

Superior Court of Washington, County of _____

In re parentage:

Petitioner (person who started this case):

And Respondent/s: (as listed on Petition)

No. _____

**Summons: Notice about Parentage
(SM)**

Summons: Notice about Parentage

To the Respondent: The Petitioner has started an action asking the court about parentage of children.

Important! Petitioner **must** complete the address boxes below. If Petitioner does not give a service address and the court's address, **this Summons will be invalid.**

Petitioner Petitioner's Lawyer (name):

Petitioner's Address for Service: (This does **not** have to be a home address.)

You may **only** serve Petitioner by email if an email address is provided below or Petitioner otherwise agrees in writing. See *All Civil 006 Agreement re: Service by Email*.

Email (optional) – Petitioner agrees to accept service of legal papers for this case by email at this address: _____

Superior Court of Washington, County of _____

Court's Address for Filing:

You must **respond in writing** for the court to consider your side,

Deadline! Your *Response* must be served on Petitioner within **20 days** of the date you were served this *Summons* (or 60 days if you were served outside of Washington State). If the case has been filed in court, you must also file your *Response* by the same deadline.

If you do not file and serve your *Response* or a *Notice of Appearance* by the deadline:

- No one has to notify you about other hearings in this case, and
- The court may approve the Petitioner's requests without hearing your side. (This is called a *default judgment*.)

Lawyer not required. It is a good idea to talk to a lawyer, but you may file and serve your *Response* without one.

Follow these steps:

1. **Read** the *Petition* and any other documents you receive with this *Summons*. These documents explain what Petitioner is asking for.
2. **Fill out** the *Response*. It must be completed on this form: *Response to Petition to Decide Parentage* (FL Parentage 302).

You can get the *Response* and other forms at:

- The Washington State Courts' website: www.courts.wa.gov/forms
- Washington LawHelp: www.washingtonlawhelp.org, or
- The Superior Court Clerk's office or county law library (for a fee).

3. **Serve** (give) a copy of your *Response* to Petitioner at the address listed in the *Petitioner's Address for Service* above.
4. **File** your original *Response* with the clerk of the court at the address listed in the court's address for filing above.

▶ _____
Signature of Petitioner **or** lawyer _____
Date

Print name of Petitioner **or** lawyer and WSBA No.

If there is no "Case No." listed on page 1, this case may not have been filed and you will not be able to file a *Response*. Contact the Superior Court Clerk or check www.courts.wa.gov to find out.

If the case was **not** filed, you must still serve your *Response*, and you may demand that Petitioner file this case with the court. Your demand must be in writing and must be served on Petitioner or their lawyer (whoever signed this *Summons*). If Petitioner does not file papers for this case within 14 days of being served with your demand, this service on you of the *Summons* and *Petition* will not be valid. If Petitioner does file, then you must file your original *Response* with the court clerk at the address above.

This summons is issued pursuant to RCW 4.28.180 and Superior Court Civil Rule 4.1 of the State of Washington.