

CUSTODY **COMPLAINT**

IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CONSULT AN ATTORNEY

1. Please insert your name on the first line on the top left side of the form (This is called the caption).
2. Insert the name(s) of the other party on the second line on the top left side of the form. You are the “Plaintiff” and the other party is the “Defendant”.
3. Leave the case number section blank; you will receive a case number once you have filed this document in the Prothonotary’s Office (2nd Floor of the Courthouse).
4. Answer all the questions on the form completely.
5. Complete the Criminal Record/Abuse History Verification completely.
6. Sign the Confidential Information Verification Form indicating that your document complies with all requirements regarding confidential information.
7. Place any Confidential Information on the Form labeled CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORM; this includes the full names of any minor children. You need not include additional Confidential Information (such as Social Security Numbers) unless this information is required by law, ordered by the court, or referenced in your document.
8. Complete and attach the document titled “Order” but leave all lines below the child’s initials and age blank.
9. File your Complaint with the Prothonotary’s Office in the Wayne County Courthouse.

DISCLAIMER

THE STAFF IN ANY COURT OFFICE IS UNABLE TO GIVE YOU LEGAL ADVICE. THE INFORMATION IN THIS PACKET IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL ADVICE. THE COURT ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCEPTS NO LIABILITY FOR ACTIONS TAKEN BY USERS OF THESE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING RELIANCE ON THEIR CONTENTS.

Name		Plaintiff	:	
			:	
vs.			:	IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
			:	WAYNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
			:	
Name		Defendant	:	
			:	
			:	NO. ____ - ____ -DR

COMPLAINT FOR CUSTODY

1. The Plaintiff (name) _____
 resides at (street, city, state, zip code, county) _____

2. The Defendant (name) _____
 resides at (street, city, state, zip code, county) _____

3. Plaintiff seeks (circle all that apply): (shared legal custody) (sole legal custody) (partial physical custody) (primary physical custody) (shared physical custody) (sole physical custody) (supervised physical custody) of the following child(ren):

Name	Present Residence	Age
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

The child (select one): (was) (was not) born out of wedlock.

The child(ren) is/are presently in the custody of (name) _____
 who resides at (street, city, state zip code, county) _____

During the past five years, the child(ren) has/have resided with the following persons and at the following addresses:

(List All Persons)	(List All Addresses)	(Dates)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

A parent of the child is (name) _____ currently residing at (street, city, state, zip code, county)_____.

This parent is: (married) (divorced) (single).

A parent of the child is (name) _____ currently residing at (street, city, state, zip code, county)_____.

This parent is: (married) (divorced) (single).

4. Plaintiff's relationship to the child is that of _____

Plaintiff currently resides with the following persons:

Name	Relationship
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Defendant's relationship to the child is that of _____

Defendant currently resides with the following persons:

Name	Relationship
_____	_____
_____	_____

6. The plaintiff (circle one): (**has**) or (**has not**) participated as a party or witness, or in another capacity, in other litigation concerning the custody of the child in this or another court. The court, term and number, and its relationship to this action is:

Plaintiff (circle one): (**has**) or (**has no**) information of a custody proceeding concerning the child pending in a court of this Commonwealth or any other state. The court, term and number, and its relationship to this action is: _____.

Plaintiff (circle one): (**knows**) or (**does not know**) of a person not a party to the proceedings who has physical custody of the child or claims to have custodial rights with respect to the child. The name and address of such person is: _____

7. The child's best interest and permanent welfare will be served by granting the relief requested because (set forth facts showing that the granting of the relief requested will be in the child's best interest and permanent welfare):

8. Each parent whose parental rights to the child have not been terminated and the person who has physical custody of the child have been named as parties to this action. All other persons, named below, who are known to have or claim a right to custody of the child will be given notice of the pendency of this action and the right to intervene:

Name

Address

Basis of Claim

9. Standing.

- (a) If the plaintiff is seeking physical or legal custody of a child and is *in loco parentis* to the child, the plaintiff shall plead facts establishing standing under 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(2).

- (b) If the plaintiff is a grandparent seeking physical or legal custody of a grandchild and is not *in loco parentis* to the child, the plaintiff shall plead facts establishing standing under 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(3).

- (c) If the plaintiff is seeking physical or legal custody of a child and is not *in loco parentis* to the child, the plaintiff shall plead facts establishing standing pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(4) and (5).

- (d) If the plaintiff is a grandparent or great-grandparent seeking partial physical custody or supervised physical custody of a grandchild or great-grandchild, the plaintiff shall plead facts establishing standing under 23 Pa.C.S. § 5323.

10. Plaintiff has attached the Criminal Record/Abuse History Verification form required pursuant to Pa.R.Civ.P. 1915.3-2.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests the court to grant (circle all that apply): (shared legal custody) (sole legal custody) (partial physical custody) (primary physical custody) (shared physical custody) (sole physical custody) (supervised physical custody) of the child.

Plaintiff/Attorney for Plaintiff

I verify that the statements made in this Complaint are true and correct. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Plaintiff

Name Plaintiff

vs.

Name Defendant

:
:
:
: IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
: WAYNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
:
: NO. ____ - ____ -DR
:

☐ CRIMINAL RECORD / ABUSE HISTORY VERIFICATION

☐ REPORT OF CHILD ABUSE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES REQUESTED BY COURT

1. Participants. Please list ALL members in your/the participant's household and attach sheets if necessary:

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Relationship to Child(ren)

____ Party requests their residence remain confidential as they are protected by the Protection from Abuse Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 6122, or the Domestic and Sexual Violence Victim Address Confidentiality Act, 23 Pa.C.S. §§ 6701-6713, or the Child Custody Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 5336(b), or they are in the process of seeking protection under the same.

Please list ALL members in the opposing party's household and attach sheets if necessary:

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Relationship to Child(ren)

____ Party requests their residence remain confidential as they are protected by the Protection from Abuse Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 6122, or the Domestic and Sexual Violence Victim Address Confidentiality Act, 23 Pa.C.S. §§ 6701-6713, or the Child Custody Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 5336(b), or they are in the process of seeking protection under the same.

SUBJECT CHILD(REN) – Attach additional sheets if necessary:

Name	Date of Birth

2. Criminal Offenses. As to the following listed Pennsylvania crimes or offenses, or another jurisdiction's substantially equivalent crimes or offenses, check the box next to any applicable crime or offense in which you or a household member:

- has pleaded guilty or no contest;
- has been convicted;
- has charges pending; or
- has been adjudicated delinquent under the Juvenile Act, 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 6301-6375, and the record is publicly available as set forth in 42 Pa.C.S. § 6307.

You should also check the box next to a listed criminal offense even if the offense has been resolved by Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) or another diversionary program, unless it has been expunged pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 9122, or a court has entered an order for limited access, *e.g.*, Clean Slate, pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 9122.1 or 9122.2.

Check all that apply	Crime	Self	Other household member	Date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea, or pending charges	Sentence
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 25 (relating to criminal homicide)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2701 (relating to simple assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2702 (relating to aggravated assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2705 (relating to recklessly endangering another person)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2706 (relating to terroristic threats)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2709.1 (relating to stalking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2718 (relating to strangulation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2901 (relating to kidnapping)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2904 (relating to interference with custody of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 2910 (relating to luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 30 (relating to human trafficking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3121 (relating to rape)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3126 (relating to indecent assault)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3127 (relating to indecent exposure)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3129 (relating to sexual intercourse with animal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3130 (relating to conduct relating to sex offenders)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 3301 (relating to arson and related offenses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4302 (relating to incest)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4303 (relating to concealing death of child)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 4305 (relating to dealing in infant children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5533 (relating to cruelty to animal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5534 (relating to aggravated cruelty to animal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5543 (relating to animal fighting)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5544 (relating to possession of animal fighting paraphernalia)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5902(b) or (b.1) (relating to prostitution and related offenses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 5903(c) or (d) (relating to obscene and other sexual materials and performances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6301 (relating to corruption of minors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6318 (relating to unlawful contact with minor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Pa.C.S. § 6320 (relating to sexual exploitation of children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finding of contempt of a Protection from Abuse order or agreement under 23 Pa.C.S. § 6114	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finding of contempt of a Protection from Victims of Sexual Violence and Intimidation order or agreement under 42 Pa.C.S. § 62A14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	Manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, offering for sale or possession of any controlled substance or other drug or device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
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3. Abuse or Agency Involvement. Check the box next to any statement that applies to you, a household member, or your child.

Check all that apply		Self	Household member	Child
<input type="checkbox"/>	Involvement with a children and youth social service agency in Pennsylvania or a similar agency in another jurisdiction. What jurisdiction? _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	A determination or finding of abuse (<i>i.e.</i> , indicated or founded report) by a children and youth social service agency or court in Pennsylvania or a similar agency in another jurisdiction. What jurisdiction? _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	An adjudication of dependency involving this child or any other child under Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act, or a similar law in another jurisdiction. What jurisdiction? _____ Is the case active? _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	A history of perpetrating "abuse" as that term is defined in the Protection from Abuse Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 6102.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	A history of perpetrating "sexual violence" or "intimidation" as those terms are defined in 42 Pa.C.S. § 62A03 (relating to protection from victims sexual violence and intimidation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. If you checked a box in (2) or (3), list any evaluation, counseling, or other treatment received as a result:
5. If you check a box in (2) or (3) that applies to your household member, who is not a party, state that person's name, date of birth, and relationship to the child.
6. If you are aware that the other party or the other party's household member has a criminal record or abuse history, please explain:

ONLY A PARTY CAN SIGN THIS FORM. IF A PARTY IS REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY, THE ATTORNEY CANNOT SIGN THIS FORM ON BEHALF OF THE PARTY.

I verify that the information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information or belief. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date

Plaintiff/Defendant Signature

Printed Name

_____ Name	Plaintiff	:	
		:	
vs.		:	IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
		:	WAYNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
		:	
_____ Name	Defendant	:	
		:	
		:	NO. ____ - ____ -DR

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION VERIFICATION

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts* that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Date _____	_____
	Plaintiff

Name Plaintiff

vs.

Name Defendant

:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
WAYNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

NO. ____ - ____ -DR

CONCILIATION ORDER

You, _____, have been sued in Court to OBTAIN custody or partial custody of the following children:

(Children's Initials and Age)

You are **ORDERED** to appear **in person** at the Arbitration Room of the Wayne County Courthouse, 925 Court Street, Honesdale, Pennsylvania on _____ before Kathryn A. Karam, Esq., Custody Conciliator for a Conciliation Conference. At this conference, an effort will be made to resolve the issues in dispute; or, to define and narrow the issues to be heard by the Court if a resolution cannot be reached and to enter into an Interim Order.

If you fail to appear as provided by this Order, an Order for custody may be entered against you or the Court may issue a warrant for your arrest.

Each party must complete, sign, and serve the updated Criminal Record/Abuse History Verification Form no later than one day before the custody proceeding or within five days of any change, whichever comes first. Attorneys are not allowed to sign for their clients. Failure to comply may result in sanctions.

No party may make a change in the residence of any child which significantly impairs the ability of the other party to exercise custodial rights without first complying with all of the applicable provision of 23 Pa.C.S. § 5337 and Pa.R.C.P. No. 1915.17 regarding relocation.

Any incarcerated party who wishes to participate in the above scheduled proceeding is hereby notified of the requirement to file a formal request to appear in person, via video conference, or through other

alternative electronic means at the above proceeding. The Court shall rule upon the party's request forthwith.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

North Penn Legal Services
925 Court Street
Honesdale, PA 18431
(877) 953-4250

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT OF 1990

The Court of Common Pleas of Wayne County, Pennsylvania is required by law to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For information about accessible facilities and reasonable accommodations available to disabled individuals having business with the Court, please contact our office. All arrangements must be made at least 72 hours before any hearing or business before the Court. You must attend the scheduled conference or hearing.

BY THE COURT:

DATE _____

CC:
Plaintiff
Defendant
Wayne County Children and Youth Services
Court Administration