

Mark this box if this form contains Restricted Information.



CIRCUIT COURT FOR \_\_\_\_\_, MARYLAND

City/County

Located at \_\_\_\_\_  
Court Address

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

VS.

Plaintiff \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### COMPLAINT FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE (Family Law § 7-103)

**MDEC counties only: If this submission contains Restricted Information (confidential by statute, rule or court order) you must file a Notice Regarding Restricted Information Pursuant to Rule 20-201.1 (form MDJ-008) with this submission, and check the Restricted Information box on this form.**

**NOTE:** Use this form to initiate an absolute divorce case. Mark the “Restricted Information” box at the top of this or any other form you file that includes financial or other confidential information such as part of a social security or federal tax identification number. Only list the last four digits of account/ID numbers. Visit [mdcourts.gov/divorce](http://mdcourts.gov/divorce).

I, \_\_\_\_\_, state that:  
Name

1. The defendant and I were married on \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
Date of marriage City/County/State where married  
\_\_\_\_\_ in a  civil  religious ceremony.  
Country where married

2. Check all that apply:

- I have lived in Maryland since \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Month/Year
- My spouse has lived in Maryland since \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Month/Year
- The grounds, or legal reasons, for divorce occurred in Maryland.  
(for a list of grounds *see number 13 below*)
- The grounds for divorce occurred outside Maryland, and either my spouse or I have been a resident of Maryland for at least six (6) months prior to the date this complaint was filed.

3. I know of the following cases, or I have been involved (as a party, witness, etc.) in the following cases about me, my spouse, or the child(ren). Examples include cases such as custody, child support, guardianship, protective order (domestic violence), paternity, divorce, visitation (child access), CINA, delinquency, termination of parental rights, adoption or other cases:

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Court</u>	<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Kind of Case</u>	<u>Year Filed</u>	<u>Result/Status/Date of Most Recent Order</u>

**Attach the most recent court order for these cases.**

**4. Child(ren) (check one):**

- We have no child(ren) together (*skip to number 10*).
- My spouse and I are parents of the following child(ren) together:

..... Name	..... Year of birth	..... Name	..... Year of birth
..... Name	..... Year of birth	..... Name	..... Year of birth
..... Name	..... Year of birth	..... Name	..... Year of birth

**5. I know of the following people, who are not parties to this case, but have or claim to have rights to physical or legal custody, visitation (child access), or guardianship of the minor child(ren):**

..... Name	..... Current Address
..... Name	..... Current Address
..... Name	..... Current Address

**6. The minor child(ren) currently live(s) at \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_**  
Address Name

**7. The minor child(ren) has/have lived in Maryland for at least six (6) months  yes  no.**  
In the past five (5) years, the minor child(ren) has/have lived in the following places with the following persons:

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Name(s) and Current Address of Person(s) with whom Minor Child(ren) Lived</u>

8. **Parenting Plan (Custody and Visitation Agreement) (check one):**

- My spouse and I have agreed on a parenting plan(s) that we believe is/are in the best interest of the minor child(ren). **Attach your signed and dated parenting plan agreement.**
- My spouse and I have not agreed on a parenting plan(s).  
**See: Maryland Parenting Plan Instructions (Form CC-DRIN-109) and Maryland Parenting Plan Tool (Form CC-DR-109) or visit [mdcourts.gov/parentingplans](http://mdcourts.gov/parentingplans).**

It is in the best interest of the minor child(ren) that I have (check one selection from each line):

joint  primary physical custody (parenting time) of

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) of child(ren)

joint  sole legal custody (decision-making authority) of

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) of child(ren)

visitation (child access or parenting time) with

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) of child(ren)

9. **Child Support (check one):**

- I am asking for child support and/or health insurance for the minor child(ren).  
**If you and your spouse's combined gross monthly income (before taxes/not take-home pay) is \$30,000 or less, attach Financial Statement (Child Support Guidelines) (Form CC-DR-030); if the combined gross monthly income is more than \$30,000, attach Financial Statement (General) (Form CC-DR-031).**

Child support has been established:

in a separate court case, Case No. \_\_\_\_\_ in

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

**Attach a copy of the most recent order if available.**

- I am not asking for child support and/or health insurance for the minor child(ren) at this time, because

10. **Alimony (select one):**

- My spouse and I have a signed and dated written agreement that covers alimony.

**Attach a copy of the agreement.**

**It can, but does not have to, include an agreement about marital property.**

- I  am  am not seeking alimony, because

**If you want the court to establish alimony, attach a Financial Statement (General) (Form CC-DR-031) if you want alimony. You do not need to attach a financial statement if you and your spouse have a written agreement that covers alimony.**

**11. Marital Property:**

- My spouse and I have a signed and dated written agreement about how we will divide marital property.

**Attach a copy of the agreement.**

**It can, but does not have to, include an agreement about alimony.**

- My spouse and/or I have the following property that needs to be divided by the court *(check all that apply)*:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> House                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pension(s)/Retirement account(s)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Bank account(s) and investment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motor vehicles                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Business(es)                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                      |  |

**\*NOTES:**

- If you have or your spouse has a retirement or pension plan, talk to a lawyer. You may need a “domestic relations order” to transfer the marital portion of benefits from one spouse to the other. These orders are sometimes called qualified domestic relations orders (QDROs), Court Orders Acceptable for Processing (COAP), or qualifying retirement benefit court orders. If you and your spouse agree on how to divide the benefits, you can draft and file an order for the court to approve. Each plan has specific requirements that must be met for the order to be valid and accepted. A lawyer can advise you based on the plan.
- Social Security benefits cannot be divided in a divorce. Contact the Social Security Administration or a lawyer for more information.

- I am requesting to have use and possession of the home and/or to have use and possession of the family personal property for the benefit of the minor child(ren) for up to three (3) years from the date of the divorce.
- My spouse and I have no marital property that needs to be decided by the court.

12. I am requesting to be restored to my former name \_\_\_\_\_ Full former name

(If you do not request your former name at this time, you may do so later by filing a motion within 18 months after the judgment of absolute divorce was entered.)

13. My grounds (legal reasons) for absolute divorce are *(you may check more than one)*:

- Mutual Consent** – My spouse and I have signed a written settlement agreement that resolves issues relating to alimony; the distribution of property (real and personal); and the care, custody (child access/visitation), and support of minor or dependent child(ren). Neither of us has taken any action to set aside (invalidate) the agreement.

**Attach a copy of your written, signed, and dated agreement (Form CC-DR-116, Marital Settlement Agreement).**

**If your agreement provides for the payment of child support, you must attach a copy of the completed Child Support Guidelines Worksheet (Form CC-DR-034 for primary physical custody or CC-DR-035 for shared physical custody).**

- Six (6)-Month Separation** – From on or about \_\_\_\_\_, my spouse and I have lived separate and apart, without interruption for six (6) months or more **before** the date of filing of this complaint.

**Spouses who live under the same roof but pursue separate lives or who are separated in accordance with a court order are considered to live “separate and apart.”**

- Irreconcilable Differences** – Our marriage should be terminated for the following reasons that cannot be resolved:

**FOR THESE REASONS, I request (check all that apply):**

- an Absolute Divorce.
- a change back to my former name, \_\_\_\_\_.
- joint  primary physical custody (parenting time) of the minor child(ren). Full former name
- joint  sole legal custody (decision-making authority) of the minor child(ren).
- visitation (child access or parenting time) with the minor child(ren).
- child support (**attach Form CC-DR-030 or CC-DR-031**).
- health insurance for the child(ren).
- alimony (**attach Form CC-DR-031**).

**Property (check all that apply):** *(The following requests require a Joint Statement (Form CC-DR-033) to be filed at least ten (10) days before the trial date if you and your spouse are not able to reach a written agreement that resolves all property issues.)*

- To have use and possession of the family home and/or to have use and possession of the family personal property for the benefit of the minor child(ren) for up to three (3) years from the date of divorce.
- My share of the property or its value.
- Transfer of family use personal property.
- Transfer of the marital share(s) of pension and/or retirement benefits and authority to draft and submit for court approval a domestic relations order to accomplish the transfer.
- Transfer of the real property jointly owned by the parties located at

\_\_\_\_\_ Address  
 from \_\_\_\_\_ Name to \_\_\_\_\_ Name  
 Authorize \_\_\_\_\_ Name to purchase from \_\_\_\_\_ Name  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Name an interest in real property located at

- A monetary award (money) based on marital property. Address
- Incorporate, but not merge, our written agreement into the judgment of absolute divorce.
- Any other appropriate relief.

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

I solemnly affirm under the penalties of perjury that the contents of this document are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Plaintiff/Attorney/Attorney Code      Attorney Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax

Effective 10/01/2023