

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIM FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (No Children)**

### **HEADING**

- Enter the name of the county where your spouse filed the Complaint.
- Enter your spouse's first, middle, and last names. Your spouse is the plaintiff.
- Enter your first, middle, and last names. You are the defendant.
- The Clerk of the District Court gave your spouse a case number when the Complaint was filed. You must include the case number on any papers you file.

### **BODY OF ANSWER**

Enter your full name in the first paragraph. This paragraph does not have a number.

The numbers below give instructions for completing the paragraphs with the same numbers in the Answer to Complaint for Dissolution of Marriage.

Paragraph 1. Enter the paragraph numbers, separated by commas, from the Complaint that are correct.

Paragraph 2. Enter the paragraph numbers, separated by commas, from the Complaint that are incorrect.

### **BODY OF COUNTERCLAIM**

The numbers below give instructions for completing the paragraphs with the same numbers in the Counterclaim.

Enter your full name in the first paragraph. This paragraph does not have a number.

Paragraph 1. Enter your complete address, including street number, city, county, and state. If you do not want your spouse to know your exact address because you are concerned about your safety, you can put only the county and state where you are living.

Paragraph 2. Enter your spouse's complete address, including street number, city, county, and state.

Paragraph 4. Enter the name of the county where your spouse filed this divorce action. Either you or your spouse must be living in this county at the time of filing the Complaint.

Paragraph 5. Enter the date you were married and the city and state where you were married.

Paragraph 12. If you are requesting that your former name be restored, enter the first, middle, and last names you would like to use. If you are not requesting that your former

name be restored to you, cross out this paragraph.

Paragraph 14. To complete this paragraph, you must check the box that applies. If there are no existing restraining, protection, or criminal no-contact orders, check the first box. If there are any such orders, check the second box and supply the required information. In (a), check the blank beside the type of order in existence. If more than one order is in existence, check all blanks that apply. In (b), provide the name of the court (i.e., Lancaster County District Court), the case number, and the date the order was entered for *each* order in existence.

## **CLOSING PARAGRAPH**

If you are requesting that your former name be restored, enter the complete former name to be restored including first, middle, and last names. If you are not requesting that your former name be restored to you, cross out this paragraph.

## **FINAL SIGNATURE**

- On the first line sign your first, middle, and last names and enter the date.
- On the second line enter your first, middle, and last names.
- On the third line enter your full street address.
- On the fourth line enter your city, state, and ZIP code.
- On the fifth line enter your telephone number, including the area code, and e-mail address, if any.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

- In the first, second and third blanks, print the day, month, and year when you mailed the copy of the Answer and Counterclaim for Dissolution of Marriage to your spouse.
- In the fourth blank, put your spouse's full address, including the street address, city, state and ZIP code.
- Sign your name in the last blank.