

Slide 1



**ESTABLISHING OR
MODIFYING ORDERS FOR
CUSTODY/VISITATION:**

How to Prepare Your Legal Papers

- While you are waiting for class to begin, please:
- Mute your audio
- Print the class documents. Go to "Family Law Court Resources," "Family Law Facilitator Classes": <https://www.santabarbara.courts.ca.gov/divisions/family-law/family-law-zoom-classes>
- Have a pen and paper available
- Be ready to start promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Thank you!

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Orders for custody/visitation:

Preparation of legal papers to go to court

Santa Barbara County Superior Court
Deborah K. Mullin, J.D.

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**FAMILY LAW
FACILITATOR**


805.882.4660
www.sbdcourts.org
Email: SBFLF@sbdcourts.org



How can we help you...

- Court attorney who can help you better represent yourself
- Available to either side
- Nothing is confidential
- Can help you with legal papers
- Can help you with service of the legal papers
- Can help with the filing of papers
- FLF does **not** go to court with you
- FLF does **not** represent you

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"I don't remember who said this, but there really are places in the heart you don't even know exist until you love a child."

Anne Lamott, author of Operating Instructions: A Journal of My Son's First Year

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INTRODUCTION

Remember: You can avoid preparing legal papers if you and the other parent attend FREE voluntary mediation first!

Call Family Court Services for an appt. 805-882-4667

Our goal in this class:

To help you to know what to put on the legal papers to go to court regarding custody and/or visitation. You want the judge to make decisions...



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STEPS TO BE ABLE TO GO TO COURT REGARDING CUSTODY AND VISITATION:

1. Must have a **court case** in Santa Barbara County Superior Court;

2. Must **attend once the free 2-hour PEACE** parenting class online;

3A. **Must attend voluntary mediation** through Family Court Services and come to an agreement that is signed by a judge;

OR

3B. **Must prepare legal papers** (Request for Order FL-300) to get a court-ordered mediation appointment and a court hearing date;

4. **Attend court-ordered Family Court Services mediation**, and if there's no signed agreement, then;

5. **Go to court** and have a judge make orders regarding custody and visitation

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OPTIONS FOR PREPARING LEGAL PAPERS TO GO TO COURT:

- **California Courts Self-Help Center:** Lots of information and the free forms available that you complete on your own
- **Law Help Interactive:** Free forms that you complete yourself by answering written interview questions
- **Guide and File:** Answer online questions and automatically create the forms. File electronically or print and file on your own.

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Websites to create the legal forms:

California Courts Self-Help Center: Extensive information and free forms to complete on your own: <https://selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/child-custody-and-parenting-time-index>

Law Help Interactive: By answering written interview questions, you complete legal forms for free: <https://www.butte.courts.ca.gov/self-help/online-resources>

Guide and File: Answer online questions on your own and your forms are created for free. You can then print the documents to serve and file or electronically file: www.guideandfile.com

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PREPARE

Let's make sure you understand the basics...

Physical Custody

Means you have **responsibility for the child on the day-to-day level**

Legal Custody

Means you have **responsibility for making decisions** regarding the child's welfare

Options: **Pick One:**

- Joint legal and physical custody. **OR**
- Joint legal custody and sole physical custody. **OR**
- Sole physical and legal custody

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It's not about YOU...

THINK OF YOUR CHILDREN'S BEST INTERESTS

YOUR KIDS ARE NOT IN A SACK OF POTATOES!



- Who can provide for the basics?
- What's unique about your situation: Age, health, personality, experiences and abilities of the kids?
- What kind of emotional ties exist between parent and child?

Goal: Stability and continuity for the child

- How cooperative are the parents?
- Is there any history of domestic abuse by a parent?

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STEPS FOR GOING TO COURT REGARDING CUSTODY AND VISITATION

1

Have a court case in the Santa Barbara Superior Court

2

Attend the PEACE class

3

Do FREE voluntary mediation with Family Court Services
805-882-4667

4

If mediation doesn't work, prepare your legal papers

5

- File and serve your papers.
- Prepare for court

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PEACE Parenting Class

- NOT offered in person
- Attend online any day and time of the week
- Must be able to print Certificate of Attendance
- File the Certificate of Attendance with court
- FREE

ENGLISH: <https://www.santabarbaracourts.ca.gov/divisions/family-law/peace-online>

ESPAÑOL: <https://www.santabarbaracourts.ca.gov/divisions/family-law/peace-en-linea>

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SPECIAL REQUESTS
to make in your legal papers...

If you don't ask for it,
you won't get it!

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OTHER IDEAS to insert in your legal papers:

- Request supervised visitation
- Request drug or alcohol testing
- Request parenting classes
- Request text to confirm visitation
- Request for child to speak to court
- Request cooperation to obtain passport for minor child or to travel
- Request authorization to move away with minor child
- Request all communication through TalkingParents.com or Our Family Wizard

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Co-Parenting Essentials Program Online course with certificate included!

The COPE Program

16 hr Coparenting Education for High Conflict Cases. Inclusion in 4 online groups - 6 hrs of Face to Face Support on Your Case

Si Habla Español

[Get Started Now!](#)

<https://coparentingessentials.com/>

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CLASSES

- Dedicated Dads
- Connected Couples, Connected Families
- Parenting Classes



Our Locations

SANTA BARBARA FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 2000 Highway 101, Suite 101 Santa Barbara, CA 93101 (805) 965-1001 Fax: (805) 965-1002	SANTA MONICA YOUTH FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 1200 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100 Santa Monica, CA 90401 (310) 312-1234 Fax: (310) 312-1235	VENTURA FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 101 West 10th Street Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 222-1234 Fax: (805) 222-1235	SANTEFE JUVENILE FAMILY FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 100 North 10th Street Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 763-1234 Fax: (505) 763-1235
LONG BEACH FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 10000 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100 Long Beach, CA 90801 (562) 592-1234 Fax: (562) 592-1235	SANTA MONICA FAMILY FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 1200 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100 Santa Monica, CA 90401 (310) 312-1234 Fax: (310) 312-1235	CARPENTERS FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 100 North 10th Street Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 222-1234 Fax: (805) 222-1235	LITTLE ROCK BY THE PINE FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY 100 North 10th Street Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 763-1234 Fax: (505) 763-1235

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CO-PARENTING COMMUNICATION

Website Resources


Separated or divorced parents may find that using an online co-parenting system to communicate issues such as scheduling changes, providing the other parent with medical, behavioral or medical information regarding their child, making events and activities, creating a photo gallery, and tracking co-parenting expenses is a helpful way to communicate regarding their children. Parents may also find it very useful to use an online shared calendar. This is particularly helpful for parents who have difficulty communicating in-person, by phone or text, or using their personal e-mail addresses. It minimizes stressful discussions and may help to improve their communication skills and benefit their children. The following is a list of some websites that provide this kind of management system.

- OurFamilyWizard.com
- BeFitParents.com
- TalkingParents.com
- ShareKids.com

Santa Barbara County Superior Court does not endorse any online co-parenting management program over the other. This list is not comprehensive, but is intended for the purpose of providing parents with the resources that may be helpful in improving their communication regarding their children. Some of the websites are free, and some charge for their services. You may want to explore these websites to see which one is the best fit for you.



Special Email Programs to Use Instead of Texting!



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FL-300
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NOTICE OF DECISION

1. COURT DECISION

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100. NOTICE OF DECISION

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1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

a. NAME **LAST** **FIRST** **MIDDLE**

b. DATE OF BIRTH **MONTH** **DAY** **YEAR**

c. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

d. CURRENT ADDRESS

e. PHONE NUMBER

f. EMAIL ADDRESS

g. CURRENT EMPLOYER

h. CURRENT POSITION

i. CURRENT SALARY

j. CURRENT BENEFITS

k. CURRENT EDUCATION

l. CURRENT DEGREE

m. CURRENT SCHOOL

n. CURRENT GRADUATION DATE

o. CURRENT GRADUATION CITY

p. CURRENT GRADUATION STATE

q. CURRENT GRADUATION COUNTRY

r. CURRENT GRADUATION DEGREE

s. CURRENT GRADUATION SCHOOL

t. CURRENT GRADUATION YEAR

u. CURRENT GRADUATION CITY

v. CURRENT GRADUATION STATE

w. CURRENT GRADUATION COUNTRY

x. CURRENT GRADUATION DEGREE

y. CURRENT GRADUATION SCHOOL

z. CURRENT GRADUATION YEAR

FI-300

Pgs. 3-4

2. PERSONAL INFORMATION

a. NAME **LAST** **FIRST** **MIDDLE**

b. DATE OF BIRTH **MONTH** **DAY** **YEAR**

c. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

d. CURRENT ADDRESS

e. PHONE NUMBER

f. EMAIL ADDRESS

g. CURRENT EMPLOYER

h. CURRENT POSITION

i. CURRENT SALARY

j. CURRENT BENEFITS

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QUESTION		ANSWER	EXPLANATION
1	1. In the following chart, the segment between points A and B represents the distance between the two points. What is the distance between A and B?	10	1. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
2	2. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	2. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
3	3. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	3. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
4	4. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	4. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
5	5. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	5. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
6	6. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	6. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
7	7. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	7. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
8	8. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	8. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
9	9. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	9. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.
10	10. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.	10	10. The distance between two points is the length of the line segment connecting them. In this case, the distance between A and B is 10.

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2/2/3 Plan						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Parent A	Parent A	Parent B	Parent B	Parent A	Parent A	Parent A
Parent B	Parent B	Parent A	Parent A	Parent B	Parent B	Parent B
Parent A	Parent A	Parent B	Parent B	Parent A	Parent A	Parent A
Parent B	Parent B	Parent A	Parent A	Parent B	Parent B	Parent B
Parent A	Parent A	Parent B	Parent B	Parent A	Parent A	Parent A
Parent B	Parent B	Parent A	Parent A	Parent B	Parent B	Parent B

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2-2-5-5 PARENTING SCHEDULE						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
FATHER	FATHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	FATHER	FATHER/MOTHER	FATHER
FATHER	FATHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	MOTHER/MOTHER	MOTHER
FATHER	FATHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	FATHER	FATHER/MOTHER	FATHER
FATHER	FATHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	MOTHER/MOTHER	MOTHER
FATHER	FATHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	FATHER	FATHER/MOTHER	FATHER
FATHER	FATHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	MOTHER	MOTHER/MOTHER	MOTHER

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OPTIONAL FORM FL-341(c)

FL-341(c) PARENTING SCHEDULE ATTACHMENT

1. Parent's Name: _____

2. Child's Name: _____

3. Date of Birth: _____

4. Case No.: _____

5. Court No.: _____

6. Judge's Name: _____

7. Date of Filing: _____

8. Date of Hearing: _____

9. Date of Trial: _____

10. Date of Judgment: _____

11. Date of Appeal: _____

12. Date of Rehearing: _____

13. Date of Remand: _____

14. Date of Vacatur: _____

15. Date of Stay: _____

16. Date of Dismissal: _____

17. Date of Settlement: _____

18. Date of Mediation: _____

19. Date of Arbitration: _____

20. Date of Conciliation: _____

21. Date of Referral: _____

22. Date of Appointment: _____

23. Date of Appearance: _____

24. Date of Submission: _____

25. Date of Decision: _____

26. Date of Order: _____

27. Date of Entry: _____

28. Date of Execution: _____

29. Date of Compliance: _____

30. Date of Enforcement: _____

31. Date of Review: _____

32. Date of Appeal: _____

33. Date of Rehearing: _____

34. Date of Remand: _____

35. Date of Vacatur: _____

36. Date of Stay: _____

37. Date of Dismissal: _____

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70. Date of Execution: _____

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75. Date of Rehearing: _____

76. Date of Remand: _____

77. Date of Vacatur: _____

78. Date of Stay: _____

79. Date of Dismissal: _____

80. Date of Settlement: _____

81. Date of Mediation: _____

82. Date of Arbitration: _____

83. Date of Conciliation: _____

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[illegible]

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FW-001 Request for Waiver Court Fees	CONFIDENTIAL	Form Number
<p>THIS FORM IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PLAINTIFF OR PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY AND FILED WITH THE PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS. IT IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PLAINTIFF OR PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY AND FILED WITH THE PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS. IT IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PLAINTIFF OR PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY AND FILED WITH THE PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.</p>	<p>FW-001</p>	<p>THIS FORM IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PLAINTIFF OR PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY AND FILED WITH THE PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS. IT IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PLAINTIFF OR PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY AND FILED WITH THE PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS. IT IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PLAINTIFF OR PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY AND FILED WITH THE PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.</p>
<p>1. Plaintiff's Name _____</p> <p>2. Plaintiff's Address _____</p> <p>3. Plaintiff's City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>4. Plaintiff's Telephone Number _____</p> <p>5. Plaintiff's E-mail Address _____</p> <p>6. Plaintiff's Signature _____</p> <p>7. Plaintiff's Date of Birth _____</p> <p>8. Plaintiff's Date of Arrest _____</p> <p>9. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>10. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>11. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>12. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>13. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>14. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>15. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>16. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>17. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>18. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>19. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>20. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>21. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>22. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>23. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>24. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>25. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>26. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>27. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>28. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>29. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>30. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>31. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>32. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>33. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>34. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>35. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>36. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>37. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>38. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>39. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>40. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>41. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>42. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>43. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>44. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>45. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>46. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>47. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>48. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>49. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>50. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>51. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>52. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>53. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>54. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>55. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>56. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>57. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>58. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>59. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>60. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>61. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>62. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>63. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>64. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>65. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>66. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>67. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>68. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>69. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>70. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>71. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>72. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>73. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>74. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>75. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>76. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>77. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>78. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>79. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>80. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>81. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>82. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>83. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>84. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>85. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>86. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>87. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>88. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>89. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>90. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>91. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p> <p>92. Plaintiff's Date of Hearing _____</p> <p>93. Plaintiff's Date of Trial _____</p> <p>94. Plaintiff's Date of Verdict _____</p> <p>95. Plaintiff's Date of Sentence _____</p> <p>96. Plaintiff's Date of Appeal _____</p> <p>97. Plaintiff's Date of Rehearing _____</p> <p>98. Plaintiff's Date of Remand _____</p> <p>99. Plaintiff's Date of Release _____</p> <p>100. Plaintiff's Date of Filing _____</p>		

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FW-003 Order on Court Fee Waiver

Instructions: Complete this form to request a fee waiver. It must be filed with your petition for custody or visitation.

1. Complete the following information:

Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

2. Complete the following information:

Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

3. Complete the following information:

Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

4. Complete the following information:

Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

5. Complete the following information:

Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

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Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

28. Complete the following information:

Case No. _____ Date of filing _____

29. Complete the following information:

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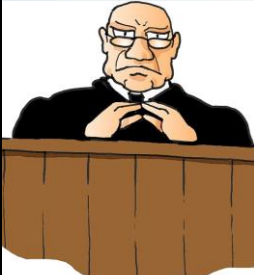
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FW-003

Fee Waiver Order

(3 pages)

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WRITING YOUR DECLARATION:

A judge is a judge because a judge loves to judge!

- State facts, not conclusions
- Give a lot of details, not generalizations
- Allow the judge to draw their own conclusions
- Tell your story in a way that the judge can understand:
 - What do you specifically want?
 - Why is this in your child's best interests?
 - If you want to change a custody order that is post-judgment, what is the "change of circumstances"?

Slide 30

- What is the background story?
- How was your relationship together?
- When did you separate?
- What kind of parenting arrangement have you followed since then?
- What problems are there now?
- What do you propose as a solution, and why?
- History of domestic abuse?
- Criminal history?
- Attach documents and pictures as exhibits. Discuss in your declaration.

Imagine that you are a movie director, and you want to tell your story.....



Your declaration is limited to no more than 10 pages long, typed, double-spaced, font size 11-12

Slide 31

ready.set.go!

Downloaded by [redacted] from [redacted] on [redacted]

Slide 32



FINAL STEPS:

STEP 2: Get your court date and file your documents with the Clerk's Office

STEP 3: Have the other parent properly served. File your Proof of Service.

STEP 4: Prepare for court: Be organized and knowledgeable

STEP 5: Go to court

REMEMBER: The Family Law Facilitator is here to help you as you represent yourself. Get more specific information to educate yourself: www.courts.ca.gov/1185.htm
 Call our office for further assistance.

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[illegible]

Slide 34

What the **Family Law Facilitator's Office** can do for you now:


- Direct you to the proper website to complete the necessary forms
- Review your documents if you scan them to **SBFLF@sbcourts.org**. Make an appointment.
- Help you to get your documents properly filed and served
- Help you feel prepared for court



You Can Do It!

Best wishes and best of luck!

Slide 35



Trust yourself

Thank you.

For further assistance, please:
call **805.882.4660**
or email us at **SBFLF@sbcourts.org**.

Check us out at
<https://www.santabarbara.courts.ca.gov>
