

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.900(h), NOTICE OF RELATED CASES (11/13)

When should this form be used?

Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires the **petitioner** in a family law case to file with the court a notice of related cases, if any. Your circuit may also require this form to be filed even if there are no related cases. A case is considered related if

- it involves the same parties, children, or issues and is pending when the family law case is filed; or
- it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; or
- an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or
- an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier case.

This form is used to provide the required notice to the court.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. It must be **filed** with the **clerk of the circuit court** with the initial pleading in the family law case.

What should I do next?

A copy of the form must be served on the presiding judges, either the chief judge or the family law administrative judge, and all parties in the related cases. You should also keep a copy for your records. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms. The words that are in "**bold underline**" in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d).

Special notes . . .

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida

Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms **must** also put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner,
and

Respondent.

NOTICE OF RELATED CASES

1. Petitioner submits this Notice of Related Cases as required by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(d). A related case may be an open or closed civil, criminal, guardianship, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, juvenile dependency, or domestic relations case. A case is "related" to this family law case if it involves any of the same parties, children, or issues and it is pending at the time the party files a family case; if it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; if an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or if an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier litigation.

[check **one** only]

There are no related cases.

The following are the related cases (add additional pages if necessary):

Related Case No. 1

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

Dissolution of Marriage

Paternity

Custody

Adoption

Child Support

Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings

Juvenile Dependency

Juvenile Delinquency

Termination of Parental Rights

Criminal

Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat

Mental Health

Violence or Stalking Injunctions

Other {specify} _____

State where case was decided or is pending: Florida Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check **all** that apply]:

pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;

may affect court's jurisdiction;

order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;

order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 2

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

Dissolution of Marriage

Paternity

Custody

Adoption

Child Support

Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings

Juvenile Dependency

Juvenile Delinquency

Termination of Parental Rights

Criminal

Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat

Mental Health

Violence or Stalking Injunctions

Other {specify} _____

State where case was decided or is pending: Florida Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;

- may affect court's jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 3

Case Name(s): _____
 Petitioner _____
 Respondent _____
 Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Custody | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat
Violence or Stalking Injunctions | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other {specify} _____ |

State where case was decided or is pending: Florida Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (*for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida*): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

- pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
- may affect court's jurisdiction;
- order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

2. [check **one** only]

I **do not** request coordination of litigation in any of the cases listed above.

_____ I **do** request coordination of the following cases: _____

3. [check **all** that apply]

_____ Assignment to one judge

_____ Coordination of existing cases

will conserve judicial resources and promote an efficient determination of these cases because: _____.

4. The Petitioner acknowledges a continuing duty to inform the court of any cases in this or any other state that could affect the current proceeding.

Dated: _____

Petitioner's Signature

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address(es): _____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I **CERTIFY** that I delivered a copy of this Notice of Related Cases to the _____ County Sheriff's Department or a certified process server for service on the Respondent, and [**check all used**] () e-mailed () mailed () hand delivered, a copy to {name} _____, who is the [**check all that apply**] () judge assigned to new case, () chief judge or family law administrative judge, () {name} _____ a party to the related case, () {name} _____, a party to the related case on {date} _____.

Signature of Petitioner/Attorney for Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address(es): _____

Florida Bar Number: _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the *{choose **only one**}*: () Petitioner () Respondent.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____ *{state}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.