

____ COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA

Petitioner,)	
)	Civil Action
)	
vs.)	Case Number _____
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

PARENTING PLAN

Mother (name): _____

Father (name): _____

This plan ☐ is a new plan.
 ☐ modifies an existing *Parenting Plan* dated _____.
 ☐ modifies an existing Order dated _____.

Minor Child's Name	Date of Birth

I. Custody and Decision Making:

A. Legal Custody shall be (choose one:)

☐ with the Mother – Unless otherwise specified below in Section I.D., Mother shall have the rights and responsibilities for major decisions concerning the child(ren), including the child(ren)'s education, health care, extracurricular activities, and religious training.

☐ with the Father – Unless otherwise specified below in Section I.D., Father shall have the rights and responsibilities for major decisions concerning the child(ren), including the child(ren)'s education, health care, extracurricular activities, and religious training.

☐ Joint – Unless otherwise specified below in Section I.D., both parents shall have equal rights and responsibilities for major decisions concerning the child(ren), including the child(ren)'s education, health care, extracurricular activities, and religious training. The parties shall consult each other and try to reach a joint decision on all major issues concerning the child(ren).

Mother's initials _____

Father's initials _____

B. Physical Custody

For each of the children named below the primary physical custodian shall be:

	d/o/b:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	d/o/b:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	d/o/b:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	d/o/b:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint
	d/o/b:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint

(IMPORTANT: WHEN JOINT PHYSICAL CUSTODY IS CHOSEN, THE DETAILED PLAN OF THE LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE CHILD(REN) ON PAGE 3 MUST SHOW THAT PHYSICAL CUSTODY IS SHARED BY THE PARENTS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ASSURE THE CHILD(REN) OF SUBSTANTIALLY EQUAL TIME AND CONTACT WITH BOTH PARENTS.)

C. Day-To-Day Decisions

Each parent shall make decisions regarding the day-to-day care of a child while the child is residing with that parent, including any emergency decisions affecting the health or safety of a child.

D. Major Decisions (optional – if not complete, the parties shall follow the terms of Section I.A. above)

Major decisions regarding each child shall be made as follows:

Educational decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> mother	<input type="checkbox"/> father	<input type="checkbox"/> joint
Non-emergency health care	<input type="checkbox"/> mother	<input type="checkbox"/> father	<input type="checkbox"/> joint
Religious upbringing	<input type="checkbox"/> mother	<input type="checkbox"/> father	<input type="checkbox"/> joint
Extracurricular activities	<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

E. Disagreements

Where parents have elected joint decision making in Section I.D. above, please explain how any disagreements in decision-making will be resolved.

For any major decision regarding the child(ren) not specified in this *Parenting Plan*, if the parties have joint legal custody (pursuant to Section I.A. above) and are not able to reach a joint decision concerning the issue, then: (choose one)

☐ mother shall make the final decision on the issue.

☐ father shall make the final decision on the issue.

Mother's initials _____

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Father's initials _____

II. Parenting Time/Visitation Schedule

This parenting time/visitation schedule begins:

() _____ OR () date of the Court's Order
(day and time)

A. Regular Schedule

During the term of this parenting plan, the Mother and Father shall have at a minimum the following rights of parenting time/visitation (check and complete only one option below):

() **1. Same Schedule Every Week.** (The parties follow the same schedule every week.)

Example: Mother shall have the child(ren) each week: on Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and from Saturday at 4:30 p.m. until Sunday at 4:30 p.m. The other parent shall have the child for the remainder of the time each week.

(Mother / Father) _____ shall have the child(ren) each week:

_____.

The other parent shall have the child(ren) for the remainder of the time each week.

() **2. Four-Week Schedule.** (The parties follow a schedule that repeats every four weeks.)

Example: Father shall have the child(ren) at the following times (to be repeated every four weeks):
WEEK ONE: from Wed. at 5:30 p.m. to Thurs. at 8:00 a.m., and from Fri. at 5:30 p.m. to Sun. at 6:00 p.m.;
WEEK TWO: from Wed. at 5:30 p.m. to Thurs. at 8:00 a.m.;
WEEK THREE: from Wed. at 5:30 p.m. to Thurs. at 8:00 a.m., and from Fri. at 5:30 p.m. to Sun. at 6:00 p.m.;
WEEK FOUR: from Wed. at 5:30 p.m. to Thurs. at 8:00 a.m..
The other parent shall have the child the remainder of the time in each four-week period.

(Mother / Father) _____ shall have the child(ren) at the following times (to be repeated every four weeks):

WEEK ONE: _____;

WEEK TWO: _____;

WEEK THREE: _____;
_____; and
WEEK FOUR: _____.

The other parent shall have the child(ren) for the remainder of the time in each four-week period.

() **3. Long-Distance/Yearly Schedule.** (The parties follow a schedule that repeats every year.)

(Mother / Father) _____ shall have the child(ren) at the following times each year:

_____.

The other parent shall have the child(ren) for the remainder of the time each year.

Mother's initials _____

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Father's initials _____

B. Vacation Periods

Thanksgiving

The Regular Schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth here:

_____ beginning _____.
_____.

Winter Vacation

The () mother () father shall have the child(ren) for the first period from the day and time school is dismissed until December _____ at _____ a.m./p.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

Define summer vacation period: _____

The Regular Schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth here:

_____ beginning _____.
_____.

Spring Vacation (if applicable)

Define: _____

The Regular Schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth here:

_____ beginning _____.
_____.

Fall Vacation (if applicable)

Define: _____

The Regular Schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth here:

_____ beginning _____.
_____.

C. Holidays and Special Days (optional)

Holidays and Special Days completed below shall have priority over Vacation Periods and the Regular Schedule. (Write the beginning and end of each holiday and indicate if the child(ren) will be with the parent during that time in ODD or EVEN numbered years or EVERY year.

Note: you may write that a holiday stretches over a period of days.)

	Beginning (Day and Time) and End (Day and Time)	MOTHER	FATHER
Martin Luther King Day	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Presidents' Day	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Mother's Day	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Memorial Day	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Father's Day	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
July Fourth	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Labor Day	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Halloween	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Mother's Birthday	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Father's Birthday	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Religious Holidays:	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
_____	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
_____	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Other:	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____
Other:	From ___ a.m./p.m. on _____ to ___ a.m./p.m. on _____	_____	_____

Child(ren)'s Birthday(s) Check if applicable:

() Each parent shall have at least _____ hours with the child(ren) on each child's birthday. If the parents cannot agree on the time(s) for such visitation, then the parent who is not regularly scheduled to have the child(ren) with him or her on the birthday in question shall be entitled to visit with the child(ren) from _____ a.m./p.m. to _____ a.m./p.m. on that day.

Mother's initials _____

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Father's initials _____

D. Other extended periods of time during school, etc. (optional; refer to the school schedule) _____

E. Coordination of Parenting Schedules (optional)

Check if applicable:

() 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:

F. Transportation Arrangements, Notice and Parenting Time Limitations

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

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

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

Transportation costs will be allocated as follows:

Check if applicable:

() The _____ shall notify the other parent at least 24 hours in advance of any scheduled drop-off/pick-up time if he/she does not intend to exercise that visitation opportunity.

() The _____ shall give the other parent written notice _____ day(s) in advance of any scheduled visitation if he/she wishes to exercise the right of visitation.

() The _____ shall arrive to pick up the child(ren) no later than _____ minutes after the scheduled drop-off/pick-up time, or he/she shall lose that visitation opportunity. The parent with primary physical custody agrees to make the child(ren) available at the agreed-upon drop-off/pick-up time.

() The parties agree that neither party shall consume alcohol or illegal drugs, overuse prescribed medication, or mix prescribed medication with alcohol when he/she has physical custody of the child, or allow anyone else to do any of these things in the presence of the child.

() The following limitations apply to the _____'s time with the children:
_____.

Other provisions: _____

G. Contacting the child

When the child or children are in the physical custody of one parent, the other parent will have the right to contact the child or children as follows:

☐ Telephone

☐ Other: _____

☐ Limitations on contact: _____

H. Supervision of Parenting Time (if applicable)

☐ Check here if supervised visitation is applicable.

Supervised parenting time shall apply at all times the _____ is exercising his/her visitation as follows:

Place: _____ or if checked here ☐, at a location approved by the person/organization supervising the visitation.

Person/Organization supervising: _____ or if checked here ☐, by a visitation supervisor from a local sheriff's department (deputy) or from any agency or organization which maintains a list of approved visitation supervisors.

Responsibility for cost:

☐ mother ☐ father ☐ both equally

Check if applicable:

☐ If the _____ does not arrive within _____ minutes after the scheduled visitation is set to begin, he/she shall lose that visitation opportunity and pay any costs associated with the missed visit.

I. Communication Provisions

Please check:

☐ Each 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.

☐ 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 to Records and Information

Rights of the Parents

Absent agreement to limitations or court ordered limitations, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-9-1 (b) (1) (D), both parents are entitled to access to all of the child(ren)'s records and information, including, but not limited to, education, health, extracurricular activities, and religious communications. The specific legal and physical custody arrangement set forth in Section I. above does not affect a parent's right to equal access to these records.

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. Custody shall only be modified by court order.

Should the parents disagree about this *Parenting Plan* or wish to modify it, they must make a good faith effort to resolve the issue between them.

V. Special Considerations

Please attach an addendum detailing any special circumstances of which the Court should be aware (e.g., health issues, educational issues, etc.)

VI. Recognitions

Unless otherwise specified in this *Parenting Plan*, the party/ies submitting this plan recognize(s):

1. That a close and continuing parent-child relationship and continuity in each child's life is in the child's best interest.
2. Each child's needs will change and grow as the child matures and this *Parenting Plan* demonstrates a good faith effort to take these changing needs into account so that the need for future modifications to the *Parenting Plan* is minimized.
3. The parent with physical custody will make the day-to-day decisions and emergency decisions while the child is residing with such parent.

Mother's initials _____

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Father's initials _____

(Use this signature page when *Parenting Plan* is approved by both parties and/or Judge)

() We, the parties, knowingly and voluntarily agree to the terms of this *Parenting Plan*. This information has been furnished by both parties to meet the requirements of OCGA Section 19-9-1. We agree on the terms of this *Parenting Plan* and affirm the accuracy of the information provided, as shown by our signatures below.

Father's Signature

Mother's Signature

() This *Parenting Plan* has been prepared by the Judge.

ORDER

The Court has reviewed the foregoing *Parenting Plan*, and it is hereby made the order of this Court.

This Order entered on _____, 20 _____.

JUDGE

_____ COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT