

SUPERIOR COURT OF _____ COUNTY, GEORGIA

Civil Action File No. _____

_____,)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
)
_____,)
Defendant.)

PARENTING PLAN

Instructions: This Parenting Plan is approved for use in the Augusta Judicial Circuit. Each paragraph with options and/or blanks *must be completed*. Do not delete paragraphs which do not apply. If there are substantive changes to the basic form, **bold and underline the changes**, and check here _____.

Date of this plan: _____

() The parties agree to the terms of this plan and affirm the accuracy of the information provided, as shown by their signatures at the end of this plan.

() This plan has been prepared by the judge.

This plan () is a new plan.

() modifies an existing Order: Court: _____

Case No.: _____ Date: _____

This plan applies to the following minor child(ren) of the parties:

Child's Name	Date of Birth

I. Custody and Decision Making:

A. Legal Custody shall be: [Check one]

- () joint.
- () with the Mother, not joint.
- () with the Father, not joint.

B. Primary Physical Custodian

For the child(ren) named below, the primary physical custodian shall be:

	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint

IF JOINT PHYSICAL CUSTODY IS CHOSEN BY THE PARENTS OR ORDERED BY THE COURT, A DETAILED PLAN OF THE LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE CHILD(REN) SHALL BE ATTACHED AND MADE A PART OF THIS PARENTING PLAN.

C. Day-To-Day Decisions

A parent shall make decisions regarding the day-to-day care of the child(ren) while the child(ren) is/are residing with that parent, including any emergency decisions affecting the health or safety of the child(ren).

D. Major Decisions

Major decisions regarding each child shall be made as follows:

- Educational decisions mother father joint
- Non-emergency health care mother father joint
- Religious upbringing mother father joint
- Extracurricular activities mother father joint
- _____ mother father joint
- _____ mother father joint

E. Disagreements

If the parents have elected joint decision making in Section I. D. above, if the parties are unable to agree after serious and meaningful consideration of each other's views:

- The mother shall have final decision making authority.
- The father shall have final decision making authority.
- Other: _____
- _____
- _____

II. Parenting Time/Visitation Schedules

The following should not be construed as precluding other visitation or alternative arrangements. The best visitation plan is one the parties have agreed to, rather than one imposed by the court.

A. Parenting Time/Visitation [Any restrictions on visitation should be set forth in Section 6, Additional Provisions, below.]

During the term of this parenting plan the non-custodial parent shall have at a minimum the following rights of parenting time/visitation (choose an item):

- The weekend of the first and third Friday of each month.
- The weekend of the first, third and fifth Friday of each month.
- The weekend of the second and fourth Friday of each month.
- Every other weekend starting on _____.
- Each _____ starting at _____ .M. and ending _____ .M.
- Other: _____

and weekday parenting time/visitation on (choose an item):

- None
- Every _____
- Every other _____ during the week prior to a non-visitation weekend.
- Every _____ and _____ evening.
- Other: _____

For purposes of this parenting plan, a weekend will start at _____ .M. on _____ and end at _____ .M. on _____ .

Weekday visitation will begin at _____ .M. and will end at _____ .M.

This parenting schedule begins on:

date of this plan OR _____
(date and time)

B. Major Holidays and Vacation Periods

Thanksgiving

Applicable Not applicable, the day-to-day schedule applies

Winter Vacation

Applicable Not applicable, the day-to-day schedule applies

The mother father shall have the child(ren) for the first period from the day and time school is dismissed until December _____ at _____ .M. in odd numbered years even numbered years every year. The other parent will have the child(ren) for the second period from the day and time indicated above until 6:00 p.m. on the evening before school resumes. Unless otherwise indicated, the parties shall alternate the first and second periods each year.

Other agreement of the parents:

Summer Vacation

Applicable Not applicable, the day-to-day schedule applies

Define summer vacation period: _____

The day to day schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth:

Spring Vacation

Applicable for school-aged children Not applicable, the day-to-day schedule applies

Define: _____

Fall Vacation

Applicable Not applicable, the day-to-day schedule applies

Define: _____

C. Other Holiday Schedule

Applicable Not applicable, the day-to-day schedule applies

Indicate if child(ren) will be with the parent in ODD or EVEN numbered years or indicate EVERY year:

HOLIDAY	MOTHER	FATHER
Mother's Day	_____	_____
Father's Day	_____	_____
Child(ren)'s Birthday(s)	_____	_____
Mother's Birthday	_____	_____
Father's Birthday	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

D. Other extended periods of time during school (refer to school schedule)

Applicable Not applicable, the day-to-day schedule applies

E. Start and end dates for holiday visitation

For the purposes of this parenting plan: *[Check one]*

- Holidays that fall on Friday will include the following Saturday and Sunday
- Holidays that fall on Monday will include the preceding Saturday and Sunday
- Other: _____

F. Coordination of Parenting Schedules

[Check one or both, if applicable]

- The holiday parenting/visitation schedule takes priority over the regular parenting time/visitation schedule.
- When the child(ren) is/are with a parent for an extended parenting time/visitation period (such as summer), the other parent shall be entitled to visit with the child(ren) during the extended period, as follows:

G. Transportation Arrangements

For visitation, the place of meeting for the exchange of the child(ren) shall be:

The _____ will be responsible for transportation of the child(ren) at the beginning of visitation.

The _____ will be responsible for transportation of the child(ren) at the conclusion of visitation.

Transportation costs: *[Check one]*

The parent responsible for transportation shall bear the expense thereof.

Transportation costs will be allocated as follows: _____

H. Contacting the child

When the child(ren) is/are in the physical custody of one parent, the other parent will have the right to contact the child(ren) as follows:

Telephone: _____

Other: _____

Limitations on contact: _____

I. Supervision of Parenting Time (if applicable)

Applicable Not Applicable

Supervised parenting time shall apply during the day-to-day schedule as follows:

Place: _____

Person/Organization supervising: _____

Responsibility for cost: Mother Father Both equally

J. Communication Provisions

A parent shall always have the current address, telephone number and cell phone number of the other parent. A parent shall promptly notify the other parent of a change of address, phone number or cell phone number. A parent changing residence must give at least 30 days notice of the change and provide the full address of the new residence.

If a parent is traveling with the child(ren) on a trip which includes an overnight stay, he/she shall provide the other parent with reasonable information concerning the child(ren)'s whereabouts and how to contact the other parent in the event of an emergency. If travel is by air, he/she shall provide the other parent with the child(ren)'s flight information.

_____ *[If applicable, this paragraph must be initialed.]* Due to prior acts of family violence, the address of the child(ren) and victim of family violence shall be kept confidential. The protected parent shall promptly notify the other parent, through a third party, of any change in contact information necessary to conduct visitation.

III. Access Rights to Records and Information

Each parent shall have direct access to the child(ren)'s school, medical, dental and other records of every type, wherever they may be located, and shall have the right to discuss the child(ren) with doctors, teachers, administrators, coaches, youth leaders, and any and all other persons who are involved in any aspect of the child(ren)'s life/lives. Each parent shall have access to the child(ren)'s grades from school, as well as a schedule of the child(ren)'s curricular and extracurricular events, so that each parent shall be permitted and enabled to fully participate in all aspects of the life/lives of the child(ren). Each parent shall provide the other parent with all such schedules which are not reasonably available to the other parent. Each parent will inform the other of events and activities involving the child(ren) so that each parent will have an opportunity to attend if he/she so desires. Designation as a non-custodial parent does not affect a parent's right to equal access to records and information.

Limitations on access rights: _____

Other Information Sharing Provisions: _____

IV. Modification of Plan or Disagreements

Parties may, by mutual agreement, vary the parenting time/visitation; however, such agreement shall not be a binding court order or be construed as modifying a previous order. Custody shall only be modified by court order. If the parents disagree about this parenting plan or wish to modify it, they must make a good faith effort to resolve the issue between themselves.

V. Conduct of Parties

The parties shall always promote the welfare and best interest of the child(ren), and shall confer with each other on all important matters relating to the child(ren). The parties shall not do anything which will or may tend to estrange the child(ren) from the other party. Neither parent shall, directly or indirectly, encourage the child(ren) not to visit with the other parent, or otherwise interfere with the other party's rights of custody or visitation. The parties shall use their best efforts to amicably resolve disputes which may arise.

In the event that a child develops a serious illness or injury while visiting with one parent, that parent shall promptly inform the other parent of the child's condition. Emergency surgery necessary for the preservation of life or to prevent a further serious injury or condition may be performed without the other parent's consent; provided, however, that if time permits, the other parent shall be consulted and, in any event, he/she shall be informed as soon as possible. Non-emergency surgery shall be performed on a child only after the parties have conferred with each other.

Neither party shall consume illegal drugs or excessive amounts of alcohol when the child(ren) is/are in his or her custody. Neither party shall operate a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or any other substance which impairs the ability to drive when the child(ren) is/are in his or her custody.

VI. Additional Provisions *[If these Additional Provisions conflict with other provisions of this parenting plan, the Additional Provisions shall control.]*

Initial one, if applicable:

_____ If the non-custodial parent chooses to exercise his/her visitation privileges, he/she shall provide the custodial parent with no less than forty-eight (48) hours' advance notice of his/her intent. If the non-custodial parent is more than one hour late picking the child(ren) up at the designated time and has not contacted the custodial parent regarding emergency circumstances causing the delay, the custodial parent may then make alternative plans for the child(ren) for that visitation period.

_____ If the non-custodial parent chooses **not** to exercise his/her visitation privileges, he/she shall provide the custodial parent with no less than forty-eight (48) hours' advance notice of his/her intent. If the non-custodial parent is more than one hour late picking the child(ren) up at the designated time and has not contacted the custodial parent regarding emergency circumstances causing the delay, the custodial parent may then make alternative plans for the child(ren) for that visitation period.

[Additional pages may be attached.]

VII. Incorporation into Judgment

It is contemplated that this Parenting Plan will be incorporated into a temporary or final judgment in this case. If there is any conflict between any such judgment and this Parenting Plan or any written agreement between the parties, the judgment shall control. If there is any conflict between this Parenting Plan and any written agreement between the parties, this Parenting Plan shall control.

VIII. Parents' Consent

Please review the following and initial:

We recognize that a close and continuing parent-child relationship and continuity in a child's life is in the child's best interest.

Mother's Initials: _____

Father's Initials: _____

We recognize that our child(ren)'s needs will change and grow as the child(ren) mature(s). We have made a good faith effort to take these changing needs into account so that the need for future modifications to the parenting plan is minimized.

Mother's Initials: _____

Father's Initials: _____

We recognize that the parent with physical custody will make the day-to-day decisions and emergency decisions while the child(ren) is/are residing with such parent (see Section I. C. above).

Mother's Initials: _____

Father's Initials: _____

IX. Agreement of the Parties

The parties hereby knowingly and voluntarily agree to the terms of this Parenting Plan. If signed by a party, the party affirms that the information he/she has provided in connection with the preparation of this plan is true and correct. If signed by an attorney, the attorney certifies that this plan accurately represents information obtained from his/her client which is believed to be true and correct.

_____ *[If applicable, this paragraph must be initialed.]* The parties hereby agree that if a disagreement arises with regard to the terms of this Parenting Plan, prior to seeking a modification, the parties shall attempt to resolve said disagreement through the Augusta Judicial Circuit's alternative dispute resolution program or any other mediation acceptable to the parties and the Court.

Mother or Mother's Attorney

Father or Father's Attorney