

Superior Court of Washington, County of _____

In re the marriage / domestic partnership of:

Petitioner *(person who started this case)*:

And Respondent *(other spouse / partner)*:

No. _____

Summons:
Notice about a Marriage
or Domestic Partnership
(SM)

Summons:

Notice about a Marriage or Domestic Partnership

To the Respondent:

1. The petitioner has started an action asking the court:
 To end your marriage. To decide if your marriage is valid.
 To end your domestic partnership. To decide if your domestic partnership is valid.
 For a legal separation.

Additional requests, if any, are stated in the petition, a copy of which is attached to this summons.

2. You must **respond** to this summons and petition by serving a copy of your written response on the person signing this summons and by filing the original with the clerk of the court.

If you do not serve your written response within **20 days** (or 60 days if you are served outside of the state of Washington) after the date this summons was served on you, exclusive of the day of service, the court may enter an order of default against you, and the court may, without further notice to you, enter a decree and approve or provide for the relief requested in the petition.

In the case of a dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, the court will not enter the final decree until at least 90 days after filing and service. If you serve a notice of appearance on the undersigned person, you are entitled to notice before an order of default or a decree may be entered.

3. Your written response to the summons and petition must be on one of these forms:
 - *Response to Petition about a Marriage* (FL Divorce 211) if you are married, or
 - *Response to Petition about a Registered Domestic Partnership* (FL Divorce 212) if you are a domestic partner.

4. You can get the *Response* and other forms at:
 - The Washington State Courts' website: *www.courts.wa.gov/forms*
 - The Administrative Office of the Courts – call: (360) 705-5328
 - Washington LawHelp: *www.washingtonlawhelp.org*, or
 - The Superior Court Clerk's office or county law library (for a fee).

5. If this action has not been filed with the court, you may demand that the petitioner file this action with the court. If you do so, the demand must be in writing and must be served upon the person signing this summons. Within 14 days after you serve the demand, the petitioner must file this action with the court, or the service on you of this summons and petition will be void.

6. If you wish to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be served on time.

7. One method of serving a copy of your response on the petitioner is to send it by certified mail with return receipt requested.

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

Dated: _____

Signature of Petitioner or Lawyer/WSBA No.

Print or Type Name

File original of your response with the clerk of the court at:

Serve a copy of your response on:

Petitioner (*You may list an address that is not your residential address where you agree to accept legal documents.**)

Petitioner's Lawyer

(Name of Court)

(Name)

(Address)

(Address)

** If Petitioner's address changes before the case ends, Petitioner **must** notify all parties and the court clerk in writing. S/he may use the Notice of Address Change form (FL All Family 120). S/he must also update the Confidential Information Form (FL All Family 001) if this case involves parentage or child support.*