

# **INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.900(h), NOTICE OF RELATED CASES (01/09)**

## **When should this form be used?**

Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires the **petitioner** in a family law case to file with the court a notice of related cases, if any. Your circuit may also require this form to be filed even if there are no related cases. A case is considered related if

- it involves the same parties, children, or issues and is pending when the family law case is filed; or
- it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; or
- an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or
- an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier case.

This form is used to provide the required notice to the court.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. It must be **filed** with the **clerk of the circuit court** with the initial pleading in the family law case.

## **What should I do next?**

A copy of the form must be served on the presiding judges and either the chief judge or the family law administrative judge. You should also keep a copy for your records.

## **Where can I look for more information?**

See Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d).

## **Special notes . . .**

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping

you fill out these forms **must** also put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,  
and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

### NOTICE OF RELATED CASES

1. Petitioner submits this Notice of Related Cases as required by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d). A related case may be an open or closed civil, criminal, guardianship, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, juvenile dependency, or domestic relations case. A case is "related" to this family law case if it involves any of the same parties, children, or issues and it is pending at the time the party files a family case; if it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; if an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or if an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier litigation.

[ v one only ]

There are no related cases.

The following are the related cases (add additional pages if necessary):

#### Related Case No. 1

Case Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent \_\_\_\_\_

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Proceeding: [ v all that apply ]

Dissolution of Marriage

Paternity

Custody

Adoption

Child Support

Modification/Enforcement/Contempt

Proceedings

Juvenile Dependency

Juvenile Delinquency

Termination of Parental Rights

Criminal

Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat

Other {specify} \_\_\_\_\_

Violence Injunctions

Mental Health

State where case was decided or is pending:  Florida  Other: {specify} \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): \_\_\_\_\_

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of cases [v all that apply]:

- pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
- may affect court's jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Related Case No. 2**

Case Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Petitioner: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent: \_\_\_\_\_

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Proceeding: [ v all that apply]

- Dissolution of Marriage
- Custody
- Child Support
- Paternity
- Adoption
- Modification/Enforcement/Contempt

Proceedings

- Juvenile Dependency
- Termination of Parental Rights
- Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat
- Violence Injunctions
- Mental Health
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Criminal
- Other {specify} \_\_\_\_\_

State where case was decided or is pending: \_\_\_ Florida \_\_\_ Other: {specify} \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): \_\_\_\_\_

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of cases [v all that apply]:

- pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
- may affect court's jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Related Case No. 3**

Case Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Petitioner: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent: \_\_\_\_\_

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Proceeding: [  all that apply ]

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Custody                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support           | <input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Enforcement/Contempt |

Proceedings

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency            | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other {specify} _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violence Injunctions           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health                  |  |

State where case was decided or is pending:  Florida  Other: {specify} \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): \_\_\_\_\_

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of cases [  all that apply ]:

- pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
- may affect court's jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: \_\_\_\_\_

2. [  one only ]

I do not request coordination of litigation in any of the cases listed above.

I do request coordination of the following cases: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. [  all that apply ]

Assignment to one judge

Coordination of existing cases

will conserve judicial resources and promote an efficient determination of these cases because: \_\_\_\_\_

4. The Petitioner acknowledges a continuing duty to inform the court of any cases in this or any other state that could affect the current proceeding.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner's Signature

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I **CERTIFY** that I delivered a copy of this Notice of Related Cases to the \_\_\_\_\_  
County Sheriff's Department or a certified process server for service on the Respondent, and [**v**  
**one** only] ( ) mailed ( ) hand delivered a copy to ( )  
{name} \_\_\_\_\_, who is the [**v all that apply**] ( ) judge assigned  
to new case), ( ) chief judge or family law administrative judge, ( ) {name} \_\_\_\_\_  
a party to the related case, ( ) {name} \_\_\_\_\_, a party to the related  
case on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner/Attorney for Petitioner

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS  
BELOW:** [fill in **all** blanks]  
I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} \_\_\_\_\_  
a nonlawyer, located at {street} \_\_\_\_\_, {city} \_\_\_\_\_  
{state} \_\_\_\_\_, {phone} \_\_\_\_\_, helped {name} \_\_\_\_\_  
who is the Petitioner, fill out this form.