

Uncontested Divorce (Dissolution)/Settlement

If your case is agreed upon by both petitioner and respondent, you are not required to wait for a trial date in order to finalize your dissolution. If you settle your case and the appropriate time requirements have been met, you may request the clerk of court to give you a date on the uncontested dissolution docket. This docket is heard at 9:00 AM every Friday that is not a holiday.

How do I set the final hearing?

- Approximately two weeks prior to the completion of the 90 day waiting period, go IN PERSON to the clerk's office (Room 110 in the County-City Building) and set up a court date for after the completion of the 90 day period. This court date is to finalize your **UNCONTESTED** dissolution. **At least one of the parties must make a personal appearance in court on the final court date to provide testimony.**
- If your case involves a Joinder in which your spouse DEMANDS notice of future hearings, you must file in advance, or bring with you on the court date, proper proof that your spouse received notice of this court date. Provide a Declaration of Mailing or Service or Acceptance of Service of the Notice of Uncontested Dissolution Docket **signed by someone other than you—you cannot serve the notice.** *Emails and Texts are not sufficient proof.*

What happens at the final hearing?

- Take all your **COMPLETED** final paperwork with you to the commissioner's courtroom.
- Your name will show up on the computer monitors in the lobby for the courtroom where you are scheduled.
- Please do not bring children to the final hearing if you can avoid doing so.
- When your case is called, present the **completed, signed and stapled** final paperwork for the commissioner to sign.

Completed proposed final documents

Forms can be obtained at www.courts.wa.gov/forms/ or www.washingtonlawhelp.org or the Pierce County Law Library.

For dissolution of marriage:

- Findings and Conclusions About a Marriage (FL Divorce 231)
- Final Divorce Order/Legal Separation Order (FL Divorce 241)

In addition, if there are children:

- Parenting Plan – Final (FL All Family 140) & required Certificate of attendance at the Impact on Children Seminar.

(Approved provider list for the Mandatory Parenting Seminar is on the reverse side of this page.)

- Residential Time Summary Report (FL Divorce 243)
- Order of Child Support (FL All Family 130)
- Child Support Worksheets (and recent paystubs and tax returns) (WSCSS – Schedule & Worksheets)

NOTE: If the parties have minor children who have ever received any state cash assistance or medical benefits, the Family Support Division of the Prosecutor's Office must approve the final child support order.

- You will need to answer some questions under oath. Be sure your answers are complete and truthful. If you are not completely truthful both in your paperwork and in your answers in court, your decree may be vacated in the future. These questions will include the following:
 - Is your marriage irretrievably broken?
 - Is the Parenting Plan in the best interests of the child(ren)?
 - Have you provided for division of property? (YOUR ORDERS MAY BE REJECTED IF YOUR PROPERTY AND DEBT PARAGRAPHS IN YOUR DOCUMENTS ARE BLANK)
 - Is the wife pregnant? If the wife is pregnant or had a child during the marriage which is not the husband's, the court may require you to address the issue of paternity, as the husband is presumed to be the father of the child.
- Once the Commissioner signs the original documents, **YOU ARE DIVORCED, SEPARATED, OR THE MARRIAGE DECLARED INVALID!**

*Additional information for those representing themselves in a family case in Pierce County can be found at www.tacomaprobono.org in the Family Law Help section or contact the **Domestic Relations Facilitators appointment line at (253)798.3627** to help complete your final documents. These and other resources can be found in the Family Court Section at www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior.*

APPROVED PROVIDERS AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2018

PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT MANDATORY PARENTING SEMINARS

Fees up to \$60.00, but a sliding fee scale is available, depending on need.

Pierce County Local Rule for Special Proceedings 94.05 became effective September 1, 2000, and mandates attendance at a 4 hour seminar designated to address the impact family restructuring has on children. Seminars from other counties and other states may be accepted on a case by case basis. Seminars must be attended in person and approved by that State or local court for family law/divorce cases. Superior Court has approved the following mandatory parenting seminar programs:

Consider the Children

Family Education and Support

Offered at various locations in Pierce County and bordering Thurston County; days and times vary

PLU 12180 Park Avenue South

Tacoma, WA 98447

Spanish interpreters and material available

Cost: up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available Call Toll Free (1-877) 813-2828

www.familyeducationandsupport.org

Always Parents: Families in Transition

Always Parents

City Lights Church – 5000 67th Ave W, **University Place**, WA 98467 and

Puyallup Activity Center

210 W. Pioneer, Puyallup 98371

Cost: up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

Spanish Interpreter/materials available

Register online: www.alwaysparents.com OR

Call (253) 267-3622;

What Children of Divorce Really Need

Harbor Wellness

Offered in Gig Harbor at various times and days:

6625 Wagner Way NW, Suite 250

Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Cost: up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

Call (253) 851-5450

Spanish Literature available

www.harborwellness.org

Don't Forget the Kids

Institute for Children's Advocacy

PO Box 5105

Tacoma, WA 98405

Cost: up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

Call (253) 228-2100

www.instituteforchildrensadvocacy.info

Impact of Divorce on Children

HopeSparks

6424 N 9th ST

Tacoma, WA 98406

Cost: up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

Call (253) 565-4484

www.hopesparks.org

Crossroads of Parenting and Divorce

Army Family Advocacy Program

Offered on JBLM; Building 2013A, Room 111; evening and day sessions

Population Served: Active duty service members and their spouses. 20 year retirees and their spouses.

Cost: Free

More Info/Register: (253) 967-5901

The Children Come First

Confidential Associates

1219 Earnest S. Brazill St. (S. 12th St.)

Tacoma, WA 98405

Cost: up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

Call (253) 597-8022

www.confidentialassoc.com

Third Party Custody Cases

Impact of 3rd Party Custody on Children

HopeSparks

6424 N 9th Street

Tacoma, WA 98406

Cost: up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

Call (253) 565-4484

www.hopesparks.org

Please note: at this time there are no on-line mandatory parenting seminar providers approved by Pierce County