

SELF-SERVICE CENTER

INSTRUCTIONS: HOW TO FILL OUT ALL FORMS TO REQUEST COURT ORDER FOR GRANDPARENT VISITATION

WHEN TO USE THIS FORM:

Use this form if you are natural or adoptive grandparent(s) or great grandparent(s) who want to get a court order for visitation.

When filling out any court forms, please type or print with black ink only!

FAMILY COURT / SENSITIVE DATA COVER SHEET:

Print or type in black ink. Write in the information requested about the petitioner, the respondent, and any children under the age of 18.

DO NOT INCLUDE MAILING ADDRESS ON THIS FORM IF REQUESTING ADDRESS PROTECTION.

Case Type: Check only one box that matches the legal procedure for which you are filing the documents in this packet.

Interpreter: Check "yes" or "no" to indicate whether an interpreter is needed. If "yes", write in what language(s).

SUMMONS:

Fill in the following information where requested: Your name; street address (if not protected); city, state and ZIP; telephone number; ATLAS NUMBER; name of Petitioner (your name); and name of Respondent (the opposing party's name). There will be an **ATLAS number ONLY** if one of the parents receive or have received AFDC or other public benefits for the children for whom you want to establish visitation.

PETITION:

- A. In the top left corner of the first page, fill out the following: YOUR name; address (if not protected); city, state and ZIP code; telephone number.
- B. Fill in YOUR name in the space that says "Name of Petitioner." If more than one person is the grandparent who wants visitation, put both names here. Remember, you will be the PETITIONER through the whole case. In the space that says "Name of Respondent," fill in the name of the father, mother, and/or other legal guardian, who will be the RESPONDENT (S) for the rest of your case. Generally you name whoever has custody of the children because this is the person who will have to obey the visitation order.

WARNING: IF THE COURT HAS ALREADY MADE AN ORDER FOR DIVORCE OR CHILD CUSTODY OR PATERNITY IN MARICOPA COUNTY, DO NOT GET A NEW CASE NUMBER WHEN FILING YOUR CASE! USE THE EXISTING CASE NUMBER.

1. **Information about you:** Fill in your name, address (if not protected) and date of birth. This is basic information about YOU, the PETITIONER, and your relationship to the children for whom you want the order.
2. **Information about the mother:** Fill in the information about the mother, including address and date of birth. This is basic information about the opposing party, the RESPONDENT.
3. **Information about the father:** Fill in the information about the father, including address and date of birth. This is basic information about the opposing party, the RESPONDENT.
4. **Information about the legal guardian (if any):** Fill in the information about any legal guardian for the children, including address and date of birth. This is basic information about the opposing party, the RESPONDENT.
5. **Information about the children:** Fill in information about all the children for whom you want this order. The same persons should be the custodial adult for all the children for whom you want this order. If the children have different adults who have custody, name all the adults with custody as respondents in the caption, and complete all the information about them in numbers 2, 3, and/or 4 above.
6. **Legal Reasons you should have visitation:** under the law, grandparents can only have visitation orders in certain cases. Read all the choices and decide which one applies to you. Then complete all the information about the choice you selected. If your situation does not fit one of the choices, do not file the Petition. You can ask a lawyer for help, to see if there is some other legal ground upon which you can ask for visitation.
7. **Relationship with Children:** explain here what our relationship with the children has been for the past 6 months, and why it is best for the children to have visitation with you.
8. **Your visitation plan:** Explain here specifically what visitation arrangements you think are best for the children.
9. **Other information about the children:** If you are aware of court cases about the children, you need to tell the court that. Attach a copy of the orders about custody, visitation, or child support to the petition, unless the orders are from the Superior Court in Maricopa County.
10. **More information about children:** Fill out where the children from this action have been living **for the past 5 years**; if any children are under age 5, simply put information since their birth. Write each child's name; the address where the child lived; what dates the child lived at each address; who the child lived with; and the relationship of that person to the child. While you may not remember exact dates when you moved from one location to another, fill this information out as completely as possible.
11. **Other cases about the children:** You must tell the Court if there are prior cases involving your minor child(ren) that don't involve custody or visitation, e.g. personal injury cases involving the child(ren). If there are no other cases, mark the first box and GO ON. If there is another case you must include the case number in your petition prior to filing. This information could affect you or your children's rights in this case.

12. **Other custody, visitation, support cases about these children:** The Court **MUST** know if there have been other cases involving custody, visitation or child support of the children of this case. If there are no other custody or visitation cases, or you don't know of any, mark the second box and GO ON. If you know of other cases, mark the first box and give the information where requested. You must include the case number in your petition prior to filing. Tell the Court what happened and what is going on now in the other case(s).
13. **Custody rights of others as to these children:** If you do not know of another person OTHER THAN THE OPPOSING PARTY who is claiming custody or visitation rights to any of the children, mark the first box and GO ON. If you do know of such a person, put the information here, including the child's name and the person who believes they have a custody or visitation claim.
14. **Proper location for this court case:** the grandparents, parents/custodian, or children must live in Maricopa County for this to be a proper county for you to pursue your court case.

REQUESTS MADE TO THE COURT:

1. **FOR COURT ORDER FOR GRANDPARENT VISITATION**
2. **OTHER ORDERS THE COURT DEEMS JUST AND FAIR**

AFFIRMATION AND SIGNATURE(S) OF PETITIONER(S):

By signing this form you are telling the court that everything contained in the Petition for Grandparent Visitation is true, under penalty of perjury.