

**EMPIRE STATE LEGAL FORMS, INC.**  
*America's Legal Forms Leader*  
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**PROCEDURES FOR DISSOLVING YOUR MARRIAGE  
FOR THOSE COUPLES WITH MINOR CHILDREN.**

The enclosed forms packet is only appropriate for couples who have agreed upon all aspects of their divorce and are willing to execute a separation agreement that sets forth the terms of their agreement. This information is not a substitute for the advice of any attorney. Decisions that you make during your divorce proceeding can have permanent consequences. Accordingly, you may wish to contact an attorney for assistance if you do not completely understand any part of the forms package. The blank forms may not be appropriate for your situation.

At least one of you (you or your spouse) must reside in the State of Ohio for a minimum of six months prior to filing your Petition for Dissolution with the Court.

**A. PREPARING YOUR DISSOLUTION PAPERS.**

1. Complete the included forms.
2. Have a final copy of all documents and forms typed neatly and correctly on 8 ½ X 11 paper.
3. Make two copies of each form and document, except for the Separation Agreement which requires three copies. One copy of each is for the husband, one for the wife. The original and other copy of the Separation Agreement will be filed with the Court as instructed later in these procedures.
4. Have all original papers notarized if indicated. You must each sign in the presence of the notary public, but you do not need to sign together.

**B. FILING YOUR PAPERS (locations are for Cuyahoga County only. Procedures in each county should be similar. Individuals living in other Counties should contact your local court clerk's office.)**

1. Go to the Justice Center (1200 Ontario) to file for dissolution.
2. Take with you, and be prepared to leave in this order, all the originals of the Case Designation Sheet, the Petition for Dissolution