DISTRICT COURT STATE OF OKLAHOMA

DIVORCE PACKET

NO CHILDREN - WITH PROPERTY AND/OR ASSETS

PACKET

OK-008-D

(Incompatibility)

This packet contains the following:

- 1. Instructions for completing the forms;
- 2. Petition for Divorce,
- 3. Entry of Appearance and Wavier,
- 4. Summons,
- 5. Final Decree of Divorce,
- 6. Notice of Entry of Decree,
- 7. Separation and Property Settlement Agreement, and
- 8. Non-Military Affidavit.

You and your spouse must agree to all terms of the divorce to use this packet.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

WHO MAY USE THESE FORMS?

You may use this petition form for divorce only when all of the following facts are true;

- 1. Your marriage is broken due to incompatibility of the parties;
- 2. There were no children born to or adopted by you and your spouse, and the wife is not pregnant.
- 3. There is property and/or assets of the marriage and the parties have agreed to all of the terms of division of the assets/property in the Separation and Property Settlement Agreement.
- 4. You or your spouse have lived in Oklahoma and in the county of filing for six (6) months before filing the divorce, and the plaintiff has resided in the county of filing for thirty (30) days immediately prior to the filing of the petition.
- 5. For more information, see the Oklahoma Divorce Law Summary.

| IN | THE DISTRICT COURT OF | COU | NTY |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| | STATE OF OK | LAHOMA | |
| Plaintiff, | | | |
| vs. |))) | Case No. FD | |
| Defendant. | | | |
| | PETITION FOR | DIVORCE | |
| COMES | ,, P | laintiff, and files this Petition | for divorce |
| against Defendan | t, and would state | in support thereof the follow | ing: |
| 1. T | his Court has jurisdiction of the parties | and subject matter pursuant t | o Oklahoma |
| Statutes Annotate | ed, Title 43, Section 102 et seq. | | |
| 2. T | hat Plaintiff and/or Defendant is now ar | nd has been next preceding the | filing |
| hereof a resident | of the State of Oklahoma for a period e | exceeding six (6) months, and | of |
| | County for a period exceeding | g thirty (30) days. | |
| 3. T | he Parties were lawfully married on | day of | _, 20 in |
| (| County, and said marriage | e is registered in | |
| County, | | | |
| 4. T | There were no children born to or adopt | ed by the Parties. Wife is not | now |
| oregnant. | | | |
| 5. P | laintiff and Defendant separated on | day of | , 20 and |
| from that date up | to the present, Plaintiff and Defendant | have lived separate and apart | without |
| any cohabitation. | | | |

6. The vital statistics of the parties are as follows: Plaintiff Defendant Social Security number Social Security number Address _____ Address ____ Date of birth ______ Date of birth _____ Occupation _____ Occupation ____ 7. The Plaintiff and Defendant have executed a Separation and Property Settlement Agreement disposing of all jointly owned property and settling all jointly owed debts, rights and liabilities of the parties, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A". There is no property that the parties are asking the court to divide or distribute. 8. That as grounds for this divorce, Plaintiff pleads incompatibility due to irreconcilable differences which have arisen between the parties hereto which have destroyed the legitimate intents and purposes of said marriage and rendered its continuation impossible. Party _____ (DOES/DOES NOT) request restoration of my 8. former name, . This request is not made for any illegal or fraudulent reason. 9. The Plaintiff further states the following: () I do not know of any other cases in the State of Oklahoma or any state or territory involving the same claim or subject matter as this case. OR () I know of the following related cases concerning the same claim or subject matter as this case

| | WHER | REFORE, Plaintiff, | requests against Defendant, | | |
|----------|----------|--|---|--|--|
| the foll | owing re | elief: | | | |
| | a) | The Court grant the Parties a Divorce on the grounds of incompatibility due to | | | |
| | | irreconcilable differences which | have arisen between the parties hereto which | | |
| | | have destroyed the legitimate in | tents and purposes of said marriage and rendered | | |
| | | its continuation impossible; | | | |
| | b) | That the Separation and Propert | y Settlement Agreement disposing of all jointly | | |
| | | owned property and settling all | ointly owed debts and rights and liabilities of the | | |
| | | parties, a copy of which is attac | hed hereto as Exhibit "A", be incorporated herein | | |
| | | by reference and have the same | force as if stated herein in full. | | |
| | c) | Party | requests that she be restored her maiden/former | | |
| | | name of | ; | | |
| | d) | For judgment and relief as set for | orth in this Petition. | | |
| | e) | For such other relief and judgm | ent as is just and equitable in the premises. | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | Respectfully submitted, | | |
| | | | Signature of Plaintiff Print Name: | | |

VERIFICATION

| STATE OF OKLAHOMA | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| COUNTY OF | | |
| , of lawful age, | being first duly sworn and upon or | ath, states: that |
| he/she is the above named Plaintiff; that he/she | e has read the above and foregoing | g Petition For |
| Divorce, and verifies that the matters and thi | ngs stated therein are true to the | best of his/her |
| knowledge and belief. | | |
| Subscribed and sworn to before me this | day of, Notary Public | 20 |
| My Commission Expires: | | |
| [SEAL] | | |

| IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF _ | COUNTY |
|--|--|
| STATE OF OF | KLAHOMA |
| |) |
| Plaintiff, |)) |
| |) |
| VS. |) Case No. FD |
| |) |
| |)) |
| Defendant. |) |
| ENTRY OF APPEARAN | ICE AND WAIVER |
| COMES NOW the Defendant herein, the | undersigned, and acknowledges receipt of a |
| copy of the Petition filed and on file herein, state | s that he has read and understands the same, |
| hereby waives the issuance, service, and return of | of process upon him in this action, enters a |
| voluntary appearance in this cause, waiving all time | e and fight to plead, answer or appear in this |
| action, and consents that the same may be set dow | n for trial and heard by the court at any time |
| hereafter without notice to, and in the absence of this Γ | Defendant. |
| | D.C. 1. |
| | Defendant |
| STATE OF OKLAHOMA | |
| COUNTY OF | |
| Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Pub. this, to me known to be the ide foregoing entry of appearance and waiver and pers understood and signed the same, and that he exec deed for the uses and purposes therein set forth. | |
| | Notary Public |
| My Commission Expires:[SEAL]: | |

| IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF | COUNTY |
|--|--|
| STATE OF O | KLAHOMA |
| , |) |
| Plaintiff, |) |
| |)) |
| vs. |) Case No. FD |
| , |) |
| Defendant. |) |
| SUMM | ONS |
| To the above-named Defendant: | · |
| | , OK |
| You have been sued by the above-named Answer to the attached Petition in the Court at a service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the of your Answer must be delivered or mailed to the attached. | he day of service. Within the same time, a copy |
| Unless you answer the <i>Petition</i> within the you with costs of the action. | e time stated, judgment will be rendered against |
| Issued this day of, | 20 |
| | , Court Clerk |
| | By: |
| | Deputy Court Clerk |

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY ON ANY MATTER CONNECTED WITH THIS SUIT OR YOUR ANSWER. SUCH ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED IMMEDIATELY SO THAT AN ANSWER MAY BE FILED WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT STATED IN THE SUMMONS.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE COUNTY OF _____ Case No. _____ The undersigned, a duly appointed and qualified Licensed Private Process Server in and for the above County and State, being first duly sworn, states: I received the attached process on the ______ day of ______, 20_____, and I delivered a copy thereof together with a copy of the to each of the following named persons, at the address and on the date set forth opposite each name, to-wit: NAME **ADDRESS DATE** The following persons were not found, to-wit: **COMMENTS** Licensed Private Process Server

| IN | THE DISTRICT COURT OF | COUNTY |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | STATE OF OKLAH | OMA |
| Plaintiff, | ,)) | |
| vs. |)) C | ase No. FD |
| Defendant. | ,) | |
| | DECREE OF DIVO | RCE |
| This matt | ter was heard on the day of | , 20, upon the |
| pleadings and Aff | fidavit of the Plaintiff and Defendant filed her | rein. Upon such, the court makes |
| the following: | | |
| | FINDINGS OF FA | CT |
| 1. That | this Court has jurisdiction in that the Plaintiff | was a resident of the State of |
| Oklahoma for mo | ore than six (6) months and | County for more than |
| thirty (30) days be | efore the filing of the Petition for Divorce in | this case. |
| 2. The I | Plaintiff and Defendant were lawfully marrie | d to each other on |
| day of | , 20 in | _ County, |
| 3. The I | Plaintiff's Social Security Number is | , and the |
| Defendant's Soci | ial Security Number is | |
| 4. There | e were no children born to or adopted by the | e Parties and the wife is not now |
| pregnant. | | |
| 5. There | e are no property rights to be adjudicated be | tween the Parties. The parties have |

agreed to all property and debt issues in the Separation and Property Settlement Agreement of

the Parties attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

| 6. | That a state of complete and irreconcilable incompatibility has arisen between the |
|---------------|--|
| parties whi | ch has completely destroyed the legitimate aims of the marriage and rendered its |
| continuation | n impossible entitling the Plaintiff to a Decree of Divorce from the Defendant. |
| 7. | Party, requests that her maiden/former name of |
| | be restored unto her. This request is not made for any |
| illegal or fr | audulent reason. |
| 8. | In the event either party fails to perform his or her obligations under the Decree of |
| Divorce, su | ach person shall be required to pay all costs and attorney fees of the other party |
| incurred in | enforcing the terms of the Decree of Divorce. |
| 9. | Each party is ordered to execute and deliver to the other party without cost any |
| documents | necessary to implement the provisions of this Decree of Divorce. |
| | CONCLUSIONS OF LAW |
| Ba | sed upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the court concludes as a matter of law that the |
| Plaintiff is | entitled to a Decree of Divorce from the Defendant on the grounds of incompatibility. |
| | JUDGMENT |
| IT IS THE | REFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS: |
| a) | That the bonds of matrimony existing between |
| | and are hereby dissolved |
| and that _ | and be and hereby are |
| awarded a | Decree of Divorce from each other on the grounds of incompatibility, final upon entry |
| of this deci | ree and the parties shall from date forward are declared to be single persons; |
| b) | Further, it is ordered by the Court that the parties may not marry except to |

each other for a period of six (6) months after the entry of the decree of divorce.

| c) | That the Separ | That the Separation and Property Settlement Agreement entered into by | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| and between the parties and attached hereto as Exhibit "A' is incorporated herein by reference | | | | | |
| and shall have the | e same force as if state | d herein in full; | | | |
| d) | That | is hereby restored her maiden/former | | | |
| name of | | · | | | |
| SO ORD | DERED, this the | day of | | | |
| | | BY THE COURT: | | | |
| | | CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE | | | |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

| I,, | , Plaintiff, do hereby certify that I mailed a copy of the <i>Decree</i> | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|------------------------|----|
| of Divorce in the above styled cause | se to the follo | owing-named person at | the address shown belo | w, |
| all by regular U. S. Mail, on the _ | day of _ | | | |
| Defendant | | | | |
| Address Where Mailed: | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Subscribed and sworn to t | his | day of | , 20 | |
| | | Notary F | Public | |
| My Commission Expires: | | | | |

(SEAL)

| IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF | COUNTY |
|---|--|
| STATE OF C | DKLAHOMA |
| |) |
| Plaintiff, |) |
| |)) |
| vs. |) Case No. FD |
| |) |
| Defendant. |) |
| NOTICE OF ENT | RY OF DECREE |
| TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: | |
| Please take notice that on Decree of Divorce was entered in this matter, a copy incorporated herein by this reference. | day of, 20, a of which is enclosed herewith and |
| DATED this | day of, 20 |
| Plain | tiff |
| CERTIFICATE | OF MAILING |
| I,, Plaintiff, do here | by certify that I mailed a copy of the <i>Notice</i> |
| of Entry of Decree in the above styled cause to the f below, all by regular U. S. Mail, on the day of | |
| DefendantAddress Where Mailed: | |
| | |
| | , OK |
| Subscribed and sworn to this day of | , 20 |
| | Notary Public |

My Commission Expires: (SEAL)

SEPARATION AND PROPERTY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

| WHEREAS,, hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff", and |
|---|
| , hereinafter referred to as "Defendant", are now married; and |
| WHEREAS, the parties are separated and now living separate and apart and desire to |
| make a mutually acceptable settlement of their rights, liabilities, obligations and property rights |
| arising out of and during the course of their marital relationship. No reconciliation is |
| contemplated; and |
| WHEREAS, Plaintiff and/or Defendant are both actual and bona fide residents of the |
| State of Oklahoma for more than six (6) months and County for more than |
| thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of this action; and |
| WHEREAS, the Parties were lawfully married on day of |
| 20, in |
| WHEREAS, there were no children born to or adopted by the Parties. Wife is not now |
| pregnant; and |
| WHEREAS, Plaintiff and Defendant separated on day of |
| , 20, and from said date up to the present, Plaintiff and Defendant have lived |
| separate and apart without any cohabitation. The parties are entitled to a Decree of Divorce on |
| the grounds of incompatibility due to irreconcilable differences which have arisen between the |
| parties hereto which have destroyed the legitimate intents and purposes of said marriage and |
| rendered its continuation impossible; and |

WHEREAS, Defendant hereby waives his right to file an Answer in this matter, or withdraws any Answer he may have filed, agrees that his default may be entered and agrees that the Court may award Plaintiff an uncontested Decree of Divorce and Judgment in this matter consistent with the terms of this Agreement and without further notice to Defendant; and

WHEREAS, The parties hereto agree that the provisions of this Separation and Property Settlement Agreement shall be incorporated into any judgment or Decree of Divorce, and that this Agreement shall survive, and shall not be merged into any judgment, decree or order, which may be issued.

NOW THEREFORE, FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF the mutual benefits and advantages accruing to each party, the undersigned do hereby solemnly covenant, agree and contract as follows:

- 1. <u>CHILD CUSTODY</u>: No children were both to this marriage, wife is not now pregnant and no children were adopted by the parties.
- 2. <u>PROPERTY SETTLEMENT</u>: Husband and Wife are in possession of all personal property belonging to each, and neither makes any claim to any personal property in the possession of the other, except as stated below.

Wife shall be entitled to the exclusive use, possession and title to the following assets:

(a)

(b)

Husband shall be entitled to exclusive use, possession and title to the following assets:

(a)

(b)

The Parties agree to the following additional provisions relating to property settlement:

3. <u>DEBTS</u>: Wife shall be responsible for her individual debts and Husband shall be responsible for his individual debts. The Parties further agree that the joint debts of the parties shall be paid as follows:

| (a) | Debt to | ir | n the app | proximate am | ount of |
|-----|---------|--------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| | \$ | shall be | paid by | | and |
| | | shall convey | her/his | interest sa | me to |
| | | · | | | |
| (b) | Debt to | | in the | approximate an | mount of |
| | \$ | shall | be | paid | by |
| | | ·· | | | |

- 4. <u>ALIMONY</u>: Neither Party claims entitlement to alimony as they are not entitled to same and both Parties expressly waive any claim to alimony.
- 5. <u>LEGAL REPRESENTATION DISCLOSURE</u>: Each party agrees that neither party has been represented by an attorney in this matter and that both parties have had an opportunity to consult, with any attorney of his/her choice.
- 6. <u>FURTHER DOCUMENTS</u>: Each party agrees that he or she will sign and execute any further or additional documents as may be necessary to put into effect the intended purposes hereof.
- 7. <u>ENTIRE AGREEMENT</u>: This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and each party acknowledges that there are no further agreements not expressly included herein and that this Agreement may be modified, altered, or amended only in writing, duly signed and notarized by each in the form of this original.
- 8. <u>FULLY READ AND UNDERSTAND</u>: Each party represents and acknowledges that he or she has fully read this Agreement, consulted with each other, carefully considered same, and have signed and executed same after such consultation, and after consulting with their respective attorneys, that the signing of this Agreement is free and voluntary without force or

collusion by either party or any third party, and that each party signed same with the full knowledge of said party's rights, obligations, and responsibilities.

- 9. <u>MODIFICATION</u>: This Agreement shall estop and preclude either party from making other or further demands and claims upon the other, not included herein, except that such legal action may be taken by either party as is necessary to enforce or modify the terms and provisions hereof, except that the Property Settlement provision shall not be subject to modification.
- SUBSEQUENT DIVORCE: It is agreed and understood that this Agreement finally settles all rights of the parties and the property jointly or individually owned by the parties, and that this Agreement, and the enforceability thereof, is not contingent upon either party or both parties being granted a divorce on any grounds. However, if either or both parties are granted a divorce on any grounds, the parties agree that this Agreement shall be made a part thereof and that such decree or judgment shall not conflict with the terms hereof.
- 11. <u>CONTROLLING LAW</u>: This Agreement shall be governed, enforced and interpreted according to the laws of the State of Oklahoma.
- 12. <u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u> This Agreement shall not be enforceable until duly executed by both Petition and Defendant.
- 13. <u>HEIRS AND ASSIGNS</u>: This Agreement shall be binding upon the heirs, administrators, estate and assigns of the parties.

| IN | WITNESS | WHEREOF, | Plaintiff | has | executed | this | Agreement | on | the | day | of |
|----|---------|------------|-----------|--------|------------|--------|------------|------|-----|---------|----|
| | | _, 20, and | l Defenda | ant ha | as execute | ed thi | s Agreemen | t on | the | day | of |
| | | , 20 | | | | | | | | | |

| Signatu | Signature of Plaintiff | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|--|--|
| Print N | Jame: | | | |
| Signatu | ure of Defendant | | | |
| Print N | Print Name: | | | |
| STATE OF OKLAHOMA | | | | |
| COUNTY OF | | | | |
| This instrument was acknowledged before me | on | (date) by | | |
| | (name(s) of person(s)). | | | |
| | NOTARY PUBLIC | | | |
| | Print Name: | | | |
| My Commission Expires: | | | | |
| STATE OF OKLAHOMA | | | | |
| COUNTY OF | | | | |
| | | (1-4-) 1 | | |
| This instrument was acknowledged before me | | (date) by | | |
| | (name(s) of person(s)). | | | |
| | NOTARY PUBLIC | | | |
| | Print Name: | | | |
| My Commission Expires: | | | | |

| IN THE DISTRICT COURT (| OFCOUNTY |
|--|---|
| STATE O | F OKLAHOMA |
| | |
| |) |
| Plaintiff, |) |
| |) |
| vs. |) Case No. FD |
| |) |
| |) |
| Defendant. |) |
| NON-MILIT | ARY AFFIDAVIT |
| TON MEAT | |
| I, {full legal name}, being sworn, certify | that the following information is true: |
| Mark all that apply] | |
| _ | and be available after Defendant in not an active |
| • • | nal knowledge that Defendant is not on active |
| uty in the armed services of the United States. | |
| 2. I have inquired of the arm | ned services of the United States and the U.S. |
| Public Health Service to determine whether the D | Defendant is a member of the armed services and |
| m attaching certificates stating that Defendant is | not now in the armed services. |
| | |
| I understand that I am swearing or af | firming under oath to the truthfulness of the |
| laims made in this affidavit and that the pur | ishment for knowingly making a false |
| tatement includes fines and/or imprisonmen | t. |
| | |
| DATED: | |
| | |
| | |
| _ | Signature of Plaintiff |
|] | Printed Name: |
| A | Address: |
| C T | City, State, Zip: |
| - F | Fax Number: |

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

COUNTY OF

| Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on | day of | , 20_ | , by |
|--|------------|--------|------|
| · | | | |
| | NOTARY | PUBLIC | |
| My Commission Expires: | _ | | |

DIVORCE INSTRUCTIONS

Scope of this outline:

This outline discusses divorce based upon incompatibility of the parties. This is the "no-fault" divorce ground in Oklahoma.

The basics:

In order to file for divorce in the State of Oklahoma, the parties must meet several requirements. Those requirements are below:

- 1. You must satisfy the residency requirements. You or your spouse must have resided in Oklahoma for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the filing of the petition.
- 2. In addition, the plaintiff must have resided in the county of filing for at least thirty (30) days immediately prior to the filing of the petition.

Steps to No-Fault Divorce

STEP 1: One party completes the Petition for divorce and both parties complete the Separation and Property Settlement Agreement and attach the Agreement to the Petition as exhibit "A". The Petition and Separation and Property Settlement Agreement are then filed with the Clerk of the Circuit court in your County. A filing fee is paid. A Civil Cover may be required and should be available from the clerk. The Non-Military Affidavit should also be filed when the petition is filed.

STEP 2: The party filing the petition should send to the other spouse the Waiver of Service of Process form. If the other spouse completes the Waiver of Service of Process and returns it, the Waiver should then be filed with the clerk and no official Summons will issue to that spouse. If the other spouse does not complete the Waiver of Process form, then a Summons is issued directing the Defendant to Answer the Petition. The Clerk will inform you how to serve the Defendant with the summons.

STEP 4: After the above steps have been completed, contact the clerk for a time to present the Decree to the Court. Ask the clerk what procedures the Judge uses in your county for this and follow this procedure.

STEP 5: After the Decree has been signed and filed; the Notice of Decree should be completed and filed. A copy of said Notice of Decree should then be mailed to the defendant.

Notes: When presenting Pleadings to the Clerk make sure you have at least 4 copies for the Clerk. The Clerk will return the copies to you that the Court does not need.

If a Certificate of Mailing is on any form, a copy of the form should be mailed to the person indicated.

This is a package involving no property. If joint property is involved, the Petition and other documents should be revised to include property division and debt payment matters.

This package is a guide and you should complete all forms based upon your situation, making any necessary revisions.

OKLAHOMA DIVORCE LAW SUMMARY

GROUNDS

Oklahoma law permits divorces based upon several different causes. Among the are:

- 1. Abandonment for one (1) year.
- 2. Adultery.
- 3. Impotence.
- 4. When wife at time of marriage is pregnant for someone other than her husband.
- 5. Extreme cruelty.
- 6. Fraudulent contract.
- 7. Habitual drunkenness.
- 8. Gross neglect of duty.
- 9. Imprisonment for the commission of a felony.
- 10. Insanity for a period of five (5) years, and
- 11. the "no-fault" ground of incompatibility of the parties.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Oklahoma law requires that one of the spouses must be a resident of the state for a minimum of six (6) months immediately prior to the filing of the petition for divorce.

VENUE

The petition may be filed in the county where the plaintiff has been a resident for at least thirty (30) days, or where the defendant resides.

LEGAL SEPARATION

Oklahoma law permits a spouse to bring an action for alimony against the other spouse without a divorce. The defenses to this action are the same as for a divorce action.

WAITING PERIOD

In a divorce action involving minor children, the court will not issue a decree of divorce until ninety (90) days have elapsed from the date of the filing of the petition.

In addition, it is unlawful for a party to divorce action to remarry (except to each other) or cohabit with another for six months from the date of decree. Any person who violates this provision is guilty of bigamy and may be imprisoned for a term of not less than one (1) year and not more than three (3) years in the State Penitentiary.

ALIMONY/SUPPORT

Either spouse may be awarded alimony out of real and personal property of the other spouse as the court deems reasonable. The court shall make such award either in a lump sum or in installments, as it deems reasonable and just.

The obligation to pay alimony terminates upon the death or remarriage of the recipient or upon the voluntary cohabitation of the recipient with a member of the opposite sex.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY

Oklahoma is an equitable distribution state. This means that the court will divide the marital property between the parties as it deems equitable and just. The court may divide the property in kind, or by setting aside the property to one party and requiring the other party to be paid in such amount as may be fair and just to effect and equitable division.

CHILD CUSTODY

Oklahoma courts will decide the issue of custody based upon the best interests of the child. Custody may be granted to either parent or to both parents jointly. When awarding custody, the court shall consider which parent is more likely to allow the child frequent and continuing contact with the other parent. Gender of the parties shall not be a consideration in determining custody of the child.

If either or both parents have requested joint custody, the party so requesting shall submit to the court parenting plans detailing the arrangements for the care of the child. Such plans shall include provisions relating to the medical and dental care of the child, school placement, physical living arrangements for the child, child support obligations, and visitation rights.

In determining custody, the child may express his or her preference, although the court shall not be bound by the preference expressed by the child.

The court may require the parties to a divorce involving minor children to attend an educational program concerning the impact of divorce on children and conflict resolution between parents. The court may also order individual counseling, as it deems appropriate.

CHILD SUPPORT

The Oklahoma legislature has established child support guidelines which establish the presumptive correct amount of child support. Deviation from the guidelines require a specific finding by the court that application of the guidelines would be unjust or inappropriate and such findings must be included in the judgment.

Child support orders may be modified upon a showing of material change in circumstances of the parties.

A child shall be entitled to support until the child reaches eighteen (18) years of age.

OTHER

When a divorce is granted, the court may restore the wife to her maiden or former name if she so desires.