

Appendix Form 4

Parenting Responsibilities and Cooperation

The custodial parent shall have primacy in the choices regarding the children's education, religious upbringing and medical needs. Recognizing, however, the importance that mutual participation and cooperation play in nurturing the children in a stable, loving environment, the custodial parent shall, in an effort to foster this environment, notify the noncustodial parent, at a meaningful time, in advance of any decision regarding enrollment in school, the commencement of participation in religious activities and the commencement of health care involving the children, in order to learn the noncustodial parent's wishes in these matters. The parents shall freely discuss these three areas with one another, in an effort to reach a consensus on these issues. In the event of an impasse, however, the custodial parent shall have the final voice in these matters.

The children's best interests require the utmost cooperation between the parents. To this end, neither parent shall disparage or in any way denigrate the other parent, in any activity or communication involving the children. Neither parent will inquire of the other's personal affairs through the children. Each parent shall cooperate with the other, to the fullest extent necessary, in order to foster and promote a safe, secure and loving environment for the children.

The parents shall keep each other informed of the children's medical, religious, social and educational progress by providing access to school, governmental, law enforcement, medical and health-related records and access to all teachers, government officials and doctors, and each shall execute any releases, waivers or other documents that might be necessary to enable the other to enjoy these rights.

The parents shall inform each other of the children's social and extra-curricular activities, so that each may participate, where possible and appropriate. Each parent has the right to attend parent/teacher conferences, receive school mailings, attend association meetings, receive report cards of the children, meet with school counselors and attend school functions or sessions involving the children.

The parents shall promptly inform and consult with each other, in the event of any medical problem involving the children. If there is an illness or injury involving the children, the parent first learning of the condition shall immediately notify the other. Either parent may authorize medical treatment, in an emergency.

The parents shall cooperate with each other, so that each may receive, at her/his request and expense, copies of all medical and dental records, school and government records, reports of physicians and dentists and any other records that may relate to the children and each shall execute any releases, waivers or other documents that may be necessary to enable the other to enjoy these rights.