

How to Respond to a Divorce

You were served with divorce papers
You do **NOT** agree with the items in the Petition
There **ARE** children of the marriage

Step 1: Determine your response deadline

20 days if you were served in person in the State of Washington
60 days if you were served outside the State of Washington
90 days if you were served by mail

Forms may be downloaded for free at www.courts.wa.gov/forms or you may purchase them at the Clerk's Office

Step 2: Fill out these forms and make copies

Completed	Form Name	Form #	Notes
	Response to Petition About a Marriage	FL Divorce 211	
	Parenting Plan	FL All Family 140	You need to fill this out the way you would like the court to decide

Step 3: Copies Needed

Original is to be filed with the Clerk
1 copy for your records
1 copy to give to the other party

Step 4: Take your original forms to the Clerk's Office to file

Step 5: Provide copies to other party

You may deliver or mail documents yourself.
This means that they receive a copy of what you have filed. It does not require them to be personally served by a process server. It can be done by mail at least 10 days before the court date or in person at least 7 days before the court date.
If the other party has an attorney, deliver or mail the forms to the attorney.

Fill out this form:

Completed	Form Name	Form #	Notes
	Proof of Mailing or Hand Delivery	FL All Family 112	

File Original with the Clerk and make a copy for your records

You have now responded to the Petition

While you are waiting for your trial if you need to have Temporary Orders (such as temporary parenting plan, child support, maintenance, temporary restraining order and or temporary orders regarding the use of property), you may request a hearing.

Step 6: Fill out these documents and take to your trial

Completed	Form Name	Form #	Notes
	Findings and Conclusion About a Marriage	FL Divorce 231	
	Final Divorce Order	FL Divorce 241	
	Parenting Plan	FL All Family 140	
	Child Support Order	FL All Family 130	
	Child Support Worksheet	WSCSS – Worksheets	
	Child Support Schedule and Instructions	This is information to use to calculate Child Support Worksheets.	
	Financial Declaration	FL All Family 131	
	Sealed Financial Source Documents (coversheet)	FL All Family 011	This form goes on the front of the financial documents you file

Step 7: Attend the court hearing (Trial)

Take copies of all your paperwork including all the documents from Step 6.

These instructions are legal information, not legal advice.

All of the above mentioned forms can be found on the Washington State Court website:

www.courts.wa.gov/forms.