

RESPONSE TO CHILD SUPPORT MODIFICATION

This packet contains forms on:

How to Respond to a Petitioner to Modify Child Support

Note: The child support order must have been originally issued by a Superior Court and you may only file for modification if it has been two (2) years since a judge signed an order for child support, unless your original child support order has never been modified or unless there has been an exceptional change in one parent's financial circumstances or in the child's needs.

ALL contested domestic cases except domestic violence cases must be submitted to the ADR Office for mediation prior to ANY court hearing. If there is no mediation, there will be no court hearing unless mediation is excused in writing by the ADR Office. You may contact the ADR Office at 770-228-3758 to initiate the mediation process.

Child support can be set, or modified up or down, or enforced and collected when unpaid, by using the legal services of the Office of Child Support Recovery at **1-877-423-4746** even if you are not yet divorced or are divorced or have never been married. If your child support has ever been ordered through the legal services of the Office of Child Support Recovery, the law generally requires that they be involved in any legal cases involving child support after that.

It is advisable to have an attorney when filing legal papers to be sure that your rights are protected and that all the procedures are correctly followed. **Courthouse personnel are prohibited by state law O.C.G.A. § 15-19-51 from giving legal advice.** Different situations may require special procedures and courthouse personnel cannot advise you on how to proceed or what forms may be necessary in specific situations.

IMPORTANT

IF THERE IS ANY QUESTION in your mind concerning these forms, the use of these forms, or your legal rights, it is strongly recommended that the services of an attorney be obtained. If you do not know an attorney you should contact your local Bar Association.

If you are unable to afford the services of an attorney, you should contact the following organizations to see if you are eligible for their services:

- **Georgia Legal Services Program, Piedmont Regional Office (404)894-7707 (Fayette and Spalding Counties)**
- **Georgia Legal Services Program, Columbus Regional Office (706)649-7493 (Pike and Upson Counties)**

DUE TO THE CHANGING NATURE OF THE LAW, the forms and information contained in these packets may become outdated. Therefore, you should review and research statutes and rules of procedure referenced in the instructions to ensure that the forms are accurate and current.

IN NO EVENT will the Clerk of Court or ADR Office or anyone contributing to the production of these forms, commentary, instructions, and appendices be liable for any indirect or consequential damages resulting from the use of the booklet.

USE THESE FORMS AT YOUR OWN RISK. THESE FORMS MAY OR MAY NOT BE APPROPRIATE IN YOUR PARTICULAR CASE. ANY DESIRED OUTCOME FROM THE USE OF THESE FORMS CANNOT BE PREDICTED OR GUARANTEED. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU SEEK LEGAL ADVICE.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF _____ COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

<p>_____, PETITIONER,</p> <p>VS.</p> <p>_____, RESPONDENT.</p>	<p>CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER</p> <p>_____</p>
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**RESPONDENT’S ANSWER TO PETITIONER’S
PETITION FOR MODIFICATION OF CHILD SUPPORT**

My name is _____, and I am representing myself in this modification action. In support of my case, I state the following:

1.

Respondent (CIRCLE ONE: ADMITS OR DENIES) the allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of Petitioner’s Petition for Modification of Child Support.

2.

Respondent (CIRCLE ONE: ADMITS OR DENIES) the allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of Petitioner’s Petition for Modification of Child Support.

3.

Respondent (CIRCLE ONE: ADMITS OR DENIES) the allegations contained in Paragraph 3 of Petitioner’s Petition for Modification of Child Support.

4.

Respondent (CIRCLE ONE: ADMITS OR DENIES) the allegations contained in Paragraph 4 of Petitioner’s Petition for Modification of Child Support.

5.

Respondent (CIRCLE ONE: ADMITS OR DENIES) the allegations contained in Paragraph 5 of Petitioner’s Petition for Modification of Child Support.

6.

Respondent (CIRCLE ONE: ADMITS OR DENIES) the allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of Petitioner's Petition for Modification of Child Support.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(Sign your name here before notary) Respondent, *Pro Se*

Respondent's Name (Print or Type): _____

Respondent's Address: _____

Respondent's Telephone Number: _____

Sworn to and affirmed before me
this ____ day of _____, 20____.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: _____

(Notary Seal)

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF _____ COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

<p>_____, PETITIONER,</p> <p>VS.</p> <p>_____, RESPONDENT.</p>	<p>CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER</p> <p>_____</p>
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This document certifies that on _____, 20____, I sent copies of the following documents:

ANSWER TO PETITIONER’S PETITION FOR MODIFICATION OF CHILD SUPPORT

to the opposing party by: (CHOOSE ONE: first class mail OR certified mail and return receipt was requested).

The documents were addressed as follows:

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

(Sign your name here before notary) Respondent, *Pro Se*
Respondent’s Name (Print or Type): _____
Respondent’s Address: _____
Respondent’s Telephone Number: _____

Sworn to and affirmed before me
this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires: _____
(Notary Seal)