

**DECREE OF DIVORCE WITH CHILDREN  
NO SHARED PARENTING PLAN and NO SEPARATION AGREEMENT  
CHECKLIST**

**Case Caption [DR1(B), DR12]**

1. Parties' names.
2. Parties' addresses. The filing party may request that their address be confidential through the filing of a motion.
3. Parties' telephone numbers.
4. Parties' date of birth.
5. The name of the assigned judge.
6. Case number.
7. The caption of each pleading shall contain the identification: Court of Common Pleas, Butler County, Ohio, Domestic Relations Division and further identification of the type of pleading.
8. The case caption shall contain the words "Final Appealable Order".

**Style of Pleading [DR12]**

1. All pleadings and forms required by the Court shall be typewritten or printed legibly in ink.
2. All pleadings and forms shall be printed on white letter size paper (approximately 8 ½" by 11").
3. All pleadings and forms shall be printed on one side only, with 1" margins, and each page shall be numbered.

**Duration of Marriage [DR49(B)(4)]**

1. A finding of fact regarding the duration of the marriage, or a specific waiver of such finding.

**Statement regarding the grounds for Divorce [DR49(B)]**

1. A statement regarding the grounds for divorce is required.

**Statement of Children**

1. A statement of the name(s) and date(s) of birth of the child(ren) born issue of the marriage.

**Statement of Hearing**

1. A place for the name of the hearing officer who heard the case in the body of the Decree.
2. A place for the date the hearing was held in the body of the Decree.
3. If a magistrate heard the hearing, a waiver of findings of fact and conclusions of law and objection period unless a Form DR18 is filed.

**Affidavit of Military Service [DR49(B)(1)(f)]**

1. An affidavit regarding whether or not the defendant is in the military service.

**Jurisdiction of Child(ren): Juvenile Court or another Court [DR49(C)]**

1. If Juvenile Court or another Court has jurisdiction over any of the children of the

marriage, or any of the children are subject to a parenting order through a “DS” case from this Court pursuant to O.R.C. 2301(K) then:

- a. The Decree identifies those children by name.
  - b. The Decree states the case numbers for the Juvenile Court, another Court or DS case that has jurisdiction over the children.
  - c. The Decree states which allocation of parenting rights and responsibilities (including parenting allocation of parenting time, child support, tax exemptions, and health insurance) are included in the order from Juvenile Court, another Court or this Court pursuant to a parenting order.
  - d. A copy of the order shall be attached.
2. When the children are subject to a parenting order through a “DS” case from this Court pursuant to O.R.C. 2301(K), every decree and final order for divorce, annulment or legal separation shall include:
- a. A statement that this Court, through case number “DS\_\_\_\_\_” has jurisdiction over some or all of the children of a marriage and identify those children by name.
  - b. That the parenting order adopted in the decree and final order addresses all parenting issues.
  - c. A statement that “DS\_\_\_\_\_” shall be dismissed upon filing of the decree and final order, and that all further parenting issues will be addressed in the “DR” case.

### **Property Division [DR49(B)]**

#### **Real Estate, Financial Accounts and Debts**

1. A statement whether either party owns real estate.
2. A statement whether the real estate is a separate or marital property.
3. A statement of the value of the real estate.
4. A statement regarding the allocation of sale of real estate and payment of any lien or mortgage.
5. A statement whether either party has bank accounts, stock, cash value life insurance policies, or any other financial account(s).
6. A statement listing each account.
7. A statement of whether the accounts or policies are marital or separate property.
8. A statement of the allocation or division of the accounts.
9. A statement whether either party has debts.
10. A statement listing each debt.
11. A statement of whether the debts are marital or separate property.
12. A statement regarding any debts that have been discharged in bankruptcy proceedings.
13. A statement regarding the allocation or division of debts.

#### **Vehicles**

1. A statement as to whether there are vehicles.
2. If the vehicle title is to be transferred between parties, the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) must be provided.
3. If the title is not to be transferred, then a statement that the vehicle is already titled to the receiving party.

#### **Household Goods and Furnishings**

1. A statement that all personal property has been divided and exchanged.
2. If personal property has not been divided and exchanged, the mandatory language

that the parties shall exchange and divide all personal property no later than (ninety) 90 days after the filing date of the final decree.

**Spousal Support [DR49(B)]**

1. A statement as to whether spousal support is to be paid.
2. A statement as to whether the court will retain jurisdiction over spousal support.
3. A statement of the amount of the spousal support obligation.
4. Findings of fact which justify the award.
5. A clear statement of the term of the award.
6. The effective date of the spousal support obligation.
7. A statement of arrears and date owed through, if applicable.
8. A statement as to whether payment is to be made directly, or through CSEA, or OCSPC.
9. If spousal support is to be paid through CSEA or OCSPC, must include two percent processing fee.
10. If spousal support is to be paid through CSEA or OCSPC, all mandatory language in regard to spousal support must be included.
  - a. Mandatory language requiring withholding.
  - b. Mandatory language regarding payment through CSEA directly until a withholding goes into effect.
  - c. Mandatory language regarding acceptance of payments of support not made through the CSEA shall be deemed a gift.
  - d. Mandatory language regarding House Bill 352.
  - e. Mandatory language regarding parties' duty to notify CSEA in writing of change in income source and the availability of any other sources of income.
  - f. Mandatory language regarding notice to CSEA in writing or remarriage if the remarriage would terminate the obligation to pay spousal support.
  - g. Mandatory language regarding instructions to make payment through the CSEA.
  - h. Mandatory language regarding instructions to make payment through the OCSPC.
11. Statement that the support should be made payable in increments that coincide with obligor's pay period.

**Retirement [DR49(B)]**

1. A statement that all retirement plans have been disclosed.
2. A statement as to how retirement plans are to be divided.
3. If QDRO, DOPO, or other order dividing retirement plans is issued, a provision that the intent of the order is to fairly distribute to the Alternate Payee his or her share of the marital portion of the retirement plan.
4. If QDRO, DOPO, or other order dividing retirement plans is issued, a provision that in the event there is a defect in the wording of the QDRO, the court shall retain jurisdiction to modify the QDRO, DOPO or other order.
5. The Decree shall contain an order requiring the Alternate Payee and the Alternate Payee's trial counsel to prepare all documents required by the Plan Administrator, or any other named account holder.
6. The Decree shall contain an order requiring that the Plan Participant and the Plan's Participants Trial Counsel shall cooperate to facilitate the preparation of the QDRO, DOPO, or any other order dividing a retirement plan.
7. The Decree shall contain an order requiring that both parties and attorneys shall sign the QDRO, DOPO, or any other order dividing a retirement plan prior to submission

- to the Case Management Office.
8. The Decree shall contain an order requiring that the QDRO, DOPO, or any other order dividing a retirement plan shall be consistent with the terms of the division of retirement plan set out in the Decree or Decree.
  9. The Decree shall contain an order requiring that the QDRO, DOPO, or any other order dividing a retirement plan shall be filed within forty-five (45) days of the file-stamped date of Judgment Entry and Decree.
  10. The Decree shall contain an order requiring that the Court specifically reserves jurisdiction over the filing of the QDRO, DOPO, or other order dividing retirement plans.
  11. The Decree shall contain an order requiring that the Court also reserves the jurisdiction to impose all costs, including attorney fees, upon a party and/or attorney not complying with section DR49(B).

### **Allocation of Parental Rights and Responsibilities [DR49(C)]**

#### **Parenting Allocation and Time**

1. A statement regarding the name(s) and date(s) of birth of the child(ren) born issue of the marriage.
2. A statement of the physical living arrangements for the child(ren) and a designation of which parent is the residential parent.
3. A specific schedule of parenting time with each parent must be included.
4. A statement as to the parent with whom the children will be physically located during holidays, school holidays, and special dates of importance.
5. An order that any person who is the residential parent of a child, including any party to a Shared Parenting Decree, and any other legal custodian, shall send a notice of intent to relocate to the Domestic Relations Court Case Management Office.
6. The mandatory language regarding the notice of intent to relocate is required.
7. An order of equal access to the child(ren)'s school or medical records **or** an order limiting a parent's access.
8. Any order limiting a parent's access shall contain specific findings of fact which support such limitation.
9. A notice to the keeper of records regarding failure to comply.

#### **Child Support**

1. A statement of the child support obligation stated in Appendix A – Child Support Language.
2. If the child support obligation deviates from guideline child support, then a Notice to Case Management Form DR C-16 is attached.
3. A statement that the cash medical support order is not subject to the deviation.
4. Mandatory language regarding the duty of support continuing beyond the age of majority.
5. Mandatory language requiring withholding order to issue.
6. Mandatory language regarding payment through CSEA directly until a withholding goes into effect.
7. Mandatory language regarding acceptance of payments of support not made through the CSEA shall be deemed a gift.
8. Mandatory language regarding House Bill 352.

9. Mandatory language regarding parties' duty to notify CSEA in writing of change in employment or availability of any other sources of income.
10. Mandatory language regarding payment methods.
11. Mandatory language regarding any change in the status of the minor children of the parties which would terminate or modify the duty of the obligor.
12. The Decree shall specifically identify the deduction order to be issued.
13. A statement of child support arrears.
14. Mandatory Language regarding instructions to make payments through CSEA.
15. Mandatory Language regarding instructions to make payments through OCSPC.

**Tax Exemptions [DR49(C)]**

1. The Decree shall specify any children that either parent shall be entitled to claim as dependent(s) for federal income tax purposes.
2. The Decree shall specify the tax year(s) for which the child(ren) may be claimed as dependent(s).
3. The Decree shall provide the name of the person who may claim the child(ren) and the requirement that the person claiming them shall be substantially current in payment of child support for any tax years for which the child(ren) are claimed as dependents on or before January 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

**Health Insurance [DR49(C)]**

1. A statement that conforms with one of the provisions in Appendix C – Health Insurance Language.
2. A statement specifically designating that both the obligor and obligee are liable for health care of the children.
3. A statement providing the name, address, and telephone number of the individual reimbursed for out-of-pocket medical, optical, hospital, dental, or prescription expenses for each child.
4. A statement that the health plan administrator may continue making payment for medical, optical, hospital, dental, or prescription services directly to any health care provider in accordance with the plan.
5. A statement that any person required to provide health insurance coverage for children shall designate the child(ren) as covered dependents under any private health insurance policy, contract, or plan.
6. A statement that that the parties must comply with any obligations concerning health insurance coverage imposed under O.R.C. 3119.30 to 3119.31 no later than thirty (30) days after the applicable order is issued.
7. A statement that any person who fails to provide health insurance as ordered may be punished for contempt of court and shall be solely responsible for the payment of all health care expenses incurred on the child(ren)'s behalf as a result of the failure to provide insurance.
8. A statement that if the Obligor is found in contempt for failing to provide health insurance coverage, and has previously been found in contempt, the Court shall consider the Obligor's failure to comply with the order as a change of circumstances for the purpose of modification of the amount of support due under the child support order that is the basis of the order issued under O.R.C. 3119.30 to 3119.31.

**Payment of Court Costs [DR15]**

1. The Decree shall set forth how court costs are to be paid.
2. The Decree shall contain a cost out sheet obtained from the Clerk of Courts showing a zero balance as owed on the case.

**Counsel Identification**

1. Counsel for plaintiff provided their name, Supreme Court Registration Number, address and telephone number.
2. Counsel for defendant provided their name, Supreme Court Registration Number, address and telephone number.

**Signatures on Decree**

1. If both petitioners are represented by counsel, the Decree is signed by both attorneys.
2. If one party is represented by counsel, the Decree is signed by the attorney and the *pro se* litigant unless it is proceeding non-contested and no Answer was filed, defendant's signature is not required.
3. If neither party is represented by counsel, the Decree is signed by both *pro se* litigants.
4. A signature line for hearing officer. (If a magistrate heard the final hearing, a signature line for the magistrate and assigned case judge must be present.)

**Number of Copies [DR13]**

1. Six (6) copies, plus the original.

**Required Documents to be submitted with the Decree**

1. Guidelines for Parenting Time (Form DR610), if applicable.
2. If a child support order is issued, a signed and completed child support computation worksheet.
3. Withholding Order/Qualified Medical Child Support Order Information Sheet (Form DR201).
4. An original Title IV-D Application (Form ODHS 7076).