

PARENTING PLAN PARENT-CREATED

(Joint Legal and Joint Physical Custody)

The parents wish to have this Parenting Plan approved by the court in the case of

vs.

_____ ,
(plaintiff's full name)

_____ ,
(defendant's full name)

case no. _____ , filed in the District Court of
(case number assigned by clerk of court)

_____ County, Nebraska. Both parents mutually agree as follows:
(county where Complaint filed)

1. The best interests of the minor child(ren) will be maintained through the ongoing involvement of both of the parents.
2. The best interests of the minor child(ren) will be maintained by ensuring regular and continuous school attendance and progress for school-age child(ren).
3. The parents agree that each is a fit person to be involved in the parenting of the child(ren).
4. The parents will remain active and involved in parenting the child(ren).
5. The purpose for this Plan is to establish custody, parenting time and other access arrangements, to determine parenting time to be spent with each parent, and to decide how to deal with any future disagreements between the parents regarding this Plan.
6. The parents understand that the needs of the child(ren) may change as the child(ren) get(s) older and the parents will interpret and apply this Plan in a way that best serves any changing needs of the child(ren).
7. The parents agree to joint legal custody. Joint legal custody means mutual authority and responsibility of the parents for making mutual fundamental decisions regarding the child(ren)'s welfare, including but not limited to choices regarding education, health, and spiritual or religious upbringing.
8. The parents agree to joint physical custody. Joint physical custody means mutual authority and responsibility of the parents regarding the child(ren)'s place of residence and the exertion of continuous blocks of parenting time by each parent over the child(ren) for significant periods of time.

9. The parents will have parenting time with the child(ren) as follows:

A. (Check the box that applies):

1. The parents will alternate parenting time on a _____ weekly
bi-weekly _____ monthly basis. The exchange of the child(ren)
will occur at _____ : _____ am pm on _____ .
(exchange time) (day of the week)

(OR)

2. During the week the plaintiff will have parenting time with the
child(ren) from _____ at _____ : _____ am pm until _____
(day of the week) (beginning time) (day of the week)
at _____ : _____ am pm.
(ending time)

During the week the defendant will have parenting time with the child(ren)
from _____ at _____ : _____ am pm until _____ at
(day of the week) (beginning time) (day of the week)
_____ : _____ am pm.
(ending time)

The parents will alternate weekends and the parenting time will begin on
_____ at _____ : _____ am pm and end on
(day of the week) (beginning time)
_____ at _____ : _____ am pm
(day of the week) (ending time)

(OR)

3. The schedule for parenting time will be as follows: (complete with
the arrangements you have reached)

To ensure that the Parenting Plan meets the requirements of the Parenting Act, one parent or the other must have responsibility for the child(ren) at all times which means 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

B. Holidays and other Special Days:

1. The plaintiff will have the following holidays:

Even numbered years: _____, _____,
_____, _____,
_____;

Odd numbered years: _____, _____,
_____, _____,
_____.

2. The defendant will have the following holidays:

Even numbered years: _____, _____,
_____, _____,
_____;

Odd numbered years: _____, _____,
_____, _____,
_____.

3. **Holidays and other special days will be defined as follows:**

(you may add holidays and special days below or delete them by crossing them out)

(a) **Easter:** This holiday will include that period of time during which the child(ren) is/are excused from school before the Easter holiday, including Easter Sunday, and will begin at _____ : _____ am pm on the day the child(ren) is/are (beginning time) released from school and end at _____ : _____ am pm (ending time) on the day before the child(ren) return(s) to school.

(b) **Memorial Day weekend:** This holiday will include only that weekend when Memorial Day is nationally recognized and will begin at _____ : _____ am pm on Friday and end (beginning time) at _____ : _____ am pm on Monday, Memorial Day. (ending time)

(c) **Fourth of July:** This holiday will begin on July 4th at _____ : _____ am pm and end on July 5th (beginning time) at _____ : _____ am pm (ending time)

The Fourth of July plan takes priority over those days during summer parenting time.

(d) **Labor Day weekend:** This holiday will include only that weekend on which Labor Day is nationally recognized and will begin at _____ : _____ am pm on Friday and end
(beginning time)
at _____ : _____ am pm on Monday, Labor Day.
(ending time)

(e) **Thanksgiving:**
(Check the box that applies):

1. This holiday will be defined as that period of time during which the child(ren) is/are excused from school for the Thanksgiving holiday, including Thanksgiving day, and will begin at _____ : _____ am pm on the day the child(ren) is/are
(beginning time)
released from school and end at _____ : _____ am pm on
(ending time)
the day before the child(ren) return(s) to school.

(OR)

2. The parents will schedule the Thanksgiving holiday as follows:

(f) **Christmas/Winter Holiday:**
(Check the box that applies):

1. The holiday will have two parts:

Part one will begin at _____ : _____ am pm on the
(beginning time)
day the child(ren) are released from school and end at
_____ : _____ am pm on December 27th.
(ending time)

Part two will begin at _____ : _____ am pm on
(beginning time)
December 27th and end the day before school begins at
_____ : _____ am pm.
(ending time)

(OR)

2. The parents will schedule the Christmas/Winter holiday as follows:

(g) **The Child(ren)'s Birthdays:** This will be the actual day of the child(ren)'s birthday, and will begin at _____ : _____
(beginning time)
am pm and will end at _____ : _____ am pm.
(ending time)

(h) **Father's/Mother's Day:** Every year _____ will have the child(ren) on Father's Day and _____ will have the child(ren) on Mother's Day.
This holiday will begin at _____ : _____ am pm and
(beginning time)
end at _____ : _____ am pm on the Sunday on which
(ending time)
this holiday is nationally observed.

(i) **Other Holidays/School Breaks**
Other holiday:

Other holiday:

Other holiday:

C. Summer Parenting Schedule (Optional):

Beginning on _____ and ending on _____,
the parents will have parenting time with the child(ren) during the following times and dates:

Plaintiff:

Defendant:

- 10. Priority of Holiday Parenting Time Schedules:** Holiday parenting time schedule takes priority over the regular parenting time schedule.

(Check the box that applies):

1. The regular weekend parenting schedule will skip the holiday and be carried forward to the weekend following.

As an example, suppose the plaintiff's regular weekend parenting time with the child(ren) falls during the Labor Day holiday in a year when the child(ren) is/are with the defendant for Labor Day. Because Labor Day is a holiday, it takes priority and the child(ren) have parenting time with the defendant. Beginning the first weekend following the holiday, regular alternating weekend parenting time is carried forward so that the plaintiff has the first weekend following the holiday.

(OR)

2. Regular parenting time will remain unchanged regardless of holiday parenting time even if it creates a situation where one parent may have the child(ren) three consecutive weekends.

- 11. Telephone/Virtual Parenting Access:** The parent who does not have the child(ren) will have telephone parenting time with the child(ren) on

_____ each week, between ____:____ am pm and
(day of the week) (beginning time)
____:____ am pm for not less than _____ minutes.
(ending time) (number of minutes)

- 12. Child(ren)'s Transition--Responsibility for Exchange:**

(Check the box that applies):

1. Each parent will pick up the child(ren) at the beginning of their parenting time.

(OR)

2. The parents agree to the following exchange plan:

13. **Being on Time.** Both parents understand that they have the responsibility to be on time. If either parent will be late for some reason, or will be unable to exercise parenting time, that parent will notify the other parent as soon as possible. The parents understand that fifteen (15) minutes is a reasonable time for a parent to wait in order to pick up or return the child(ren).
14. **Scheduling Activities.** One parent may not plan or schedule activities during the parenting time of the other parent without reasonable notice to *and* consent of the other parent.
15. **Child(ren)'s Events.** The parents will inform each other, reasonably in advance, of all events where a parent may participate in the child(ren)'s activities or events (i.e., school plays, athletic events, teacher conferences, music recitals, and the like). Notice will be provided in such a way that the other parent has the maximum opportunity to attend that activity or event.
16. **Parenting Behavior.** The child(ren)'s best interests require the utmost cooperation between the parents. To this end, neither parent will talk badly about or in any way be negative about the other parent in front of the child(ren) or in any activity or communication involving the child(ren). Neither parent will ask about the other's personal affairs through the child(ren). The parents will cooperate with each other, to the fullest extent necessary, in order to encourage a safe, secure, and loving environment for the child(ren).
17. **Access to Information.** Each parent shall continue to have full and equal access to the education and medical records of the minor child(ren). The names of both parents will appear on all school, governmental, law enforcement, medical and health-related records, and both parents will be provided full and equal access to all teachers, government officials and doctors.
18. **Emergency Medical.** Either parent may make emergency decisions affecting the health or safety of the minor child(ren) while the child(ren) is/are in the physical custody of such parent.
19. **Temporary Changes.** The parents can temporarily change the terms of this Plan *as long as they both agree to it.*

- 20. Permanent Changes.** This Plan may be changed by mutual, written agreement of the parents. Both parents understand that any permanent changes must be approved by the court to be binding and enforceable.
- 21. Mediation for Future Disputes.** In the event one or both of the parents wish to change the terms of this Plan in the future and the parents are unable to agree on the terms of such change, the parents will attempt to mediate their disagreements.
- 22. Notification Requirement for Current and Change of Address and Contact Information.** If there is a change of address or contact information, each parent will notify the other parent by mailing the change of address to the last known mailing address. Exception: If one parent has a confidential address under Nebraska or federal law, the address or return address shall only include the county and state for a party who is living or moving to an undisclosed location.
- 23. Out-of-State Change of Residence.** The child(ren)'s residence will not be changed from the State of Nebraska without prior order of the court.

Signature (Plaintiff) Date: _____

Name Street Address/P.O. Box

Bar Number and Firm Name (attorneys only) City/State/ZIP Code

Phone Email Address

Signature (Defendant) Date: _____

Name Street Address/P.O. Box

Bar Number and Firm Name (attorneys only) City/State/ZIP Code

Phone Email Address