

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

**The Court acknowledges that every family is unique. While the form contains provisions that are required, the plan should be tailored to accurately reflect your parenting schedule and the manner in which you parent. Please replace "child" with "children" where appropriate.**

PARENTING PLAN  
**PRO SE FORM**

This Parenting Plan was agreed to by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mother and \_\_\_\_\_ Father.

WHEREAS, a Complaint has been filed in the District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska;

WHEREAS, Mother and Father have one minor child;

WHEREAS, each party is aware of his or her right to be represented by legal counsel and has had a full opportunity to seek counsel for purposes of entering into this Parenting Plan (the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, Mother and Father wish to have this Plan, and the terms and conditions contained herein, approved by the Court and incorporated by the Court in a final order at the District Court of Douglas County, Case ID \_\_\_\_\_.

Mother and Father mutually agree as follows:

1. The best interests of the minor child will be maintained through appropriate involvement of both the Mother and the Father in the child's life.

2. Mother and Father agree that each parent is a fit and proper person to be involved in the parenting of the child.

3. Mother and Father will remain active and appropriately involved in maintaining a safe, stable, consistent and nurturing relationship with their child.

4. The overriding purposes of this Plan will be to establish custody, parenting time, visitation, and other access arrangements to include apportionment of parenting time to be spent with Mother and Father and to provide provisions for a remediation process regarding future modifications of this Plan.

5. Mother and Father understand the needs of the child may change as the child develops and they will interpret and apply this Plan in a way which best serves the evolving interests of the child.

6. The parties understand that this Plan anticipates they will act in the best interest of the "minor child" as defined by the Nebraska Parenting Act.

**Instructions: Please select the most appropriate option (include one only).**

7. **Option 1.** \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother/Father) shall have legal custody of the child and shall maintain the legal responsibility and authority to make final fundamental decisions concerning the child's welfare and parenting functions necessary for raising the child.

7. **Option 2.** Mother and Father shall have joint legal custody of the child which requires that they exercise mutual authority and responsibility for making final fundamental decisions regarding their child's welfare and mutually participate in the responsibility of providing the parenting functions necessary for raising their child. The parents shall discuss matters concerning the child such as health, medical, school related problems, and any behavioral or disciplinary issues which could impact both households, etc.

8. The principal residence of the child shall be with \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother/Father) subject to \_\_\_\_\_'s (Mother/Father) parenting time provisions set out in this plan. In the event either parent moves, the new address shall be provided to the other parent prior to the move. The child's residence shall not be changed from the State of Nebraska without the prior written permission of Court.

9. Mother shall have parenting time with the child as

follows:

A. Weekends - every other weekend commencing from \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) ending \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m/p.m).

B. Weekdays - every \_\_\_\_\_ (day) commencing at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and ending on (day) \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

10. Father shall have parenting time with the children as follows:

A. Weekends - every other weekend commencing from \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) ending \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

B. Weekdays - every \_\_\_\_\_ (day) commencing at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and ending on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

11. Other parenting time:

A. Summer Vacation - Each parent shall have \_\_\_\_\_ days uninterrupted parenting time during the summer. Each parent shall inform the other no less than \_\_\_\_\_ days prior to the dates selected. Mother/Father will have priority of dates in even-numbered years and Mother/Father will have the priority of dates in odd-numbered years. Summer parenting time shall not infringe upon the other parent's holiday parenting time dates. Summer parenting time may not be tacked onto weekend or holiday parenting time without prior consent of the other parent. When summer parenting time includes leaving Nebraska for out of state travel, telephone and address information shall be provided to the other parent.

B. Holidays - Holidays shall prevail over the regular schedule of visitation.

**Instructions: Please revise the holiday schedule to include those holidays which your family celebrates. Substitutions may be necessary.**

C. Major Holidays:

1.) Easter: This holiday shall commence on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

2.) Memorial Day Weekend: This holiday shall commence on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

3.) Fourth of July: This holiday shall commence on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

4.) Labor Day Weekend: This holiday shall commence \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

5.) Thanksgiving: This holiday shall commence on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

6.) Christmas Eve: This holiday shall commence on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

7.) Christmas Day: This holiday shall commence \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

8.) New Year's Eve: This holiday shall commence \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

9.) New Year's Day: This holiday shall commence \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

10.) Kwanza: This holiday shall commence \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

D. Other:

1.) In **even-numbered years** \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother/Father) shall have the child for the following holidays:

2.) In **even-numbered years** \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother/Father) \_\_\_\_\_ shall have the child for the following holidays:

3.) In **odd-numbered years** \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother/Father) shall have the child for the following holidays: \_\_\_\_\_

4.) In **odd-numbered years** (Mother/Father) shall have the child for the following holidays:

E. Mother's/Father's Day: The child will spend Mother's Day with Mother. The child will spend Father's Day

with Father. For Mother's Day and Father's Day only the holiday will commence on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.) and conclude on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m. or p.m.).

***Instructions: Please select the most appropriate option (include one only).***

F. Transportation:

**F. Option 1.** Father/Mother will be responsible for picking up and returning the child to Father's/Mother's home for all parenting time.

**F. Option 2.** The parents shall share in the transportation duties where the parent commencing their parenting time will pick up the child from the other parent.

**F. Option 3.** The parents shall share in the transportation duties where the parent ending their parenting time will drop off the child to the other parent.

***Instructions: Please select the most appropriate option (include one only).***

**G. Option 1.** Any vacation parenting time or holiday parenting time that results in a parent having two consecutive weekends shall reset the alternating weekend schedule such that the other parent shall have parenting time on the third weekend and the weekend and week day parenting times shall alternate according to the plan from the end of that weekend parenting time.

**G. Option 2.** Because of the parents' work schedule, the alternating weekends shall remain the same even if one parent receives three weekends consecutively as a result of vacation or holiday parenting time.

H. Other holidays, birthdays, and significant dates may be celebrated by mutual agreement of Mother and Father consistent with the best interests of the child.

I. The above terms concerning parenting time and access to the child may be adjusted or temporarily modified in length, timing, or terms upon reasonable advance notice, communication and agreement between Mother, Father, and child when appropriate.

J. Both parents acknowledge the responsibility to exercise and provide parenting time and that time is of the essence in exercising and providing parenting time. Each parent shall use reasonable diligence to notify the other in a timely manner when he or she will be delayed, late, or unable to exercise or provide parenting time within the time frames provided by this agreement. Fifteen minutes is a reasonable time for a parent to wait in order to pickup or return the child.

K. Each parent shall be responsible for providing his or her parents and extended family with access time to the child during that parent's time with the child.

12. One parent may not plan or schedule activities during the parenting time of the other parent, without written notice and consent of the other parent.

13. The Mother and Father agree that the child will have access to telephone and email contact with the other parent. Each parent shall have the same degree of telephone access with the child. The parent with whom the child is residing at any one

time will assist in initiating calls to or receiving calls from the other parent and will not unreasonably interfere with such access. Telephone access will be exercised each \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ PM.

14. Each parent shall have the opportunity to attend the child's activities or events. Mother and Father are each responsible for notifying the event planner or organizer that she/he wishes to be notified in advance of any activities and events where a parent may participate (for example, school plays, teacher conferences, sporting events, music recitals, et cetera).

15. Mother and Father acknowledge the statutory responsibility to provide the child with regular and continuous school attendance and progress and will each assist the child to the maximum extent possible to assure a quality education. Each parent will provide the other parent with information related to educational achievements and deficiencies of the child. Mother and Father will provide each other reasonable advance notice of any events, occurrences or decisions relevant to the child's education, to include without limitation: content of curricula or curricula changes, changes of school, testing related to post-high school education, and events related to the decision or selection of college education.

16. All school, medical, dental, counseling, and other records will be reasonably available and accessible to both the Mother and the Father. The names of both parents shall appear on all medical and school records. Each parent is responsible for notifying the school that he or she is to be included on mailing lists and be notified of conferences and events, provided report

cards, progress notes and other pertinent information.

17. Either Mother or Father may authorize emergency medical procedures in situations affecting the immediate health of the child.

18. Decisions of the moment regarding day-to-day care of the child will be made by the parent with whom the child is residing at the time.

19. Mother and Father shall assist the child in maintaining a positive relationship with the other parent and with other family members. Neither parent shall engage in conduct which tends to disparage the other parent or other family members, which tends to develop or maintain a negative relationship toward the other parent or other family members, or which tends to encourage the child to violate this Plan or be uncooperative in implementing it. All communications about the child shall be conducted between the biological parents only, regardless of future relationships.

20. To resolve future changes or conflicts regarding parenting functions, parenting time or this plan, the parents shall first seek solutions through mutual agreement by identifying the issues, providing an opportunity for exchange of information, and providing an opportunity for the consideration of proposed solutions to the issues in a way which minimizes the exposure of each child to parental conflict. The parents shall attempt to minimize repeated litigation and utilize judicial intervention as a last resort by use of the mediation process outlined in the Nebraska Parenting Act, prior to resorting to the court system.

***Instructions: Please select the most appropriate option (include one only).***

**21. Option 1.** Mother and Father agree that continued, meaningful and frequent communication between them and the child is a necessary and appropriate element to this Plan. In this regard Mother and Father will encourage and foster communication between themselves and the child in order to define and meet the "parenting functions".

**21. Option 2.** Mother and Father agree that face to face communication between them is not a reasonable method for appropriate issue resolution. They agree further not to exchange information through the child.

The parents' primary method of communication shall be by e-mail. The e-mail communications shall be made in a business like manner without language that is sarcastic, derogatory, inflammatory, demeaning, judgmental, accusatory, or digress with an historical statement of past problems or failures to cooperate. Neither parent will engage in name-calling. E-mails shall be direct and short with consideration of one issue per communication.

A. The initiation of any communication shall clearly and briefly state:

- 1.) The single issue or topic to be considered;
- 2.) A short statement or explanation;
- 3.) A proposed resolution without comment on a possible response by the other parent; and
- 4.) Use multiple e-mails for multiple topics.

B. The responding parent shall:

- 1.) Acknowledge receipt of the e-mail and state when an answer will be provided;
- 2.) Answer in a timely manner;
- 3.) Request any clarification or state any questions; and
4. Limit the response to the issue presented and

to any proposed resolution.

C. Discussion may continue until an agreement is reached or until one of the parents declares the issue closed, once either parent says STOP, the discussion must terminate.

D. Resolved issues shall be confirmed by each parent and unresolved issues will be referred to mediation.

E. In the event that time constraints require quicker consideration of an issue than email will allow, then telephone communication may be by means of voice mail only, with the same rules as email.

22. This Plan may be modified by mutual, written agreement of the parties and such modification shall be subject to approval by the Court before being incorporated into a court order.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_  
Father