insurance? _____

Who will take the child tax exemptions? _____

Do the children attend daycare? _____ If so, where? _____

How much are the daycare costs? _____ Who pays? _____



PRIOR RELATIONSHIP INFORMATION

Have you or your ex-partner been previously married? _____

Number of previous marriages? _____

When and where did the dissolution action(s) for previous marriages occur? _____

SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS

List all current support paid or received by you or the other parent. Include amounts paid since the date of separation from your spouse.

	YOU:	OTHER PARENT:
Child Support Paid		
Child Support Received		
Spousal Support Paid		
Spousal Support Received		

PROCEDURAL STANDINGS

Have you been served any papers? If so, when? _____

What papers were you served with? _____

Has there been any court involvement in this issue? _____

Have you ever been involved in court proceedings whatsoever? _____

Explain: _____

Have you ever been charged with a crime? If so, what happened? _____



MENTAL/CHEMICAL HEALTH HISTORY

Have you ever been seen by a Psychologist or Psychiatrist? If so, what for? _____

Have you ever been diagnosed with any mental health disorder? If so, please explain: _____

What medications are you currently taking? _____

Have you ever been diagnosed or told that you have an addiction to any substance, activity, or media? _____

How often do you consume alcohol? _____

How often do you use illegal drugs? _____

How often do you gamble? _____

Have you ever taken any item of personal property to a pawn shop (or the like) to pay for any debts incurred as a result of any alleged addiction? _____

Has the other parent ever been seen by a Psychologist or Psychiatrist? If so, what for? _____

Has the other parent ever been diagnosed with any mental health disorder? If so, explain: _____

What medication does the other parent currently take? _____

Has the other parent ever been diagnosed or told that he or she has an addiction to any substance, activity, or media? _____

How often does the other parent consume alcohol? _____

How often does the other parent use illegal drugs? _____

How often does the other parent gamble? _____

Has the other parent ever taken any item of personal property to a pawn shop (or the like) to pay for any debts incurred as a result of any alleged addiction? _____



INCOME

Please attach your 3 most recent paystubs.

	YOU:	OTHER PARENT:
Gross Monthly Income:		
Exemptions (married, single, number of dependents) (i.e. M-3)		
Guideline Deductions:		
Federal Withholding:	_____	_____
State Withholding:	_____	_____
FICA:	_____	_____
Medical Insurance:	_____	_____
Pension/Profit Sharing:	_____	_____
Union Dues:	_____	_____
Other Deductions:		
Life Insurance	_____	_____
Dependent Medical Insur.	_____	_____
Retirement	_____	_____
Savings	_____	_____
Loans/Debts	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____
Total Monthly Deductions:		
Net Monthly Employment Income: (gross income – total deductions)		

OTHER MONTHLY INCOME

	YOU:	OTHER PARENT:
Employment Bonus:		
Rental Income:		
Dividends/Interest:		
Retirement/Stocks		
Public Assistance:		
Social Security Benefits:		
Unemployment		
Other (specify):		



BEST INTEREST FACTORS

In support of the foregoing preference, please compare yourself and the other party in terms of each of the following considerations and, for each, state whether the consideration favors you or the other party and, if either, how strongly.

a. The love, affection, and other emotional ties existing between the parents and child and the ability of each parent to provide the child with nurture, love, affection, and guidance. _____

b. The ability of each parent to assure that the child receives adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and a safe environment. _____

c. The child's developmental needs and the ability of each parent to meet those needs, both in the present and in the future. _____



d. The sufficiency and stability of each parent's home environment, the impact of extended family, the length of time the child has lived in each parent's home, and the desirability of maintaining continuity in the child's home and community. _____

e. The willingness and ability of each parent to facilitate and encourage a close and continuing relationship between the other parent and the child. _____

f. The moral fitness of the parents, as that fitness impacts the child. _____

g. The mental and physical health of the parents, as that health impacts the child. _____



h. The home, school, and community record of the child and the potential effect of any change.

i. If the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that a child is of sufficient maturity to make a sound judgment, the court may give substantial weight to the preference of the mature child. The court also shall give due consideration to other factors that may have affected the child's preference, including whether the child's preference was based on undesirable or improper influences.

j. Evidence of domestic violence. In determining parental rights and responsibilities, the court shall consider evidence of domestic violence. If the court finds credible evidence that domestic violence has occurred, and there exists one incident of domestic violence which resulted in serious bodily injury or involved the use of a dangerous weapon or there exists a pattern of domestic violence within a reasonable time proximate to the proceeding, this combination creates a rebuttable presumption that a parent who has perpetrated domestic violence may not be awarded residential responsibility for the child. This presumption may be overcome only by clear and convincing evidence that the best interests of the child require that parent have residential responsibility. The court shall cite specific findings of fact to show that the residential responsibility best protects the child and the parent or other family or household member who is the victim of domestic violence. If necessary to protect the welfare of the child, residential responsibility for a child may be awarded to a suitable third person, provided that the person



would not allow access to a violent parent except as ordered by the court. If the court awards residential responsibility to a third person, the court shall give priority to the child's nearest suitable adult relative. The fact that the abused parent suffers from the effects of the abuse may not be grounds for denying that parent residential responsibility. As used in this subdivision, "domestic violence" means domestic violence as defined in section 14-07.1-01. A court may consider, but is not bound by, a finding of domestic violence in another proceeding under chapter 14-07.1. _____

k. The interaction and interrelationship, or the potential for interaction and interrelationship, of the child with any person who resides in, is present, or frequents the household of a parent and who may significantly affect the child's best interests. The court shall consider that person's history of inflicting, or tendency to inflict, physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the fear of physical harm, bodily injury, or assault, on other persons. _____

l. The making of false allegations not made in good faith, by one parent against the other, of harm to a child as defined in section 50-25.1-02. _____



m. Any other factors considered by the court to be relevant to a particular parental rights and responsibilities dispute. _____

Why is custody an issue now? _____

Do you favor shared decision making? Why or why not? _____

Briefly state your proposal for residential responsibility (physical custody.) _____



What specific aspects of custody and/or access are unresolved, and why? _____

How do you currently share time with the children? Be as specific as possible about days and times. _____

Has this schedule been in place since the time of separation/divorce? If no, describe past arrangements. _____

How did you and the other parent come up with your current schedule? If by agreement, what thinking motivated the terms? _____



Who transports the children? How are the children exchanged between you and the other parent? _____

Have there been problems with your present schedule or with access to the children in general? If yes, please explain. _____

Outline a schedule you believe works best for the children. _____

Assuming you are not granted physical custody, what should your parenting time with the children be (again, be detailed, including times, defining holiday and summer periods, and how travel and transfers should be arranged)? _____



Why do you believe the other party opposes your custody position? _____

For purposes of this document "joint or equal residential responsibility" means that the children spend half of their time with each parent. With respect to your children, do you favor or disfavor a shared residential responsibility arrangement, and why? _____

Do you support your children's relationship with the other parent and, if so, how? _____



Does the other parent support the children's relationship with you? If so, how? If not, give examples. _____

What are your thoughts and approaches to discipline and how do they differ from the other parent's? _____

Focusing more on recent times, which of you has been the children's "primary caretaker"? As age-appropriate, in which proportion do the parties tend to the following caretaking chores:

Waking children in the morning _____

Getting children dressed _____

Preparing meals _____

Doing homework _____

Reading stories/books _____

Bathing children _____

Toilet training _____

Tucking kids in at night _____

Buying children's clothes _____

Haircuts _____

Parent-teacher conferences _____

Participate in or attend school/extracurricular activities _____



Driving children to school and extracurricular activities _____

Participating in school and extracurricular activities _____

Arranging for children's socialization (time with peers) _____

Staying home when children are sick _____

Taking kids to doctors, dentists, and such _____

Taking children to church and church functions _____

Describe the quality of your relationship with each of your children (separately): _____

Describe the quality of the other parent's relationship with each of your children (separately): _____

Describe the quality of each of your children's relationship with significant others, including:

Siblings: _____



Step-parents / significant others: _____

Your friends / the other parent's friends: _____

Your parents: _____

The other parent's parents: _____

Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, etc.: _____

Describe your and the other parent's availability to/for the children (ie., who has the most time for them and why). _____

Do any of your children have any special needs and, if so, describe them? _____

Have any of your children experienced any significant/relevant health or medical events and, if so, describe them? _____



What are your strengths as a parent? _____

What are your weaknesses as a parent? _____

What are the other parent's strengths as a parent? _____

What are the other parent's weaknesses as a parent? _____

Within the last five years, have you seen any kind of mental health professional and, if so, please provide such person's current name, address, and phone number, and give a detailed description of the reason for the counseling, the content of the counseling, whether medications were prescribed, and when the counseling terminated? _____

What would you like me to know about the other parent's mental health history? _____

Have you spoken to your children about the custody conflict and, if so, how have you done so and with what frequency? _____



Has the other parent spoken to your children about the custody conflict and, if so, how has he/she done so and with what frequency? _____

Are you at all upset at the manner in which the other parent has exposed your children to, or involved them in, this custody conflict and, if so, explain: _____

How communicative and cooperative are you and the other parent? Describe: _____

To what extent do you believe any of the other's "faults"---provide as much detail as possible---should be considered in this dispute, including but not limited to:

Criminal convictions: _____

Arrests: _____

Drug use (legal and/or illegal) and alcohol use: _____

Domestic abuse\violence harassment: _____

Gambling: _____

Spendthrift behavior: _____



Provide a brief description of each of your children, including their personalities, interests, educational progress/performance, extracurricular activities, etc.:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Provide names, addresses, and phone numbers for witnesses (i.e., teachers, doctors, friends, family, etc.) you feel are extremely important to this action, and explain why: _____

What information do you want me to know that you have not already provided? _____



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INVENTORY

Name of identified perpetrator: _____

Victim: _____

Behavior	Last Week	Last Month	Past three (3) months	Within one (1) year	Within five (5) years
Degrading criticism					
Teasing, taunting					
Yelling, shouting					
Swearing, name calling					
Publicly humiliating					
Threatening harm					
Intense jealousy					
Isolating, prevent from job					
Accusing of having affairs					
Having affairs with others					
Stalking					
Threatening to take child					
Withholding finances					
Financially depriving child					
Causing financial drain					
Destroying property					
Pinching					
Slapping					
Pulling hair					
Grabbing					
Pushing					
Shoving					
Kicking					
Biting					
Punching					
Bruising					
Throwing things					
Throwing person					
Hitting with object					
Choking					
Breaking bones					
Cutting					
Burning					



Behavior	Last Week	Last Month	Past three (3) months	Within one (1) year	Within five (5) years
Mutilation					
Stabbing					
Locking up					
Watching pornography					
Watching child pornography					
Forcing pornography					
Forcing sex/rape					
Forcing prostitution					
Abhorrent or violent sex					
Threatening with weapon					
Wounding with weapon					
Harming animals					
Drinking alcohol					
Abusing medication					
Using illegal drugs					
Receiving DUI					
Threatening suicide					
Attempting suicide					
Batterers treatment					
Being arrested					
Being convicted					
Restraining Order(s)					
Violating restraining orders					
Violating probation					
Other					
Other					

