## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING A CIVIL ACTION IN COUNTY COURT

**Compiled by Sherry Coker** 

#### IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ

# IF NOT PROPERLY COMPLETED AND PARTIES NOT PROPERLY SERVED, YOUR CASE MAY BE DISMISSED OR YOU MAY NOT OBTAIN YOUR FINAL JUDGMENT.

A civil action or lawsuit may be filed against a Defendant(s) for various reasons, i.e. merchandise sold by you to Defendant(s) but unpaid; defective goods, services; work done and materials furnished by Plaintiff(s) for Defendant(s); money lent by Plaintiff(s) to Defendant(s); money due Plaintiff(s) upon accounts stated; a promissory note; rent and damages for certain premises; auto negligence; property conversion by Defendant(s); check – refused payment by bank; services not performed or performed improperly; and breach of contract.

NOTE: Be sure to clearly <u>PRINT</u> your name and the Defendant(s) name in the Caption (top) of all of the enclosed documents. Also be sure the Case Number is written in the caption.

REQUIREMENTS TO FILE A CASE. You must be at lease 18 years of age. You may be an individual, a person Doing Business As (d/b/a) or a corporation. A minor child must have a parent or legal guardian file on their behalf. There is a Filing Fee in the amount of \$310.00 for claims valued at \$8001.00 up to \$15,000.00 and a Filing Fee in the amount of \$410.00 for claims valued over \$15,000.00 payable to Nadia K. Daughtrey, Clerk of Court. The Clerk can accept cash, personal or business checks, Cashier Checks or money orders.

<u>VENUE.</u> Venue is the location where a suit should be filed. You should check the Florida Statutes in the County Law Library or on the internet at <a href="www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm">www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm</a> and check the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure in the County Law Library or on the internet at <a href="MyFlorida.com">MyFlorida.com</a> to determine venue in your particular case. If you do not file your case in the proper County, the Defendant(s) may have the case moved to the correct County and <a href="wow will be">wow will be</a> required to pay a new filing fee.

**JURISDICTION.** This action must be brought in the court of competent jurisdiction based on the value of the work performed, damages suffered, or money loaned or owed. Civil actions or lawsuits in County Court are for damages or amounts owed in excess of \$8,000.00, but no more than \$50,000.00. If damages or amount owed are \$8,000.00 or less, you need to file your civil action in Small Claims Court.

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THIS PACKET IS NOT TO BE USED IF THE AMOUNT OF YOUR CLAIM IS OVER \$50,000, WHICH MUST BE FILED IN CIRCUIT COURT. THIS PACKET IS ONLY PREPARED FOR COUNTY COURT.

**PROPER NAME AND ADDRESS OF DEFENDANT(S).** Before filing your claim, you should make **sure** you have the proper name(s) and address(s) of the party(s) you want to sue.

If you are suing an individual, and if the spouse will be included in the suit, obtain the proper name and street address of the spouse. First names must be used and any alias names, if known. **Avoid using ''Mr. and Mrs.''.** 

If you are suing a corporation, you must know the correct name of the corporation and the state in which it is incorporated. Obtain the name and address of an officer of the corporation: the president, vice president, etc...; or in the absence of any of these, the name and address of the business agent residing in this state; or the name of the resident agent transacting business for the corporation in this state. To find this information, you may write or call: SECRETARY OF STATE OF FLORIDA, Attn: Corporation Division, Tallahassee, Fl. 32304, (850) 488-9000, or locate them on the internet at http://www.sunbiz.org This information is needed for service on the corporation.

If you are suing a partnership, you will need to obtain the names and addresses of <u>all</u> of the partners.

Many individuals, partnerships, and corporations do business under a fictitious name, such as: Jim Jones d/b/a Baby World; Jim Jones, Joe Black, a partnership, d/b/a Jones & Black Construction; or XYZ, Incorporated, a Florida corporation, d/b/a Chicken Shack. You cannot sue a fictitious name because it is not an entity. You have the burden of investigating to determine whether individuals, partnerships, or a corporation are doing business under a fictitious name. This information may be determined by calling the Secretary of State, Division of Corporations, the Occupational License Section of the Tax Collector's Office, or the licensing department of the City or County where the principal place of business is located.

FILING YOUR CASE. Using black ink, please complete the enclosed CIVIL COVER SHEET, NOTICE OF PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS and STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY forms and file them with the Clerk of Court. A filing fee must be paid to the Clerk of Court. The Clerk can accept cash, personal or business checks, cashier checks or money orders.

Please complete the enclosed **COMPLAINT**, together with the appropriate attachment in this packet following the complaint form and sign it in the presence of a Deputy Clerk or Notary Public. Be sure to attach any additional explanations, if necessary. If your complaint is based on an instrument of writing such as a promissory note, agreement between you and the Defendant(s), or a refused or returned check, it will be necessary for you to furnish a copy of such instrument for attachment as an exhibit to the complaint.

If you are filing a civil action for the collection of a check, the payment of which was refused by the bank because of the lack of funds or where the maker or drawer stops payment with intent to defraud, and where the maker or drawer fails to pay the amount owing, in cash, to you within 30 days following a written demand, the maker or drawer shall be liable to you for the amount of the check and damages of triple the amount so owing. However, in no case shall the amount for damages be less than \$50.00. The maker or drawer shall also be liable for court costs and

attorney's fees, if any. You may also charge the maker or drawer a service charge of \$25.00, if the face value does not exceed \$50.00, \$30.00, if the face value exceeds \$50.00 but does not exceed \$300.00, \$40.00, if the face value exceeds \$300.00 or 5% of the face amount of the check, whichever is greater, when making the written demand for payment. Any bank fees incurred by you may be charged to the maker or drawer.

If the court determines that the failure of the maker or drawer to satisfy the dishonored check was due to economic hardship, the court has the discretion to waive all or part of the statutory damages.

Before recovering through a civil action, the written demand on page 7 of this packet must be completed and sent by you to the maker or drawer of the check by certified or registered mail, evidenced by return receipt, to the address on the check, to the address given by the maker or drawer at the time the check was issued, or to the maker's or drawer's last known address.

After starting the civil action but prior to the hearing, the maker or drawer may pay you, as satisfaction of the claim, an amount of money equal to the sum of the check, the service charge, court costs and incurred bank fees. The maker or drawer is liable to you for all attorney fees and collection costs, if any, as a result of your claim.

If you are suing more than one Defendant, you will need to make copies of the Complaint, Attachment(s), and exhibit(s), if any, for each Defendant. Be sure to keep a copy of the complaint, attachments, and exhibits, if any, for your records. Any copies that the Clerk is asked to make for you will be at a cost of \$1.00 per page (F.S. 28.24).

You must complete and file the enclosed **NON-MILITARY AFFIDAVIT** with the Clerk prior to any hearing on your complaint. You may need to make additional affidavits if there are numerous Defendants. Be sure and keep a copy for your records.

#### **SERVICE OF PROCESS:**

<u>SUMMONS.</u> If you know where the Defendant(s) reside(s) or can be found, a Deputy Clerk will issue the enclosed **SUMMONS** for an additional fee of \$10.00 per summons payable to Nadia K. Daughtrey, Clerk of Court. You will need a Summons to be issued for each Defendant. Please fill in the caption by clearly printing your name, the Defendant's name(s), and the Case Number and make as many copies of the Summons as you will need for service on each Defendant. You will be responsible for delivery of the Summons, and a copy of the Complaint with Attachments and exhibits, if any, to the appropriate Sheriff's Office for service. The Sheriff's Office charges a fee of \$40.00 per person for service on the Defendant(s). The Sheriff's Office will not accept personal checks. Please pay by money order or cashier's check. Be sure you deliver the summons to the Sheriff's Office in the County where the Defendant(s) reside(s) or can be found.

IF YOU ARE SUING A HUSBAND AND WIFE, YOU WILL NEED A SUMMONS ISSUED FOR EACH OF THEM AND HAVE THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE SERVE EACH OF THEM.

You may also serve the Defendant(s) by private process server. Personal service by private process server varies in cost. Please consult the telephone book for process servers in the appropriate county.

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**NOTE:** It is **your** responsibility to check with the Clerk of Court and/or the Sheriff's Office to ascertain if service has been made on the Defendant(s). If the Defendant(s) was not served and you discover a new address for Defendant, an Alias Summons with the new address must be requested at the Clerk's office. If service of the original Complaint by Summons is not made upon a Defendant within 120 days after the filing of the original Complaint, the Court may, on its own motion, direct that service of process be effected within a specific time or dismiss the case, or drop that Defendant as a party to the case.

The Defendant(s) has twenty (20) days to file a response after being served the Summons, copy of Complaint, attachment(s) and exhibit(s), if any. You start counting the day after the Defendant(s) is served. The 20 day period includes weekends and holidays.

<u>CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE</u>. If you do not know where the Defendant(s) live(s), or if the Defendant(s) live(s) outside of the State of Florida you may serve him or her by Constructive Service. However, if you use constructive service, the court may grant only limited relief because its jurisdiction is limited. This is a complicated area of the law and you may wish to consult an attorney before using constructive service.

You must complete and file the enclosed **AFFIDAVIT OF DILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY**. This form includes a checklist of places you can look for information on the location of the Defendant(s). While you do not have to look in all of these places, the Court must believe that you have made a very serious effort to get information about the Defendant(s) location and that you have followed up on any information you received.

You should also complete and file the enclosed **NOTICE OF ACTION** with the Clerk for execution of same. The "return date", or date on which the Defendant must file a response, located in the body of the Notice, must be inserted by you. This date must be **no less than 28 days from the first date of publication and no more than 60 days from the first date of publication.** After the Clerk has signed this form you must deliver a copy of it to a qualified local newspaper to be published for four (4) consecutive weeks. When in doubt, ask the Clerk which newspapers in your area are "qualified". The newspaper will charge you for this service.

Be sure to keep copies of the Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry and Notice of Action for your records.

#### IF NO RESPONSE BY DEFENDANT(S).

If Defendant(s) does not file a response within the 20 days from service of process by either a Deputy Sheriff or private process server or on or before the date stated in the Notice of Action, you can sign the enclosed **MOTION FOR DEFAULT** and have the Clerk enter the **DEFAULT** at the bottom.

You must also complete and file the enclosed **MOTION FOR FINAL JUDGMENT**. Please provide the Court with stamped envelopes address to you and the Defendant(s) for mailing of the Order Scheduling Hearing. At the hearing, the Court will review all evidence presented and make its decision whether to enter a final judgment in your favor or not.

#### IF RESPONSE BY DEFENDANT(S).

If the Defendant(s) file(s) a response, it will be necessary to set the matter for trial. If the Defendant(s) file(s) a counterclaim, you have 20 days to answer the counterclaim. At that time, it will be necessary to set the matter for trial. Please complete the enclosed **NOTICE FOR TRIAL** and file it with the Clerk of Court, who will forward the file to the Court for setting of

trial date. You will need to mail copies to the Defendant(s) and the County Court Judge. Be sure and keep a copy for your records.

Please provide the Court with stamped envelopes addressed to you and the Defendant(s) for mailing of the order setting trial.

<u>MEDIATION.</u> Depending on the circumstances surrounding your particular case, the Court may require you and Defendant(s) to attend Mediation. If so, the Court will notify you. Please note that the cost of mediation will be divided equally between you and the Defendant(s). If no agreement is reached at Mediation, the Court will set the matter for trial.

**SETTLEMENT**. If you and the Defendant(s) agree on a settlement of all claims or the Defendant(s) pay(s) in full, then you, as Plaintiff(s), will need to complete and sign the **NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL** to prevent the case from going to court.

**PREPARATION FOR TRIAL**. Bring all original contracts, agreements, photos, or other documents relevant to you case. If you have written estimates to substantiate you claim, it is advisable to have the person present who gave the estimates to state how he arrived at those amounts. It is important to subpoena witnesses and expert witnesses such as automobile mechanics, carpenters, builders, auto body repairmen, etc. Please see the Deputy Clerk for issuance of subpoenas. The subpoenas will need to be served by the Sheriff's Department on the person(s) you want to be in court as a witness or expert. The Sheriff's office will charge \$20.00 per person for service of subpoenas.

## ALL COSTS PAID BY YOU FOR FILING THIS SUIT AND SERVICE OF PROCESS ON DEFENDANT(S), AS WELL AS WITNESSES AND EXPERTS, ARE RECOVERABLE IF YOU PREVAIL IN THE LAWSUIT.

If successful at trial and if you intend to pursue your final judgment through levy or garnishment, you will need to request an enforcement paragraph to be included in the final judgment. To do this, please complete and file the **MOTION FOR ENFORCEMENT PARAGRAPH** included in this packet prior to your hearing or trial. In addition, you may want to obtain the **AFTER JUDGMENT PACKET** from the Clerk of Court.

**TRIAL**. All trials will be non-jury unless demanded for in writing at any time after commencement of the action and not later than 10 days after service of the last pleading directed to such issue.

Please dress appropriately, shoes and shirt required, no shorts. Do not bring children to court. Be respectful to the Court by addressing the Judge as "Your Honor". Do not interrupt while the other person is testifying. You will have your opportunity to address the court in response to their statements.

When you begin to testify, get to the point fast, immediately follow up by stating how much money you are requesting. Practice in advance. After giving the brief explanation, you may then go into more detail. Be sure and present all of your evidence to the court. Make a list for yourself so you do not forget anything. If you have witnesses, this is the time to produce them. Be sure you know what your witnesses or experts are going to say.

Your non-jury trial will not be recorded. If you wish a record of the proceedings, a court reporter is necessary. You will have to bear the expense. Appeals to a higher court because you are not

satisfied with the outcome of your trial are governed by special rules. One of these rules requires that the appeal court have a complete record of the trial to review. If you do not have a court reporter at your trial, your chances for success on appeal will be severely limited.

Bring stamped envelopes addressed to you and the Defendant(s) for mailing of the final judgment by the Court. ALSO, bring the **MEANS OF FINAL DISPOSITION** form with you to the final hearing or trial for filing with the Court.

**AFTER JUDGMENT.** A Judgment arising from an auto negligence case can result in suspension of the Defendant's license until the judgment is paid. After the expiration of 30 days from filing the final judgment, you may forward a certified copy of the judgment to the Bureau of Financial Responsibility providing the judgment has not been satisfied.

If you prevail and when you receive your final judgment you can do certain things in order to collect your money. The court is not a collection agency and it does not contact the Defendant(s) in an effort to make him or her pay you the amount awarded in your final judgment. The Clerk's office can give you information in regards to collection procedures you may take. Ask the Deputy Clerk for an **AFTER JUDGMENT PACKET**.

If the Defendant(s) pays you in full after the judgment is entered, please complete the **SATISFACTION OF JUDGMENT** included in this packet and deliver it to the Defendant.

PLEASE BE AWARE that it is the obligation of the Plaintiff(s) to provide Defendant(s) with a **SATISFACTION OF JUDGMENT** upon payment of the judgment. Failure or refusal to satisfy this judgment as provided by F. S. 701.05 could result in a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in F. S. 774.082 or 775.083.

#### \*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\*

ALL PAPERWORK PROVIDED BY THIS OFFICE IS USED FOR 'PRO SE' LITIGANTS ONLY. 'PRO SE' MEANS THAT YOU ARE ACTING AS YOUR OWN ATTORNEY. ACTING AS YOUR OWN ATTORNEY MAKES <u>YOU</u> RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING THAT INVOLVES YOUR CASE FILE. FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A COURT DATE OR NOTICE FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE OR THE JUDGE, IT IS UP TO YOU TO CONTACT THE JUDGE FOR A HEARING DATE.

THIS PACKET PREPARED BY: HONORABLE GUY A. FLOWERS COUNTY JUDGE DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA 115 EAST OAK STREET, SUITE 201 ARCADIA, FLORIDA 34266

HONORABLE NADIA K. DAUGHTREY CLERK OF THE COURT DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA 115 EAST OAK STREET ARCADIA, FLORIDA 34266

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## WRITTEN DEMAND FOR COLLECTION OF RETURNED OR REFUSED CHECK

You are hereby notified that a chec \$ issued by		
of bank)		, and
payable to		, has
been dishonored. Pursuant to Floritender payment in cash of the full at the face value does not exceed \$50 not exceed \$300.00, \$40.00, if the amount of the check, whichever is cents. Unless this amou	da law, you have 30 cmount of the check p.00, \$30.00, if the face face value exceeds \$3 greater, the total amo	days from receipt of this notice to blus a service charge of \$25.00, if we value exceeds \$50.00 but does 800.00, or 5 percent of the face unt due being \$ and
the check or instrument may file a the check, but in no case less than any court costs, reasonable attorney taking the action.	civil action against yo \$50.00, in addition to	ou for three times the amount of the payment of the check plus
Dated:	Signed:	
		Address

#### FORM 1.997 CIVIL COVER SHEET

The civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of reporting judicial workload data pursuant to Florida Statute 25.075.

I. CASE STYLE IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA (Name and Address) Plaintiff(s), CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ vs. (Name and Address) Defendant(s). II. TYPE OF CASE (Place an x in one box only. If the case fits more than one type of case, select the most definitive.) Domestic Relations Torts Other Civil \_\_\_\_ Contracts Simplified dissolution Professional \_\_\_\_ Condominium Malpractice \_\_\_\_ Dissolution \_\_\_\_ Products Liability \_\_\_\_ Real property/ \_\_\_\_ Support – IV-D \_\_\_\_ Auto negligence Mortgage foreclosure \_\_\_\_ Support – Non IV-D \_\_\_\_ Other negligence Eminent \_\_\_\_ URESA – IV-D Domain \_\_\_\_ URESA – Non IV-D Other Domestic Violence \_\_\_ Other domestic relations III. Is Jury Trial Demanded in Complaint? Yes No Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff's signature

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	- -
(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	_
vs.	CASE NO
	- -
(Name and Address)  Defendant(s).	
NOTICE OF PE	RMANENT MAILING ADDRESS
I/We,hereby certify that my/our permanent maili	the Plaintiff(s) in the above styled cause of action ng address is as follows:
	ONLY THIS ADDRESS WILL BE USED BY THE COURT, INTERVENING PARTIES TO THIS CASE FOR THE
a. Notice of all fut	ure hearings in this case, and
	ments and papers pertaining to this case.
above address and that in the event personabe attempted to be served at the above list address. I/We also understand that if I/We I/We must notify the Clerk of Court of r	and court papers in this case will be sent to me/us only at the al service of any court documents is necessary that they will first ed address unless and until I/We notify the court of my/our new change my/our permanent mailing address or residence address, my/our new address in writing by completion of another form ess within one week of the change of address and with a copy
CLERI	K OF COURT
115 Ea	County Civil st Oak Street a, Florida 34266
Court informed of any change in my/ou documents and notice of all future hearings	nd I/We understand that it is my/our responsibility to keep the r current address. I/We understand that copies of any court which are mailed to my/our current address set forth herein will he Court may proceed on all matters noticed and mailed to the or said hearing.
Dated:	Plaintiff's signature

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(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
vs.	CASE NO
(Name and Address)  Defendant(s).	/
STATEMEN	T OF RESPONSIBILITY
Before filing this case I have conside	red the following matters and acknowledge that:
Court; that it is considered a layman's cou	the County Court under the Summary Procedure Rules of art; that I, and the Defendant(s), may be represented by an serequired to do so, and that the conduct of this case will be in which apply to this case.
2. The naming of proper partie for naming the proper Plaintiff(s) and Defendation	es is an important element of the case and the responsibility ant(s) in this case is mine.
3. I am responsible for the Defendant(s) can be served or given notice of	furnishing of a correct address or location at which the this suit.
4. I assume responsibility as Plaintiff(s).	to my right to file this case for myself or for the named
<u>*</u>	the received and files this claim, to give me legal advice as to that the Clerk is not acting as my attorney or legal advisor.
6. I am solely responsible for t	he collection of any judgment entered in my favor.
Dated:	
	Plaintiff's signature
	Address Phone:

	-
	-
(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	-
vs.	CASE NO
	-
(Name and Address)  Defendant(s).	
(Civil Case be	COMPLAINT tween \$8,001.00 and \$50,000.00)
The Plaintiff(s) sues Defendant	(s) and alleges:
_	within the jurisdiction of this Court which are more than t of \$50,000.00, not including costs and interest.
Plaintiff(s) claims the amount of alleges as the basis of such suit:	of \$ as being due from Defendant(s) and
Defective goods, workmanship Work done and materials furnis Money lent by Plaintiff to Defe Money due to Plaintiff upo attachment); On a Promissory Note (See attachment) Rent and damages for certain p Auto negligence (See attachment) Specific Performance (See attachment) Property conversion by Defend Check – refused payment by batachment of contract (See attachment)	achment); remises in DeSoto County, Florida (See attachment); ent); chment); ant (See attachment); ank (See attachment); remed improperly (See attachment);
(NOTE: Attach appropriate explanation	n from following pages.)
Wherefore, Plaintiff(s) demand interest in the amount of \$ the Court may assess.	d(s) judgment in the sum of \$, plus, together with court costs, and any further costs which

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF	
statement of the amount owing by the above all set-offs and just grounds for defense.	duly sworn, says that: the foregoing is a just and true e named Defendant(s) to said Plaintiff(s), exclusive of . Plaintiff(s) state(s) that the suit initiated by the aith and with no intention to annoy the above named
	Plaintiff's signature
	Address
	Phone:
, who is	me by personally known to me or produced day of
, 20	
	Deputy Clerk or Notary Public

## ATTACHMENT TO STATEMENT OF CLAIM FOR GOODS, WARES AND MERCHANDISE SOLD BY PLAINTIFF TO DEFENDANT

Defend			following				and	delivered	by	Plaintiff(s)	to
	GOO	DS						P	RICE	ES	
goods.	2.	That	Defendant(	(s) has f	ailed to	pay (	or ref	uses to pay	<sup>7</sup> Plai	ntiff(s) for s	aid

#### ATTACHMENT FOR DEFECTIVE GOODS, WORKMANSHIP AND SERVICES – IMPLIED WARRANTY

1.	Defendant(s) manufactured a product known and described as:
	Defendant(s) warranted that the product was reasonably fit for its intended ribed intended use):
	On, in DeSoto County, Florida, the product (describe ce and defect that resulted in injury)
while being user of the p	used for its intended purpose, causing injuries to Plaintiff(s), who was then a roduct.
extremities, injuries, and	As a result Plaintiff(s) was injured in and about his/her body and suffered pain therefrom, incurred medical expense in the treatment of the suffered physical handicap, and his/her working ability was impaired; the either permanent or continuing in their nature and plaintiff will suffer the

losses and impairment in the future. (Strike any portion that does not apply.)

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## ATTACHMENT FOR WORK DONE AND MATERIALS FURNISHED BY PLAINTIFF FOR DEFENDANT

	Before the institution of this action, Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s) had actions between them and on
2. materials:	Plaintiff(s) performed the following work and supplied the following
	Plaintiff(s) rendered a statement for the above work and materials to a copy of which is attached.
4. and materials.	- commence, and a find a commence, and a commence,

## ATTACHMENT FOR MONEY LENT BY PLAINTIFF TO DEFENDANT

	1.	Plaintiff(s) loaned Defendant(s) the sum of \$	on
		, 20, which Defendant(s) has failed to pay.	
	2.	Defendant(s) owes Plaintiff(s) interest in the amount of \$	
from _		, 20, to present date.	

## ATTACHMENT FOR MONEY DUE TO PLAINTFF UPON ACCOUNTS STATED

	Before the institution of this action, Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s) has actions between them and on, 20, they agreed to balance.
2. attached heret	Plaintiff(s) rendered a statement of it to Defendant(s), a copy being to, and Defendant(s) did not object to the statement.
3.	Defendant(s) owes Plaintiff(s) \$ that is due with

#### ATTACHMENT FOR PROMISSORY NOTE

	1.	On, 20, Defendant(s) executed and delivered a
prom	nissory r	note, a copy being attached, to Plaintiff(s) in County, Florida.
	_	
	2.	Plaintiff(s) owns and holds the note.
	3.	Defendant(s) failed to pay (check <b>one only</b> ):
		a. The note when due.
		b. The installment payment due on the note on,
20	and F	Plaintiff(s) elected to accelerate payment of the balance

## ATTACHMENT FOR RENT AND DAMAGES FOR CERTAIN PREMISES IN DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

#### COUNT I

Defe		On or about		_, Plaintiff(s)/Landlord(s), leased to
	2. oral			the property under an (check one) to pay rent of \$ per
20	3. _·	Defendant(s) vacated the pren	nises (	on or about,
follo	4. ws:	Defendant(s) left damages in	the an	nount of \$ as
ITEM	1			AMOUNT
		COUN	T II	
	efenda		at	, Plaintiff(s)/Landlord(s), leased to
oral				the property under (check one) pay rent of \$ per
	3.	Defendant(s) failed to pay rent of	on	, 20
20	4. _, throu	Defendant(s) owe rent coveragh, 20		e period from,
	5.	Defendant(s) vacated the premis	ses on	, 20

#### ATTACHMENT FOR AUTO NEGLIGENCE

1.	(Check a. or b.)				
	a. On or about		, 20_	, Defendant(s),	
owned a mo	tor vehicle that was opera-	ted with l	his/her con	sent by Defendant(s)	, ),
		in		, Flori	, at da.
	b. On or about		, 20	_, Defendant(s),	
	operated a motor vehicle a, Florida.	ıt			·

- 2. At that time and place Defendant(s) negligently operated or maintained the motor vehicle so that it collided with Plaintiff's motor vehicle.
- 3. As a result, Plaintiff(s) suffered bodily injury and resulting pain and suffering, disability, disfigurement, mental anguish, loss of capacity for the enjoyment of life, expense of hospitalization, medical and nursing care and treatment, loss of earning, loss of ability to earn money, and aggravation of a previously existing condition. The losses are either permanent or continuing and Plaintiff(s) will suffer the losses in the future. Plaintiff's automobile was damaged and he/she lost the use of it during the period required for its repair or replacement. (Strike out items that do not apply.)

#### ATTACHMENT FOR PROPERTY CONVERSION BY DEFENDANT

1. On or about	, 20, Defendant(s) converted to his/her
own use the following-described prope	erty:
that was then the property of Plaintiff(s	) of the value of \$

#### ATTACHMENT FOR CHECK – REFUSED PAYMENT BY BANK

1 -	On, 20, Defendant(s) executed a written order for of \$, commonly called a check, a copy being attached, order of Plaintiff(s) and delivered it to Plaintiff(s).
2. refused.	The check was presented for payment to the drawee bank but payment was
3.	Plaintiff(s) holds the check and it has not been paid.

## ATTACHMENT FOR SERVICES NOT PERFORMED OR PERFORMED IMPROPERLY

Plaintiff(s)	On or about, 20, in DeSoto County, Florida, entered into an agreement with Defendant(s) to perform the following
(If written a	greement, attach a copy.)
2. sum of \$	In consideration for these services, Plaintiff(s) paid the Defendant(s) the on, 20
3.	(Check a. or b.)
	a. Defendant's services were not properly performed because
Plaintiff(s).	b. Defendant(s) performed no work after receipt of the money from
follows:	Plaintiff(s) has sustained damages of \$, determined as
(Describe if	job had to be completed by another person and if so, the amount paid to er circumstances.)

#### ATTACHMENT FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT

	1.	On, 20, Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s) entered into
an	_ oral or	written contract. (If written contract, attach a copy.)
	2.	The terms of the contract provided for the following:
Defe	3. ndant(s)	The Defendant(s) failed to fulfill the terms of the contract because the
		·
(Des	cribe brea	ach.)
	4.	Plaintiff(s) determines the value of the breach as follows:

(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
vs.	CASE NO
(Name and Address)  Defendant(s).	
NON-MI	LITARY AFFIDAVIT
STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF	
	y authorized to take oath and acknowledgments in the State
1. That the undersigned is per, in the above sty	rsonally familiar with the Defendant(s),
	Fiant's belief and information, Defendant(s) is/are not in the es and is/are not entitled to the relief afforded by the Soldiers Sub-Section 501 et seq.
	y located at
FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NA	UGHT.
	Affiant/Plaintiff
	by
who is personally know to me or produced _ as identification this day of	, 20
	Deputy Clerk or Notary Public

(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
VS.	CASE NO.
(Name and Address)	
Defendant(s).	

#### **SUMMONS**

#### **IMPORTANT**

A lawsuit has been filed against you. You have 20 calendar days after this summons is served on you to file a written response to the attached complaint with the Clerk of this Court. A phone call will not protect you. Your written response, including the case number given above and the names of the parties, must be filed if you want the court to hear your side of the case. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money, and property may thereafter be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

If you choose to file a written response yourself, at the same time you file your written response to the court you must also mail or take a copy of your written response to the "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" named below.

#### **IMPORTANTE**

Usted ha sido demandado legalmente. Tiene 20 dias, contados a partir del ricibo de esta notificacion, para contester la demanda adjunta, por escrito, y presentarla ante este tribunal. Una llamada telefonica no lo protegera. Si usted desea que el tribunal considere su defense, debe presenter su respuesta por escrito, incluyendo el numero del daso y los numbers de las partes interesadas. Si usted no contesta la demanda a tiempo, pudiese perder el caso y podria ser despojado de sus ingresos y propiedades, o privado de sus derechos, sin previo aviso del tribunal. Existen otros requisitos legales. Si lo desea, puede usted consultar a un abogado immediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a una de las oficinas de assistencia legal que aparecen en la guia telefonica.

Si desea responder a la demanda por su cuenta, al mismo tiempo en que presenta su respuesta ante al tribunal, debera usted enviar por correo o entregar una copia de su respuesta a la persona denominada abajo como "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Demandante o Abogado del Demandante).

#### **IMPORTANTE**

Des poursuites judiciaries ont ete enterprises contre vous. Vous avez 20 jours consecutifs a partir de la date de l'assignation de cette citation pour deposer une reponse ecrite a la plainte cijointe aupres de ce tribunal. Un simple coup de telephone est insuffisant pour vous proteger. Vous etes obliges de deposer votre reponse ecrite, avec mention du numero de dossier ci-dessus et du nom des parties nommees ici, si vous souhaitez que le tribunal entende votre cause. Si vous ne deposez pas votre reponse ecrite dans le relai requis, vos risquez de perdre la cause ainsi que votre salaire, votre argent, et vos biens peuvent etre saisis par la suite, sans aucun preavis ulterieur du tribunal. Il y a d'autres obligations juridiques et vous pouvez requerir les services immediats d'un avocet. Si vos ne connaissez pas d'avocat, vous pourriez telephoner a un service de reference d'avocats ou a un bureau d'assistance juridique (figurant a l'annuaire de telephones).

Si vous choisissez de deposer vous-meme une reponse ecrite, il vous faudra egalement, en meme temps que cette formalite, faire parvenir, ou expediter une copie de votre reponse ecrite au "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Plaignant ou a son avocet) nomme cidessous.

	Plaintiff's signature
	Address
THE STATE OF FLORIDA:	
To Each Sheriff of the State:	
YOU ARE COMMANDED to serve t lawsuit on the above-named defendant.	his summons and a copy of the complaint in this
DATED on	<u></u> .
	NADIA K. DAUGHTREY CLERK OF COURT
(SEAL)	By: Deputy Clerk
in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no co Please contact NADIA K. DAUGHTREY, Arcadia, Florida 34266, or call 863-993-4876 Summons. If you are hearing impaired, cal call 1-800-955-8770.	eds any accommodation in order to participate st to you, to the provision of certain assistance. CLERK OF THE COURTS, 115 E. Oak St. 6, within two (2) working days of receipt of this Il 1-800-955-8771, or if you are voice impaired
A copy of this Summons was mailed to Plain	tiff on
	By: Deputy Clerk

	- -
(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	-
vs.	CASE NO
	-
(Name and Address)	- -
Defendant(s).	
AFFIDAVIT OF D	ILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY
I, (full legal name)	, being sworn,
certify that the following information	
residence of Defendant: (Spidentify all actions taken	ch and inquiry to discover the name and current becify details of search) Refer to checklist below and (any additional information included such as the and the person with whom you spoke is helpful) necessary):
United States Post Office inquir	y through Freedom of Information Act for current address or
ask for any addresses to which W exists, then for any addresses to w Unions from which Defendant ma Regulatory agencies, including pro Names and addresses of relatives last known address. You are to formoved. Relatives include, but are nieces, nephews, grandparents, g	dant, including name and address of employer. You should also <i>V</i> -2 Forms were mailed, and, if a pension or profit-sharing planchich any pension or plan payment is and/or has been mailed. It is phase worked or that governed particular trade or craft. It is pressional or occupational licensing. It is and contacts with those relatives, and inquiry as to Defendant's collow up any leads of any addresses where Defendant may have the not limited to: parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, eat-grandparents, former in-laws, stepparents, stepchildren. It is possible death and, if dead, the date and location of the death. It is provided that the content of the death of t
Law enforcement arrest and/or cri	minal records in the last known residential area of Defendant.
	e of Defendant's last known address.  ords in the state of Defendant's last known address.
Department of Corrections records	s in the state of Defendant's last known address. ement) agency records in the state of Defendant's last known
address.  Hospitals in the last known area o	
1105pitais in the fast known area 0	i ivespondent s testaence.

Defendant's residence Letters to the Armed Forces o information about Defendant.	de water, sewer, cable TV, and electric, in the last known area of of the U. S. and their response as to whether or not there is any cor's Office in the area where Defendant last resided.
Other: (explain)	
<ul> <li>3. Defendant's current residence</li> <li>[X one only] </li> <li>a. Defendant's current residence</li> <li>b. Defendant's current residence</li> </ul>	e only] () known {enter age} or () unknown.  the is unknown to me. the is in some state or country other than Florida, and Defendant's
days prior to the date of this at	dence in Florida, has been absent from Florida for more than 60 ffidavit, or conceals him(her)self so that process cannot be served and I believe there is no person in the state upon whom service of or concealed Defendant.
	swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness wit and that the punishment for knowingly making a down imprisonment.
Dated:	DI :
	Plaintiff's signature
	Printed Name:
	Address:
	City, State, Zip: Telephone Number:
	Fax Number:
STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF	
Sworn to or affirmed and signed b	pefore me on by
	Notary Public or Deputy Clerk
Personally known Produced identification Type of identification produced	

Plaintiff(s),	
VS.	CASE NO
Defendant(s).	
	NOTICE OF ACTION (No Property)
TO:	
has been filed against you and you	at an action for: (state reason)  are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to  whose address is:
(4),	, whose address is:, on or before, 20,
and file the original with the Cler be entered against you for the relie	k of this Court immediately thereafter; otherwise a Default will
DATED on	·
	NADIA K. DAUGHTREY
	As Clerk of the Court
	By:
	Deputy Clerk
Publication dates:	

NOTE: Please use one of the following topics to fill in the for the reason in the above Notice of Action:

Claim for goods, wares and merchandise sold by Plaintiff to Defendant

Defective goods, workmanship and services – implied warranty

Work done and materials furnished by Plaintiff for Defendant

Money lent by Plaintiff to Defendant

Money due to Plaintiff upon accounts stated

Promissory note

Rent and damages

Auto negligence

Property conversion by Defendant

Check – refused payment by bank

Services not performed or performed improperly

Breach of Contract

(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
vs.	CASE NO
(Name and Address)  Defendant(s).	
MOTION FOR	CLERK'S DEFAULT
, for failin	default against Defendant(s)  ng to respond as required by law to Plaintiff's
complaint.	
	Plaintiff's signature
	Address Phone:
DI	EFAULT
A default is entered in this action for	eviction against the Defendant(s) for failure
to respond as required by law.	
Dated:	NADIA K. DAUGHTREY CLERK OF COURT
	BY: Deputy Clerk

(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
VS.	CASE NO
(Name and Address) Defendant(s).	
MOTION FO	OR FINAL JUDGMENT
Plaintiff(s) asks the court to er, the Defendant	nter a Final Judgment againstt(s), and says:
1. Plaintiff filed a complaint answer.	against Defendant(s), which Defendant(s) failed to
2. A Default was entered by the	he Clerk of Court on
WHEREFORE, Plaintiff asks the Defendant(s).	nis court to enter a Final Judgment for against
Dated:	
	Plaintiff's signature
	Address

	_
(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	<del>-</del> -
vs.	CASE NO
	_ _ _
(Name and Address)  Defendant(s).	
Ŋ	NOTICE FOR TRIAL
Plaintiff(s), for Trial and allege(s):	, hereby file(s) this Notice
1. The above-styled cau	se of action is at issue and is ready to be set for trial.
	imated to last Hours Day(s), is to be original issue answer counter-claim.
3. This cause shall be tri	ied (check one) without a jury with a jury.
	true and correct copy of the foregoing was furnished by, 20, to Defendant(s),
	Plaintiff's signature
	Address
Copy to: Honorable Danielle Brewer County Judge	

(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
vs.	CASE NO
(Name and Address) Defendant(s).	/
MOTION FOR ENFO	ORCEMENT PARAGRAPH
to include an enforcement paragraph requiring the Defendant(s) to complete	, moves the Court in any Final Judgment entered in this cause a Fact Information Sheet and to return it to the of the final judgment, unless the final judgment otice of appeal is filed.
Signed this day of	, 20
	Plaintiff
Defendant(s),	copy of the foregoing has been furnished to Address:by U. S. Mail this
day of, 20	by U. S. Man this
	 Plaintiff

(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s)		
vs.		CASE NO
(Name and Address)  Defendante		/
	NOTICE OF VO	LUNTARY DISMISSAL
		ed into the custody of the Court, the Plaintiff(s), reby dismisses this action against Defendant(s)
I certify that a copy h	·	y mail or hand delivery to Defendant(s):
	Name and Ad	
on this day of	, 20	
		Signature
		Name and Address
STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF		
Sworn to and subscr who is personally know to m as identification this day	e or produced	

(Nam	ne and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
VS.		CASE NO
(Nam	ne and Address)  Defendant(s),	
MEA	ANS OF FINAL DISPOSITION (	Place an X in one box only)
[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]	Dismissed Before Hearing Dismissed After Hearing Disposed by Default Disposed by Judge Disposed by Non-Jury Trial Disposed by Jury Trial Other:	
	Signed this day of	, 20
		Plaintiff's signature
		Address Phone:

(Name and Address) Plaintiff(s),	
vs.	CASE NO
(Name and Address) Defendant(s).	
SATISFACTIO	ON OF JUDGMENT
on, in the abov (, the Defendant(s) Records Book, and the C	above styled cause, wherein a Judgment was rendered to named Court for \$
Witness	Plaintiff
Witness	Address
Witness	Plaintiff
Witness	Address
STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF	
Sworn to and subscribed before me this	day of, 20, by, who is/are personally known to me oras identification.
	Deputy Clerk or Notary Public
(SEAL)	