

SUPERIOR COURT OF _____ COUNTY, GEORGIA

Civil Action File No. _____

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

*Note: All options on p. 1 must be completed.
If the parties agree to this plan, they or their
attorneys must initial & sign on p. 7.*

PARENTING PLAN A
Father as Primary Physical Custodian

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. The mother and father shall have joint legal custody of the child(ren) named above.

B. The father shall be the primary physical custodian of the child(ren) named above.

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

The parties shall jointly make all major decisions relating to each child, including, but not limited to decisions regarding education, non-emergency health care, religious upbringing and extracurricular activities.

E. Disagreements

If the parties are unable to agree after serious and meaningful consideration of each other's views, the father shall have final decision making authority.

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

During the term of this parenting plan the mother shall have at a minimum the following rights of parenting time/visitation: Every other weekend starting the second weekend after the date of this plan and weekday parenting time/visitation one afternoon each week to be agreed upon by the parties. If the parties cannot agree, weekday visitation shall be on Tuesday.

For purposes of this parenting plan, a weekend will start at 6:00 P.M. on Friday and end at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday. Weekday visitation will begin at 4:00 P.M. and will end at 8:00 P.M., and the father shall provide the child(ren)'s evening meal.

This parenting schedule begins on the date of this plan.

B. Major Holidays and Vacation Periods

Thanksgiving

In even-numbered years, the mother shall have the child(ren) from 6:00 p.m. on the day the child(ren) is/are released from school preceding Thanksgiving Day until the Sunday following Thanksgiving Day at 6:00 p.m. In odd-numbered years, the father shall have the child(ren) for the entire Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Winter Vacation

The () mother (X) father shall have the child(ren) for the first period from the day and time school is dismissed until December 26th at 10:00 A.M. in () odd numbered years (X) 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.

For the purpose of the resumption of regularly scheduled weekend visits, the parent who exercised visitation during the first half of the Christmas holidays shall have the right to have the child(ren) with him/her on the first full weekend after the child(ren) return(s) to school from the Christmas holidays.

Summer Vacation

Summer vacation is the period of time in which the child(ren) is/are not in school during the summer. Unless the parties agree otherwise, visitation with the child(ren) during the summer months shall be alternated week-to-week beginning on Friday at 6:00 p.m., with the mother to begin the exercise of weekly visitation on the first Friday after the child(ren) is/are released from school and alternating every week thereafter. In all cases, the child(ren) shall be with the father the last five days before the beginning of the new school year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a parent shall have the right to designate two (2) consecutive weeks during the summer to visit with the child(ren). In even-numbered years, the mother shall have first choice in selecting her two consecutive weeks. In odd-numbered years, the father shall have first choice. Each year, the parties shall confer with one another as soon as practicable, but shall inform each other of their selections no later than May 1.

Spring Vacation for School-aged Children

Spring vacation means spring break as defined by the child(ren)'s school calendar. In odd-numbered years, the mother shall have the child(ren) from 6:00 p.m. on the day school is dismissed for spring break until 6:00 p.m. on the day before school resumes. In even-numbered years, the father shall have the child(ren) for the entire spring break.

_____ **Alternate Spring Break Schedule:** [The above spring break schedule applies unless this schedule is initialed.] The parties shall divide visitation during spring break. If the parties are unable to agree on visitation during the child(ren)'s spring break, the parent who has the regularly scheduled weekend visitation preceding the beginning of the spring break will have the child(ren) through 12:00 noon on Wednesday, at which time the child(ren) will be returned to the parent who will have visitation with the child(ren) on the following weekend, and the child(ren) will remain with that parent until 6:00 p.m. on the day before school resumes.

Fall Vacation

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

C. Other Holiday Schedule

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	EVERY	NONE
Father's Day	NONE	EVERY
Child(ren)'s Birthday(s)	EVEN	ODD
Mother's Birthday	EVERY	NONE
Father's Birthday	NONE	EVERY
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

D. Other extended periods of time during school

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

E. Start and end dates for holiday visitation

For the purposes of this parenting plan: If the mother exercises visitation on a weekend in which a holiday falls on the Friday or Monday immediately preceding or following the weekend, her visitation shall include that Friday or Monday holiday.

F. Coordination of Parenting Schedules

The holiday parenting/visitation schedule takes priority over the regular parenting time/visitation schedule.

G. Transportation Arrangements

For visitation, the place of meeting for the exchange of the child(ren) shall be the home of the father, unless the alternate provision below is initialed and a different meeting place is indicated.

_____ Alternate meeting place: _____

If one parent has moved (or in the future moves) more than 30 miles from the other, they shall meet halfway or alternate pick up and delivery of the child(ren).

The mother will be responsible for transportation of the child(ren) at the beginning and conclusion of visitation, unless the mother and father live more than 30 miles apart. In such case, they shall meet halfway or alternate pick up and delivery of the child(ren).

Transportation costs: The parent responsible for transportation shall bear the expense thereof, *unless the alternate provision below is initialed and completed.*

_____ **Alternate Provision:** 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: The parent without the child(ren) may call the child(ren) two times per week or one time during weekend visitation between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. The calls shall be private and shall not to exceed 30 minutes per call. The parties may agree to more frequent telephone visitation. If a parent places a call and the child(ren) is/are not present, the other parent shall ensure that the child(ren) place(s) a return call to the parent who originated the call.

I. 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.

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.

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.

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