STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF _____)
)
_____)
Plaintiff,)
vs.)
)
_____)
Defendant.)

IN THE FAMILY COURT
_____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FAMILY COURT COVERSHEET

Docket No. _____

NOTE: The coversheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for docketing purposes for the Clerk of Court and must be signed and dated, and filled out completely. A copy of this coversheet must be served on the defendant(s) along with the Summons and Complaint.

Submitted by: _____ **SC Bar #** _____
Address: _____ **Telephone #** _____
_____ **Fax #** _____
Email: _____ **Other:** _____

DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check one box below if filing in a Mandatory Mediation County)
☐ This case is subject to MEDIATION pursuant to the Family Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules.
☐ This case is exempt from ADR (certificate attached).

Nature of Action Codes
(Check One)

Marital Dissolution
- ☐ Divorce (110)
- ☐ Annulment (120)
- ☐ Separate Support and Maintenance (130)
- ☐ Registration of Foreign Divorce Decree – without support/custody (190)
- ☐ Registration of Foreign Divorce Decree – with support/custody (191)
- ☐ Marital Dissolution – Other (199) _____

Abuse and Neglect
- ☐ Abuse and Neglect – Child (210)
- ☐ Abuse and Neglect – Adult (220)
- ☐ Abuse and Neglect – Other (299) _____

Juvenile Delinquency
- ☐ Truancy (311)
- ☐ Incorrigible (312)
- ☐ Runaway (313
- ☐ Criminal Offense – Drug (315)
- ☐ Criminal Offense – Against a Person (316)
- ☐ Criminal Offense – Property (317)
- ☐ Criminal Offense – Public Order (318)
- ☐ Criminal Offense – Other (320)
- ☐ Juvenile Delinquency – Other (399) _____

Protection from Domestic Abuse
- ☐ Domestic Abuse – Intimate Partner (410)
- ☐ Domestic Abuse – Minor (420)
- ☐ Registration of Foreign Order of Protection (490)
- ☐ Domestic Abuse – Other (499) _____

Support
- ☐ Child Support – Private (501)
- ☐ Child Support – Administrative Process (502)
- ☐ Child Support – Judicial Process (503)
- ☐ Registration of Foreign Order of Support (504)
- ☐ UIFSA – Outgoing (505)
- ☐ UIFSA – Incoming (506)
- ☐ Modification of Child Support – Private (507)
- ☐ Modification of Child Support – DSS (508)
- ☐ Modification of Alimony (525)
- ☐ College Expenses (530)
- ☐ Support – Other (599) _____

Custody/Visitation
- ☐ Child Custody/Visitation (610)
- ☐ Modification of Custody/Visitation (615)
- ☐ Temporary Custody – Nonparent (616)
- ☐ Registration of Foreign Child Custody Order (690)
- ☐ Custody/Visitation – Other (699) _____

Miscellaneous Actions
- ☐ Name Change (710)
- ☐ Correction/Birth Record (720)
- ☐ Judicial Bypass (730)
- ☐ Adoption (740)
- ☐ Foreign Adoption (741)
- ☐ Post Dissolution Equitable Distribution (750)
- ☐ Paternity – Private (761)
- ☐ Paternity – DSS (762)
- ☐ Termination of Parental Rights – Private (771)
- ☐ Termination of Parental Rights – DSS (772)
- ☐ Miscellaneous Actions – Others (799) _____

Submitting Party Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Custodial Parent (if applicable): _____

Note: Frivolous civil proceedings are subject to sanctions pursuant to Rule 11, SCRCP and the South Carolina Frivolous Civil Proceedings Sanctions Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 15-36-10 et seq.

Effective January 1, 2016, family court actions in all counties are subject to mediation. Under the provisions of the Supreme Court's Rules for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), mediation is defined as [an] informal process in which a third-party mediator facilitates settlement discussions between parties. Any settlement is voluntary. In the absence of settlement, the parties lose none of their rights to trial.

Also under the ADR Rules, the parties may agree on a mediator or the Clerk of Court will appoint a mediator from the certified list. If the Clerk appoints a mediator from the list, the mediator will be certified by the Board of Arbitrator and Mediator Certification and may be either a lawyer, a licensed mental health professional or any other individual meeting the certification requirements.

Whether or not the mediator is a lawyer, if appointed by the court, the charge per hour is set at a specified amount under the provisions of ADR Rule 9. Parties are responsible for payment of the mediator as set out in ADR Rule 9.

SUPREME COURT RULES REQUIRE MEDIATION OF ALL CONTESTED DOMESTIC RELATIONS ACTIONS. IF THE DOCKETING INFORMATION ON PAGE 1 OF THIS COVERSHEET INDICATES THAT THIS CASE IS SUBJECT TO **MEDIATION** YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT MEDIATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCES ARE REQUIRED IN THIS CASE, AND THAT THE COURT-ANNEXED ADR RULES SHALL APPLY TO ALL CASES IN WHICH MEDIATION IS REQUIRED. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PROCESS AND TIME FRAMES, PLEASE CONSULT THE ADR RULES. KEY SECTIONS OF THE RULES ARE IDENTIFIED BELOW.

CONTESTED ACTIONS INVOLVING CUSTODY AND VISITATION

Rule 3	Actions Subject to ADR
Rule 4(d)(1)(3)(4) &(5)	Appointment of Mediator by Family Court
Rule 5(g)	Scheduling in Family Court
Rule 6(g)	Agreement in Family Court
Rule 7(f)	Reporting Results of Conference
Rule 9	Compensation of Neutral

ALL OTHER CONTESTED ACTIONS

Rule 3	Actions Subject to ADR
Rule 4(d)(2)(3)(4) &(5)	Appointment of Mediator by Family Court
Rule 5(g)	Scheduling in Family Court
Rule 6(g)	Agreement in Family Court
Rule 7(f)	Reporting Results of Conference
Rule 9	Compensation of Neutral

Indigent Cases: Where a mediator has been appointed, a party may move before the Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes to be exempted from payment of neutral fees and expenses based upon indigency. Applications for indigency shall be filed no later than ten (10) days after the ADR conference has been concluded. Determination of indigency shall be in the sole discretion of the Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes.

Please Note: Attendance at mediated settlement conferences is mandatory. You must comply with the Supreme Court rules regarding court-ordered mediation. Failure to do so may affect your case and may result in sanctions.

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