


ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGED INFORMATION

Client

Name: _____

Custody Worksheet

Please fill out this questionnaire and return it as soon as possible. It is important that

 answer each question fully.

It is imperative that you be candid!

You should answer all questions relevant to your case. If a question does not apply to your particular situation, please indicate by marking the question "N/A" If the answer to any question requires more space than has been provided on the form, please complete your answer on a separate sheet: Refer to the question number to which your answer applies, and attach your answer to this questionnaire.

Your responses to these questions will help to organize your case and will save you money on attorney's fees in trying to gather and assemble information after the case is in progress.

Since your answers are being made to an attorney, you are assured of confidentiality and are protected by the attorney-client privilege.

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, AS PROVIDED IN THE TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL EVIDENCE. THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT CONSTITUTE

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ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT. THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND ARE NOT TO BE DISCLOSED TO THIRD PERSONS OTHER THAN THOSE TO WHOM DISCLOSURE IS MADE IN FURTHERANCE OF THE RENDITION OF PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES.

Pending Proceedings, Other Attorneys, and What Brought You to This Office:

1. Are there any court proceedings pending on this matter? _____
2. If so, give name of court, name of judge, date of filing, court docket number, and _____ status _____ of case: _____

3. Have you consulted or retained any other attorneys on this matter before coming to this office? _____
4. If _____ so, _____ state _____ who _____ and when: _____
5. Did you spouse or your ex-spouse have any other attorneys? _____
6. If _____ so, who? _____

7. Who _____ referred _____ you _____ to _____ this office? _____

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Children:

8. If you want primary custody of the children, please state in fifty words or less why you think you should have primary custody.

9. With whom do the children currently live? _____

10. Period of time in which this living arrangement has been in effect: _____

11. Names and ages of children of the marriage:

Child's name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

Child's name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

Child's name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

12. Names and ages of other children outside of the marriage:

Child's name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

Child's name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

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Child's name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

13. Names and addresses of schools children attend, dates attended, and name of teacher or principal there who is familiar with child:

Child's

name: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

Dates

attended: _____

Grade: _____

Teacher

and/or

principal: _____

Child's

name: _____

School: _____

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Address: _____

Dates

attended: _____

—

Grade: _____

Teacher

and/or

principal: _____

Child's

name: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

Dates

attended: _____

—

Grade: _____

Teacher

and/or

principal: _____

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Care of Children:

To the extent that both you and your spouse or your exBspouse have shared the responsibilities listed below, describe the degree to which the responsibilities have been shared:

14. Who helps the children get dressed in the morning? _____

15. Who bathes the children and grooms them? _____

16. Are any of the children nursing? _____

17. Who takes care of the children during the day? _____

18. Who arranges for getting children together with playmates? _____

19. Who puts the children to bed at night? _____

20. Who prepares meals? _____
—

21. Who arranges for medical and dental care and takes the children to the doctor? _____

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22. Who takes the children to school? _____

23. Who picks the children up from school? _____

24. Who shops for the children's clothes? _____

25. Who transports the children to extracurricular activities? _____

26. Do you or your spouse or your ex-spouse participate in recreational or educational activities with the children? _____

27. Describe the nature of the activities and how often you and your spouse or your ex-spouse participate in them:

28. Do the children receive religious training? _____

29. If so, from whom? _____

30. Who arranges the children's birthday

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parties?_____

31. Who helps the children with their homework?_____

32. Who attends parent-teacher conferences?_____

33. Are the children more likely to turn to you or to your spouse or your ex-spouse when they have problems?_____

34. Do you feel the children are closer to you or to your spouse or your ex-spouse?_____

35. Are the children in day care or with a sitter?_____

36. If so, how many hours per week?_____

37. Give name, address, and telephone number of the day-care service or sitter:_____

38. Who arranges for the day care or sitter?_____

39. Who cares for the children when they are ill?_____

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40. Who disciplines the children? _____

41. By what method? _____

42. Has the division of responsibility for child care changed over the years? _____

43. If so, describe: _____

Time Available to Spend with the Children and Plans for Their Future Care:

44. What are your working hours? _____

45. What time do you leave home? _____

46. When do your return? _____
—

47. Do you have flexible working

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hours? _____

48. Does your work require travel? _____

49. If so, describe the frequency, time involved, and distances: _____

50. Is your work schedule likely to change in the future?

51. What are your plans for child care? _____

52. Describe your housing arrangements, including number of bedrooms: _____

53. What are your spouse's or your ex-spouse's working hours? _____

54. What time does your spouse or your ex-spouse leave home? _____

55. When does your spouse or your ex-spouse

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return?_____

56. Are your spouse's or your ex-spouse's working hours flexible?_____

57. Does your spouse or your ex-spouse's work require travel?_____

58. If so, describe the frequency, time involved, and distances:_____

59. Is your spouse's or your ex-spouse's work schedule likely to change in the future?_____

60. What are your spouse's or your ex-spouse's plans for child care?_____

61. Describe your spouse's or your ex-spouse's housing arrangements, including number of bedrooms:_____

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Special Needs of the Children:

62. Do the children have any special or unusual educational or health care needs? _____

63. If _____ so, _____ describe them: _____

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64. Who has worked to meet those needs? _____

65. Are you or your spouse or your ex-spouse better able to meet those needs? _____

66. Has the children's academic performance changed in the last few years or months? _____

67. If so, what is the reason for the

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change? _____

Interference with Other Parent's Relationship with Children:

68. Will it be alleged that you or your spouse or your ex-spouse has interfered with the children's relationship with the other parent or spoken badly about the other parent to the children? _____

69. If so, explain: _____

70. Will it be alleged that you or your spouse or your ex-spouse has blocked the other parent's visitation with the children? _____

71. If so, explain, giving dates and frequency with which visitation was allegedly blocked: _____

72. Will it be alleged that you or your spouse or your ex-spouse has discouraged

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the children from having a good relationship with a stepparent or a "significant person" in the other parent's life? _____

73. If _____ so, explain: _____

Cooperation between You and Your Spouse or ExSpouse:

74. How well have you and your spouse or ex-spouse been able to cooperate on matters concerning the children and on matters concerning visitation or access to the children? _____

75. To what extent do you and your spouse or ex-spouse share values regarding how the children should be raised, what type of education they should have, and what type of religious training they should have? _____

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Frequency of Moves and Plans to Move:

76. Have you or your spouse or your exBspouse moved in the last ten years? _____

77. If so, when and where? (Include moves in the same city.) _____

78. Do you or your spouse or your ex-spouse plan to move in the near future? _____

79. If _____ so, _____ when _____ and where? _____

80. Does the parent who is not moving oppose the move? _____

81.

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Why? _____

Children's Preferences

82. Have the children told you with whom they want to live?

83. If so, please answer these questions:

What is the basis for the preference? _____

How strong is the preference? _____

How long has the preference been held? _____

Has the preference changed? _____

How would you feel about the children's talking to the judge about their preferences? _____

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Children's Relationship with Other Family Members:

84. How do the children get along with each other? _____

85. How do the children get along with stepparents? _____

86. How do the children get along with stepbrothers and stepsisters? _____

87. Do the children have a particularly close relationship with either or both sets of grandparents? _____

88. Do the children have a strong relationship with anyone else that you believe is important? _____

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Goals:

89. What are your future goals with the children and the reasons for your goals? _____

90. To what extent do you believe that you and your spouse or ex-spouse should have joint custody (sometimes referred to as "shared parental responsibility"), under which you both would share equally in making major decisions affecting the children and/or being with the children for substantial periods of time? _____

91. What are your spouse's or ex-spouse's goals with the children and the reasons for these goals? _____

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92. Have you and your spouse or exBspouse attempted to work out a settlement of _____ the _____ case _____ between yourselves? _____

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93. What _____ progress _____ have _____ you made? _____

94. What _____ are _____ your positions? _____

Witnesses:

95. Who do you think would make good witnesses for you, and what do you think the testimony would be? (Possible witnesses include neighbors, the children's teachers, friends, doctors, babyBsitters, dayBcare workers, clergy, and family members.)

Name: _____

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Address: _____

Home

phone: _____

Work

phone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home

phone: _____

Work

phone: _____

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Name: _____

Address: _____

Home

phone: _____

Work

phone: _____

96. Who do you think will be witnesses for your spouse or exBspouse, and what do you think will be the testimony of those persons?

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Home

phone: _____

Work

phone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home

phone: _____

Work

phone: _____

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Name: _____

Address: _____

Home
phone: _____

Work
phone: _____

"Skeletons In the Closet" and Sensitive Topics:

If you have answered these questions in another questionnaire, you need not answer them again.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU BE OPEN AND HONEST IN ANSWERING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. ANY DISCUSSION RELATING TO ANY OF THESE TOPICS BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR ATTORNEY WILL BE PROTECTED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE. IF YOU FAIL TO BE HONEST IN ANSWERING

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THESE QUESTIONS, IT COULD BE ABSOLUTELY DISASTROUS TO YOUR CASE.

IF AN ANSWER TO ONE OF THE QUESTIONS BELOW IS AYES,@ PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SITUATION IN DETAIL.

Will anyone allege that you or your spouse or exBspouse has done any of the following:

	You	Your spouse or ex-spouse
1. Committed a crime?	_____	_____
2. Been arrested?	_____	_____
3. Been in jail or prison?	_____	_____
4. Used illegal drugs?	_____	_____
5. Been hospitalized for using illegal drugs?	_____	_____
6. Abused prescription drugs?	_____	_____
7. Been hospitalized for prescription drugs?	_____	_____
8. Abused alcohol?	_____	_____
9. Been hospitalized for abusing alcohol?	_____	_____
10. Been arrested for or convicted of driving while under the influence of alcohol (drunk driving)?	_____	_____

You

Your spouse or ex-spouse

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- 11. Engaged in gambling activities (legal or illegal)? _____
 - 12. Engaged in other illegal activities? _____
 - 13. Attempted suicide? _____
 - 14. Been hospitalized for an emotional or psychiatric disorder? _____
 - 15. Suffered from or received treatment for an emotional or psychiatric condition? _____
 - 16. Abused own spouse? _____
 - 17. Been accused of child abuse? _____
 - 18. Had a sexual relationship during the marriage with someone other than own spouse? _____
 - 19. Had a sexual relationship (during or not during the marriage) with someone other than own spouse of which the children were aware? _____
- If so, describe the children's reaction to the relationship and the children's feelings about the person(s) involved in the relationship. _____
- _____
- _____
- 20. Had a homosexual/bisexual relationship? _____
 - 21. Engaged in unusual sexual practices? _____

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22. Had a pregnancy outside of marriage? _____

23. Had a sexually transmitted disease? _____

24. Drunk to excess? _____

If _____ so, _____ what _____ and _____ how often? _____

25. Other? _____

26. If you or your spouse or exBspouse has a relationship with a person whom the children see frequently and that person would answer "yes" to one or more of the preceding "skeletonBinBtheBcloset" questions, describe the situation:

27. Do you or your spouse or exBspouse suffer from any physical disability that would interfere with being able to care for the children?

28. Have you or your spouse or exBspouse made any photographs or audio or visual recordings _____ of _____ the _____ other party? _____

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29. If _____ so, _____ describe _____ the
content: _____

