

Name of Person Filing: (A) \_\_\_\_\_  
 In this case I am:  Petitioner  Respondent  
 In this case I am:  Representing Myself (No Attorney), or  
 If Represented by Attorney: Attorney Bar Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 My Address (if not protected): \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

## SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA IN MARICOPA COUNTY

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (B) Petitioner

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

ATLAS Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (B) Respondent

### DECREE OF LEGAL SEPARATION FOR A NON-COVENANT MARRIAGE WITH MINOR CHILDREN

#### THE COURT FINDS: (C)

1. This case has come before this court for a final Decree of Legal Separation. The court has taken all testimony needed to enter a Decree, or the court has determined testimony is not needed to enter the Decree.
2. This court has jurisdiction over the parties under the law and the provisions of this Decree are fair and reasonable under the circumstances, and are in the best interests of the minor child(ren) as to legal decision making (custody), parenting time and support.
3. **SERVICE BY PUBLICATION:**  
 If Respondent was served by publication and was not personally served, this court cannot make a legal order, with respect to issues of child support, medical and dental insurance, payments, expenses for the minor child(ren), community property or debt, or spousal maintenance/support. The court reserves jurisdiction until personal service is made upon Respondent to consider the maintenance/support of either spouse, the disposition of community property or debts, child support, and any other relief requested in the Petition or orders deemed necessary by the court.
4. **THE COURT FURTHER FINDS:**
  - a. **Residency Requirement.** At the time this action was filed, one of the parties lived in Arizona, or had lived in Arizona while a member of the United States Armed Forces.
  - b. **Conciliation Court and Non-Covenant Marriage.** The provisions relating to the Conciliation Court either do not apply or have been met. This is not a covenant marriage.
  - c. **Irretrievably Broken or Separate and Apart.** The marriage is irretrievably broken or the parties desire to live separate and apart. The respondent has not objected to a decree of legal separation.
  - d. **Legal Decision Making (Custody), Support, Spousal Maintenance, Division of Property and Debt.** Where it has the legal power and where applicable to the facts of this case, this court has considered, approved, and made Orders relating to issues of legal authority to make decisions concerning the minor child(ren), the child(ren)'s primary residence, parenting time, child support, spousal maintenance (alimony), and the division of property and/or debt.

**e. Community Property and Debt.**

- The parties did **not** acquire any community property or debt during the marriage, **OR**
- There **IS** an agreement as to division of community property and debt; all community property and debt is divided pursuant to this Decree
- There is **NO** agreement as to division of community property and debt, but all community property and debt is divided pursuant to this Decree.

**f. Pregnancy**

- Wife is **not** pregnant, **OR**
- Wife **is** pregnant, and the husband  **IS** OR  **IS NOT** the father of the child.

The husband is the father of these children born to the parties before the marriage:  
 Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) of Birth \_\_\_\_\_


**g. Spousal Maintenance/Support.**

The Petitioner, **OR**  The Respondent, lacks enough property, including property given to him or her as part of this separation, to provide for his or her reasonable needs, and is unable to support himself or herself through an appropriate job, or he or she is providing the primary care to a child(ren) of young age or is of a condition that they should not be required to look for work outside the home, or lacks earning ability necessary to support himself or herself, or contributed significantly to the educational opportunities of the other spouse, or had a marriage that lasted a long time and is of an age that may severely limit the possibility of getting a job to support himself or herself.

**h. Parent Information Program.**

1. Petitioner  has attended the Parent Information Program class as evidenced by the **“Certificate of Completion”** in the court file. **OR**  
 Petitioner  has not attended the Parent Information Program class and  shall be denied any requested relief to enforce or modify this decree until Petitioner has completed the class.
2. Respondent  has attended the Parent Information Program class as evidenced by the **“Certificate of Completion”** in the court file. **OR**  
 Respondent  has **not** attended the Parent Information Program class and  shall be denied any requested relief to enforce or modify this decree until Respondent has completed the class.

**i. Deviation from Child Support.** The court, having considered the best interests of the minor child(ren), deviates from the guidelines for the following reasons:

- Application of the guidelines is inappropriate
- Application of the guidelines is unjust

**The court makes the following finding regarding the deviation:**

The child support order would have been \$\_\_\_\_\_

The child support order after deviation is \$\_\_\_\_\_

**j. Physical Custody Adjustment, Court Approved Discretionary Parenting Time Adjustment And/or other Adjustments.** (*The court* must make written findings if any of these adjustments are made.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**k. Ability to Pay Child Support.** The court finds that the person responsible for paying child support has the ability to pay child support:

In the amount entered on Line 34 of the Worksheet for \$\_\_\_\_\_

In an adjusted amount calculated using the self-support reserve on line 35 of the Worksheet for \$\_\_\_\_\_

**l. Legal Decision-Making Authority for Minor Child(ren).** (Check/complete only if legal decision-making authority (custody) is contested or joint legal decision-making authority (custody) is ordered.)

The legal decision-making (custody) order or agreement is in the best interests of the minor child(ren) for the following reasons: (List the reasons.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**m. Supervised or No Parenting Time.** (Check and complete only if supervised parenting time or no parenting time is ordered.)

**Supervised Parenting Time** between the minor children and  Mother **OR**  Father,

**OR**

**No Parenting Time by**  Mother **OR**  Father, **is in the best interests of the minor child(ren), for the following reasons:** (Explain the reasons) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**n. Domestic Violence.** If the court enters an order for joint legal decision making (joint legal custody) for the minor child(ren), check box "1" or box "2" and explain.

- 1.  Domestic violence has not occurred during this marriage, **OR**
- 2.  Domestic violence has occurred, but the domestic violence **has not** been "significant". Joint legal decision making is in the best interest of the minor child(ren) even though domestic violence has occurred *because:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THE COURT ORDERS: (D)**

**1. THE PARTIES ARE LEGALLY SEPARATED.**

**2. ENFORCEMENT OF TEMPORARY ORDERS:** All obligations ordered to be paid by the parties in Temporary Orders dated (fill in dates of ALL temporary orders here) \_\_\_\_\_

are satisfied in full **or**  judgment is awarded against the party with the obligation up to the amount due and owing as of the date of this Decree, with the highest legal interest allowed by law, for the total amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

**3. PREGNANCY AND PATERNITY**

A child who is common to the parties is expected to be born this date: \_\_\_\_\_  
All orders below as to legal decision making (legal custody), parenting time (visitation), support, and medical insurance/expenses include this child and all other children named below.

**a. CHILDREN: This Decree includes all minor children common to the parties as follows:**

NAME(S) OF MINOR CHILD(REN)	DATE(S) OF BIRTH
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**b.  PATERNITY: The husband is declared to be the father of the minor children named below, born *before* the marriage:**

Children Born BEFORE the Marriage	DATE(S) OF BIRTH
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**c.  FOR ANY ABOVE-NAMED MINOR CHILD BORN IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA, THE CLERK OF COURT SHALL FORWARD A COPY OF THIS ORDER TO THE OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS, WHICH IS ORDERED TO AMEND THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE(S) AS FOLLOWS: (List full name of husband/father as appears on his Social Security card or other government issued official document and as should appear on the children's birth certificate(s))**

**1. Add the name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**as the father on the above-named minor child(ren)'s birth certificate(s) if no name is already listed.**

(Optional) Name Change – continued on next page

2. (Optional) **NAME CHANGE:** The names of one or more of the minor children for whom paternity has been established above shall be changed as follows:

Current Legal Name	New Name <i>(optional)</i>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**4. PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL PARENT, PARENTING TIME, and AUTHORITY FOR LEGAL DECISION MAKING (CUSTODY)**

**a. PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL PARENT:**

In accord with the Parenting Plan signed by both parties **NEITHER** parent is designated as the primary residential parent, **OR**

Mother is designated the primary residential parent of: \_\_\_\_\_

Father is designated the primary residential parent of: \_\_\_\_\_

***SUBJECT TO PARENTING TIME AS FOLLOWS:***

**b. PARENTING TIME:**

Reasonable parenting time rights to the non-residential parent as described in the Parenting Plan attached as Exhibit B and made a part of this Decree. **OR**

**NO PARENTING TIME RIGHTS** to  Mother **OR**  Father, **OR**

**SUPERVISED PARENTING TIME** to  Mother **OR**  Father according to the terms of the Parenting Plan attached as Exhibit B and made part of this Decree. Parenting time may only take place in the presence of another person, named below or otherwise approved by the court.

**No Parenting Time or Supervised Parenting Time is in the best interests of the child(ren) because:** (Explain) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**(IF supervised) Name of supervisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The cost of supervised parenting time will be paid by the:**

the Mother,  the Father, **OR**  Shared equally by the parties

**Restrictions on parenting time (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**c. AUTHORITY FOR LEGAL DECISION-MAKING (LEGAL CUSTODY):**

1.  **SOLE LEGAL DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY over the minor children is awarded to:**

**Mother, OR**  **Father,**

**OR**

2.  **JOINT LEGAL DECISION-MAKING (JOINT CUSTODY):** Mother and Father agree to act as joint legal decision makers regarding the minor child(ren), as set forth in the Joint Legal Decision-Making (Custody) Agreement and Parenting Plan signed by both parties and attached to this Decree as **“Exhibit B.”** There having been no significant acts of Domestic Violence by either parent, or the court having found it in the best interests of the minor childr(ren), the court adopts the terms of the Joint Legal Decision-Making (Custody) Agreement and Parenting Plan, which is attached to and made part of this Decree.

**5. CHILD SUPPORT , including INSURANCE COVERAGE:**

a.  **Mother, OR**  **Father shall pay child support to the other party in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month, beginning THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH** following the date this Decree is signed by the judge until further order of the court. Child Support is based on the information in the Child Support Worksheet attached hereto and incorporated by reference. All child support payments shall be made through the Support Payment Clearinghouse, and must include the statutory fee for the Income Withholding Order signed this date. Payments will be in equal installments made on the 1st and 15th of each month.

**b. MEDICAL, DENTAL, VISION CARE FOR MINOR CHILDREN**

**Mother** is responsible for providing:  medical  dental  vision care insurance.  
 **Father** is responsible for providing:  medical  dental  vision care insurance.

Medical, dental, and vision care insurance, payments and expenses are based on the information in the Parent’s Worksheet for Child Support attached and incorporated by reference. The party ordered to pay must keep the other party informed of the insurance company name, address and telephone number, and must give the other party the documents necessary to submit insurance claims.

**Non-Covered Expenses. Mother is ordered to pay \_\_\_\_\_ %, AND Father is ordered to pay \_\_\_\_\_ %** of all reasonable uncovered and/or uninsured medical, dental, vision care, prescription and other health care charges for the minor children, including co-payments.

**5. SPOUSAL MAINTENANCE/SUPPORT:**

a.  **Neither party shall pay spousal maintenance/support (alimony) to the other party, OR**

b.  **Petitioner, OR**  **Respondent** is ordered to pay the other party the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month spousal maintenance/support **BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH** after this Decree is signed. Each payment shall be made by the first day of each month after that and shall continue until the receiving party is remarried or deceased **or** until (date) \_\_\_\_\_. All payments shall be made through the Support Payment Clearinghouse by automatic income withholding order, until all required payments have been made under this Decree. Payments made shall be included in receiving spouse’s taxable income and is tax deductible from the paying spouse’s income as required by law. Spousal maintenance / support payments end if the receiving party is remarried or deceased.

**6. PROPERTY, DEBTS AND TAX RETURNS:**

- a.  Petitioner is ordered to pay all debts unknown to Respondent, AND  
 Respondent is ordered to pay all debts unknown to Petitioner, AND  
 Each party is ordered to pay his or her debts from the following date,  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Other orders and relief relating to property or debt are contained in Exhibit A, which is attached and incorporated into this Decree.
- c.  Each party is assigned his or her separate property and Petitioner must pay his/her separate debt, and Respondent must pay his/her separate debt.
- d.  This Decree can be used as a transfer of title and can be recorded. Parties shall sign all documents necessary to complete all transfer of title ordered in this Decree, such as motor vehicles, houses, and bank accounts. The parties shall transfer all real and personal property as described in Exhibit A to the other party on or before \_\_\_\_\_ by 5:00 p.m.

If the party required to transfer the property has not transferred the property to the party entitled to receive the property on or before the date and time listed above, the party entitled to receive the property is entitled upon application to a Writ of Assistance or Writ of Execution to be issued by the Clerk of the Court commanding the sheriff to put him or her in possession of the property.

- e.  **For previous calendar years**, pursuant to IRS rules and regulations, the parties will file  
 **joint** federal and state income tax returns and hold the other harmless from half of any additional income taxes and other costs, and each will share equally in any refunds, **OR**  
 **separate** federal and state income tax returns.
- For this calendar year and continuing thereafter**, each party will file separate federal and state income tax returns.

**7. FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXCHANGES:** The parties shall exchange financial information (tax returns, spousal affidavits, earning statements and/or other related financial statements) every twenty-four months. Each party shall give the other party all necessary documentation to file all tax returns.

**8. TAX EXEMPTION:** The parties shall claim as income tax dependency exemptions on federal and state tax returns as follows.

Parent entitled to claim	Name of minor child	in Tax Year
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father	_____	_____

**Pattern shall repeat for subsequent years.**

A party required to pay child support is only entitled to claim minor child(ren) as an income tax dependency exemption **if** that parent has paid all of the child support due and owing *for the year that party is entitled to the exemption.*

**9. MINOR CHILDREN TO WHOM THIS DECREE DOES NOT APPLY:** It is ordered that  Mother, OR  Father has no legal obligation or right to the minor child(ren) listed below born during the marriage but **not** common to the marriage. These minor children include: (Use additional paper if necessary)

Name	Birth Date
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Child expected to be born this date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**10. OTHER ORDERS.** (Leave blank for Judicial Officer.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**11. FINAL APPEALABLE ORDER.** Pursuant to Arizona Rules of Family Law Procedure, Rule 81, this final judgment/decree is settled, approved and signed by the court and shall be entered by the clerk.

**(E) DONE IN OPEN COURT:** \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**JUDGE OR COURT COMMISSIONER**

**If this Decree was issued as a "Default," and** the Petitioner served the papers to begin this case by any means *other than* by publication, a copy of this Decree shall be mailed or delivered to the Respondent within 24 hours of the court hearing as follows:

**Respondent's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**By Petitioner:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A: PROPERTY AND DEBTS** (Refer to section "F" in instructions)

1. **DIVISION OF COMMUNITY PROPERTY** (property acquired during the marriage)

- Award each party the personal property in his/her possession.
- Community property is awarded to each party as follows:

2. **LIST OF COMMUNITY PROPERTY** (Be very specific in your description of the property.)

		<b>AWARD TO</b>	
		Petitioner	Respondent
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Household furniture / furnishings:</b> (Be specific.) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Appliances:</b> (Be specific.) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Video: TV /DVD /VCR:</b> (Be specific) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Audio: Stereo/ Radio:</b> (Be specific) _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Computers and Related Equipment:</b> (Be specific) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Other Electronics</b> (Be specific) _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Motor Vehicles:</b> Year, Make, Model: _____ Last 4 digits of VIN # _____ Year, Make, Model: _____ Last 4 digits of VIN # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

**COMMUNITY PROPERTY**

**AWARD TO:**  
Petitioner      Respondent

**Motor Vehicles - continued**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Year, Make, Model: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Last 4 digits of VIN # _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash, bonds of \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Continues on attached page.</b>		

**3. DIVISION OF RETIREMENT, PENSION, DEFERRED COMPENSATION**

**(WARNING. You should see a lawyer about your retirement, pension, deferred compensation, 401k plans and/or benefits. If you do not see a lawyer regarding these assets, you risk losing any interest you have in these plans and/or benefits. There are certain documents the plan administrator must have. Only a lawyer can help you prepare these documents.)**

Neither party has a retirement, pension, deferred compensation, 401K Plan and/or benefits.  
OR

Award each party his/her interest in any and all retirement benefits, pension plans, or other deferred compensation described as:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
OR

Each party **WAIVES AND GIVES UP** his/her interest in any and all retirement benefits, pension plans, or other deferred compensation of the other party:

**4. DIVISION OF REAL PROPERTY** (Land and Buildings) Section A is for one piece of property. Section B is for another, separate property.

**A. Real property located at** (address) \_\_\_\_\_.  
The **legal description** of this property, **as quoted from the DEED to the property\* is:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\* If you do not provide a correct legal description, you may have to come back to court to amend the Decree to include the correct legal description.**

**The real property ("A") described above is awarded as the sole and separate property of:**

**Petitioner** or  **Respondent**

OR

**Shall be sold and the proceeds divided as follows:**

\_\_\_\_\_ % or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to **Petitioner.**

\_\_\_\_\_ % or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to **Respondent.**

**B. Real property located at (address) \_\_\_\_\_.**  
 The **legal description** of this property, **as quoted from the DEED to the property\* is:**

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**\* If you do not provide a correct legal description, you may have to come back to court to amend the Decree to include the correct legal description.**

**The real property ("B") described above is awarded as the sole and separate property of:**

**Petitioner** or  **Respondent**

*OR*

**Shall be sold and the proceeds divided as follows:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_% or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Petitioner.

\_\_\_\_\_ % or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Respondent.

**Continues on attached page.**

**5. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEBT** (Debts incurred during the marriage) (You should see a lawyer about how to divide secured and unsecured debts.)

**Community debts shall be divided as follows:**

Creditor Name	Amount Owed	Amount to be paid by Petitioner	Amount to be paid by Respondent
a.	\$	\$	\$
b.	\$	\$	\$
c.	\$	\$	\$
d.	\$	\$	\$
e.	\$	\$	\$
f.	\$	\$	\$
g.	\$	\$	\$
h.	\$	\$	\$
i.	\$	\$	\$
j.	\$	\$	\$

**Continues on attached page.**

**6.  Any debts or obligations incurred by either party before the date of separation, that are not identified in the list above or attached, shall be paid by the party who incurred the debt or obligation and that party shall indemnify and hold the other party harmless from such debts.**

**7. SEPARATE PROPERTY.** (Property acquired before the marriage or by gift or bequest to one party.)  
**Property recognized as the separate property of the Petitioner or Respondent, is assigned below:**

Description	Value	To Petitioner	To Respondent
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**8. SEPARATE DEBT:** (Debt acquired before the marriage.)  
**Debt recognized as the separate debt of the Petitioner or Respondent, is assigned below:**

Creditor Name	Debt Amount	Petitioner Pays	Respondent Pays
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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