

RECOMMENDED POSSESSION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN UNDER THREE

I. TERMS:

- CHILDCARE:** This term includes a daycare, preschool, babysitter, or any non-party who cares for a child in a party's absence.
- HOLIDAY:** A "holiday" refers to the holiday itself, and not the preceding or following weekend. "Holidays" recognized by this order are: Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, child's birthday.
- BELONGINGS:** All items necessary for the child's health and comfort, including such items as medication, special medical instructions or information, expressed breastmilk, special foods, favorite toys, favorite blanket, etc.

II. GENERAL PROVISIONS:

A) AGREEMENTS FOR POSSESSION:

The parties may each have possessions of the child(ren) at any and all times they agree to in advance. It is the policy of this court to encourage agreements between the parties, but such agreements may not be enforceable if they differ from the Court's orders. If the parties are not able to agree, then they are each entitled to possession of the child(ren) as ordered herein.

B) PICKING UP AND DROPPING OFF THE CHILD(REN):

- 1) When a period of possession begins while the child(ren) is/are in childcare, the party entitled to possession shall pick the child(ren) up from the childcare location. If a period of possession ends at a time when the child(ren) is/are commonly in childcare, the party dropping the child(ren) to the other party's period of possession.
- 2) If the child(ren) is/are not in childcare at the beginning of a period of possession, the party beginning a period of possession shall pick the child(ren) up from the residence of the party already in possession. The party in possession of the child **IS ORDERED** to have the child(ren) and their belongings read at the beginning of the other party's period of possession, and **IS ORDERED** to surrender the child(ren) to the other party at the beginning of that party's period of possession.

- 3) Either party may designate a competent adult to pickup and return the child, and a party or competent adult shall be present when the child is picked up or returned.

C) NOTICE TO OTHER PARTY:

- 1) If a party's time of possession ends at a time when the child(ren) is/are usually in childcare, but for any reason the child(ren) has/have not been or will not be returned to childcare, the party in possession of the child(ren) shall immediately notify the childcare provider and the other party that the child(ren) will not be in childcare at the beginning of the other party's period of possession.
- 2) A party shall give notice to the other parent on each occasion that the party will be unable to exercise that party's right of possession for specified period.
- 3) Each party shall inform the other party within THREE hours of any medical condition of the parties' child(ren) requiring surgical intervention or hospitalization.

D) UNSPECIFIED PERIODS:

- 1) _____ shall have the right of possession at all other times not specifically designated in this order for _____.

E) CHILD(REN)'S BELONGINGS:

- 1) Each party shall maintain at their own residence sufficient food, clothing, diapers, and other items necessary for the health, comfort and well-being of the child(ren) during that party's periods of possession.
- 2) Each party shall return with the child the non-perishable belongings that the child brought at the beginning of the period of possession.
- 3) Each party, when delivering the child(ren) to childcare, shall provide the child(ren) with sufficient diapers, wipes, food, and other necessary for the child(ren)'s health and comfort while the child will be in childcare.

POSSESSION FROM BIRTH – EIGHTEEN MONTHS

The following portion of this order applies until a child is eighteen months old:

A) REGULAR POSSESSION:

Except as provided und the "HOLIDAY POSSESSION" and "SUMMER POSSESSION" portion of this order, _____ is entitled to possession of the child(ren) as follows:

- 1) From 5:00 p.m. each Wednesday until 8:00 a.m. the next morning, and
- 2) From 1:00 p.m. each Sunday until 8:00 a.m. the next morning.
- 3) _____'s extended possession: For four consecutive, uninterrupted days of the _____'s choice each calendar year, beginning at 5:00 p.m. on the first day and ending at 8:00 a.m. on the morning after the fourth day. This extended period of possession may not be taken at a time when it would conflict with a holiday. _____ must give _____ at least 14 days' written notice of his/her intent to exercise this right. Notice will be considered timely if *sent* (as indicated by the postmark, fax confirmation, or email confirmation) at least 14 days prior to the beginning of the requested time of possession.
- 4) _____'s _____ extended _____ possession: _____ may have one of _____'s regular overnight visits each calendar year at the time of _____'s choosing, except that it may not conflict with the "SUMMER POSSESSION" or "HOLIDAY POSSESSION" awarded to _____. _____ must give _____ at least 14 days' written notice of his/her intent to exercise this right. Notice will be considered timely if *sent* (as indicated by the postmark, fax confirmation, or email confirmation) at least 14 days prior to the beginning of the requested time of possession.

B) SUMMER POSSESSION:

Except as provided under the "HOLIDAY POSSESSION" portion of this order, _____ is entitled to:

- 1) Weekend possession of the child(ren) each July, from 5:00 p.m. on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Friday until 5:00 p.m. the following Sunday, and
- 2) From 5:00 p.m, each Wednesday until 8:00 a.m. the next morning;

THESE TIMES OF POSSESSION SUPERSEDE THE REGULAR POSSESSION TIMES. In other words, _____ is NOT entitled to take a July weekend PLUS the "REGULAR POSSESSION" detailed above.

C) HOLIDAY POSSESSION:

When a party is not otherwise entitled to possession of the child(ren) for ANY part of a holiday, they shall have possession of the child(ren) from 2:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on that holiday.

D) *MOTHER'S DAY/FATHER'S DAY:*

Regardless of their designations as _____ or _____, a mother shall be entitled to possession of the child(ren) on Mother's Day and a father entitled to possession of the child(ren) on Father's Day, from 2:00 – 7:30 p.m.. This is in *addition* to any possession that parent may otherwise be entitled to under this order, and supersede the regular possession times. In other words, on parent may NOT deprive the other parent of this time by designating it as their period of "extended possession".

POSSESSION FROM EIGHTEEN MONTHS – THIRD BIRTHDAY

A) *REGULAR POSSESSION:*

Except as provided under the "HOLIDAY POSSESSION" and "SUMMER POSSESSION" portion of this order, _____ is entitled to possession of the child(ren) as follows:

- 1) From 5:00 p.m. each Wednesday until 8:00 a.m. the next morning, and
- 2) On weekends, from 5:00 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd of each month until 5:00 p.m, the following Sunday.
- 3) _____'s extended possession: For _____ seven consecutive, uninterrupted days of the JMC's choice each calendar year, beginning at 5:00 p.m. on the first day and ending at 8:00 a.m. on the morning after the seventh day. This extended period of possession may not be taken at a time when it would conflict with a holiday. _____ must give _____ at least 14 days' written notice of his/her intent to exercise this right. Notice will be considered timely if *sent* (as indicated by the postmark, fax confirmation, or email confirmation) at least 14 days prior to the beginning of the requested time of possession.
- 4) _____'s extended possession. _____ may have one of _____'s regular overnight visits (either a Wednesday visit or a weekend visit) each calendar year at the time of _____'s choosing, except that it may not conflict with the "SUMMER POSSESSION" or "HOLIDAY POSSESSION" awarded to _____. _____ must give _____ at least 14 days' written notice of his/her intent to exercise this right. Notice will be considered timely if *sent* (as indicated by the postmark, fax confirmation, or email confirmation) at least 14 days prior to the beginning of the requested time of possession.

B) *SUMMER POSSESSION:*

Except as provided under the "HOLIDAY POSSESSION" portion of this order, _____ is entitled to:

- 1) Weekend possession of the child(ren) each July, from 5:00 p.m. on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Friday until 5:00 p.m. the following Sunday, and
- 2) From 5:00 p.m. each Wednesday until 8:00 a.m. the next morning.

THESE TIMES OF POSSESSION SUPERSEDE THE REGULAR POSSESSION TIMES. In other words, _____ is NOT entitled to take a July weekend PLUS the regular possession detailed above.

C) *HOLIDAY POSSESSION:*

When a party is not otherwise entitled to possession of the child(ren) for ANY part of a holiday, they shall have possession of the child(ren) from 2:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on that holiday.

D) *MOTHER'S DAY/FATHER'S DAY:*

Regardless of their designations as _____ or _____, mother shall be entitled to possession of the child(ren) on Mother's Day and a father entitled to possession of the child(ren) on Father's Day, from 2:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. This is an *addition* to any possession that parent may otherwise be entitled to under this order, and supersedes the regular possession times. In other words, one parent may not deprive the other parent of this time by designating it as their period of "extended possession".