

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW
FORM 12.950(c), PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE WITH
DEPENDENT OR MINOR CHILD(REN) AND RELOCATION (09/10)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when a husband or wife is filing for dissolution of marriage, there are dependent or minor children and pursuant to Section 61.13001, Florida Statutes:

1. You plan to relocate your residence more than 50 miles from the principal place of residence you have at the time of filing this petition; and
2. The change of location is for at least 60 consecutive days, not including a temporary absence from your principal place of residence for purposes of vacation, education or the provision of health care for the minor child(ren).

You and/or your spouse must have lived in Florida for at least 6 months before filing for dissolution of marriage in Florida.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a notary public or deputy clerk. You should file the original with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where you live and keep a copy for your records.

What should I do next?

For your case to proceed, you must properly notify your spouse and every other person entitled to access or time-sharing with the child(ren) of the petition. "Other Person" means an individual who is not the parent but with whom the child resides pursuant to court order, or who has the right of access to, time-sharing with, or visitation with the child(ren). If you know where he or she lives, you should use personal service. If you absolutely do not know where he or she lives, you may use constructive service. You may also be able to use constructive service if your spouse or the other person resides in another state or country. However, if constructive service is used, other than granting a divorce, the court may only grant limited relief. For more information on constructive service, see **Notice of Action for Dissolution of Marriage**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a), and **Affidavit of Diligent Search and Inquiry**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.913(b). If your spouse is in the military service of the United States, additional steps for service may be required. See, for example, **Memorandum for Certificate of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.912(a). In sum, the law regarding constructive service and service on an individual in the military service is very complex and you may wish to consult an attorney regarding these issues.

If personal service is used, the respondent has 20 days to answer after being served with your petition. Your case will then generally proceed in one of the following three ways:

DEFAULT. If after 20 days, your spouse has not filed an answer, you may file a **Motion for Default**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.922(a), with the clerk of court. Then, if you have filed all of the required papers, you may call the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to set

Instructions for Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.950(c) Petition for Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Child(ren) and Relocation (09/10)