

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

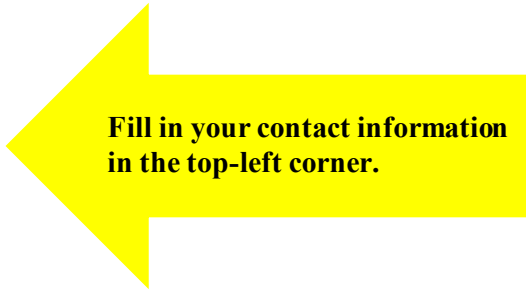
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address (optional)

**Petitioner appearing without a lawyer**



MONTANA Enter # Here JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
Your County COUNTY

In re the Marriage of:

Name of person who filed petition goes here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner (you),

and

Name of person being served goes here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent (your spouse).

Case No:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(leave blank, the clerk will complete)

**Notice and Request for Acknowledgment of Service of Summons and Petition for Dissolution of Marriage With Parenting Plan for Minor Children**

**NOTICE** To: (your spouse's name) Name of the person being served goes here Respondent:

I am serving the following documents according to the rules of civil procedure. You can find the rules at the Montana Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 4(D)(3)(A):

- Summons and Temporary Economic Restraining Order (MP-400)
- Petition for Dissolution of Marriage With Children (MP-113)
- Petitioner's Proposed Parenting Plan (MP-300)
- Petitioner's Declaration of Income and Expenses (MP-510)
- Petitioner's Proposed Property Distribution (MP-500)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**You will mark the box of the forms you are mailing.**

**Any additional forms you are mailing, will be listed here**



# You were sent papers in the mail, now what?

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## Why is my name on these papers?

- ∞ You are named in a family law case.
- ∞ A petition to dissolve your marriage and to get a parenting plan was filed in district court.

## Why did I get these papers in the mail?

- ∞ Your spouse is trying to serve you without having to use a sheriff or other process server.

**IMPORTANT:** Keep a copy of these papers for your records.

## I don't want to have a sheriff serve me, what can I do?

- ∞ Fill out the acknowledgment part of this form;
- ∞ Put it in the enclosed stamped return envelope;
- ∞ Return it to your spouse within 21 days after the date it was mailed.

## What does it mean if I fill out and return the acknowledgment?

- ∞ Filling out and returning the acknowledgment means that you received these papers.
- ∞ It doesn't mean that you agree with what is in the petition or parenting plan.

## If I fill out and return the acknowledgement, do I need to do anything else?

- ∞ You must submit a written response to the court and your spouse within 21 days. If you don't submit a written response, the court may decide against you without you being heard.
- ∞ You must pay a fee to submit your written response, or ask the court to waive the fee if you are low income.

## **What happens if I don't fill out and return the acknowledgment?**

- ∞ If you don't fill out and return the acknowledgment within 21 days after it was mailed:
  - You will be served with these papers by the sheriff or other process server.
  - You may have to pay the costs of serving you.

## **Where can I get help?**

- ∞ You can find a response form and the closest Self Help Law Center at: [courts.mt.gov/selfhelp](http://courts.mt.gov/selfhelp)
- ∞ You can find more information at [www.MontanaLawHelp.org](http://www.MontanaLawHelp.org)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR HAND DELIVERY**

On \_\_\_\_\_ **Date this the day you are mailing forms to the Respondent** \_\_\_\_\_, I sent by certified mail, postage prepaid, or delivered by hand the following documents:

**You will mark the box of the forms you are mailing.**

- Two copies of this Notice and Acknowledgement of Service and a stamped return envelope (MP-403)
- Summons and Temporary Economic Restraining Order (MP-400)
- Petition for Dissolution of Marriage With Children (MP-113)
- Petitioner’s Proposed Parenting Plan (MP-300)
- Petitioner’s Declaration of Assets, Debts, Income and Expenses (MP-510)
- Petitioner’s Proposed Property Distribution (MP-500)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Any additional forms you are mailing, will be listed here**

to Respondent at:

*(mailing address)*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Respondents mailing information goes here**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

**Petitioner date, signs, and prints name at the bottom.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner Signature  
Appearing without a lawyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name