

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE PARENTING PLAN

A Parenting Plan is required in all cases involving timesharing with child(ren), even when timesharing is not in dispute. This form will be used to develop *your proposal* for the timesharing schedule and other relevant conditions that should be included in your Parenting Plan. If your case involves a request for the Court to allow only limited, or supervised timesharing to protect the child(ren) from abuse or neglect, please contact our office to request the Supervised/Safety-Focused Parenting Plan. If your case involves a request for authorization to relocate with the child(ren), please contact our office to request the Relocation/Long-Distance Parenting Plan.

This form should be neatly printed in dark ink. Please strike-through terms that do not apply to your case or situation, and feel free to include any additional information or criteria needed for your situation. When considering a Parenting Plan, the Court will evaluate how the facts of your case apply to the standards outlined in Florida Statute § 61.13(3), which include:

1. The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to facilitate and encourage a close and continuing parent-child relationship, to honor the time-sharing schedule, and to be reasonable when changes are required;
2. The anticipated division of parental responsibilities after the litigation, including the extent to which parental responsibilities will be delegated to third parties;
3. The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to determine, consider, and act upon the needs of the child(ren) as opposed to the needs or desires of the parent;
4. The length of time the child(ren) has lived in a stable, satisfactory environment and the desirability of maintaining continuity;
5. The geographic viability of the parenting plan, with special attention paid to the needs of schoolage children and the amount of time to be spent traveling to effectuate the parenting plan. (*This factor does not create a presumption for or against relocation*);
6. The moral fitness of the parents;
7. The mental and physical health of the parents;
8. The home, school, and community record of the child(ren);
9. The reasonable preference of the child(ren)(*if the Court first determines a child is of a sufficient age, intelligence, maturity, and experience to provide testimony*);
10. The demonstrated knowledge, capacity, and disposition of each parent to be informed of the circumstances of the minor child(ren), including, but not limited to, the child(ren)'s friends, teachers, medical care providers, daily activities, and favorite things;
11. The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to provide a consistent routine for the child(ren), such as discipline, and daily schedules for homework, meals, and bedtime;

12. The demonstrated capacity of each parent to communicate with and keep the other parent informed of issues and activities regarding the minor child(ren), and the willingness of each parent to adopt a unified front on all major issues when dealing with the child(ren);
13. Evidence of domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect, regardless of whether a prior or pending action relating to those issues has been brought. If the court accepts evidence of prior or pending actions regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect, the court will specifically acknowledge in writing that such evidence was considered when evaluating the best interests of the child(ren);
14. Evidence that either parent has knowingly provided false information to the court regarding any prior or pending action regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, child abandonment, or child neglect;
15. The particular parenting tasks customarily performed by each parent and the division or parental responsibilities before the institution of litigation and during the pending litigation, including the extent to which parenting responsibilities were undertaken by third parties;
16. The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to participate and be involved in the child(ren)'s school and extracurricular activities;
17. The demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to maintain an environment for the child(ren) which is free from substance abuse;
18. The capacity and disposition of each parent to protect the child(ren) from the ongoing litigation, as demonstrated by not discussing the litigation with the child(ren), not sharing documents or electronic media related to the litigation with the child(ren), and refraining from disparaging comments about the other parent to the child(ren); and
19. The developmental stages and needs of the child(ren) and the demonstrated capacity and disposition of each parent to meet the developmental needs.