

FAMILY LAW SELF-HELP PROGRAM FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY
RESPONDENT - DIVORCE
ANSWER TO PETITION – WITHOUT MINOR CHILDREN

Self-represented individuals are provided this checklist as part of the Family Law Self-Help program for Charlotte County. This covers the basic procedural requirements for filing the type of RESPONSE noted above. It is not intended to replace actual LEGAL ADVICE, which you must receive only by a licensed attorney. This checklist should help you maneuver your case through the legal process with no unnecessary delays – each document includes specific instructions (DO NOT FILE THE INSTRUCTION PAGES). The forms referenced below may be downloaded free of charge from WWW.FLCOURTS.ORG.

Each of the forms should be kept separated to better organize your efforts and to ensure all forms/instructions are included. You may schedule an appointment with a Family Law Case Manager staff to have your documents notarized and copied at no cost.

- General Information for Self-Represented Litigants

COMPLETE AND FILE:

- Answer to Petition for Dissolution of Marriage [Form 12.903(b)]
- Financial Affidavit (short form) [Form 12.902(b)] – Used when annual income is under \$50,000.
OR: Financial Affidavit (long form) [Form 12.902(c)] - Used when annual income is \$50,000 or more.
- Notice of Social Security Number [Form 12.902(J)]
- Notice of Current Address [Form 12.915]
- Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure [Form 12.932]
(DUE WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SERVICE, unless waived by both Parties...actual documents {tax returns, pay stubs, etc.} should not be filed in the court file, but provided directly to the other Party.)

In some cases, the following additional documents may be necessary. The forms can be downloaded from WWW.FLCOURTS.ORG. The forms can also be requested from the Family Law Self-Help program, by submitting a [blue](#) request form (FLSH-Charlotte Form 2) to the Administrative Office of the Courts.

- Motion For Temporary Support With No Dependent Or Minor Child(ren) [Form 12.947(c)]
Either Party may file this motion to ask the Court to award any of the following on a temporary basis, prior to a “final” order: use of assets; exclusive use of marital home; responsibility for liabilities/debts; spousal support (alimony); and other relief.
- Marital Settlement Agreement for Dissolution of Marriage with Property but No Dependent or Minor Child(ren) [Form 12.902 (f)(1)]
This is use to document the issues which have been agreed to by both Parties; Section IV identifies the unresolved matters, which may be discussed at Mediation or decided by the Judge.