STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT **FAMILY DIVISION**

Unit **Docket No.**

Plaintiff Name	v.	Defendant Name

Plaintiff Information:

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Mailing Address *(if different from Street Address)*: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Email Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Attorney Name: _____ Attorney Phone: _____

Defendant Information:

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Mailing Address *(if different from Street Address)*: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Email Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Attorney Name: _____ Attorney Phone: _____

SUMMONS

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO: _____

Name of Defendant

1. **PLAINTIFF** _____ **IS SEEKING A**

Name of Plaintiff

☐ **DIVORCE** ☐ **LEGAL SEPARATION** ☐ **CIVIL UNION DISSOLUTION**

The Plaintiff's Complaint begins on the next page. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights.

2. **TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS, YOU SHOULD REPLY WITHIN 21 DAYS.** Your written response is called an Answer. You can get an official court form for an Answer to a Divorce Complaint at any Vermont Family Court or on the Judiciary web site at http://www.vermontjudiciary.org.

3. **YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM.** In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you should say so in your Answer.

4. **IF YOU DO NOT FILE AN ANSWER OR FILE AN APPEARANCE, THE COURT IS NOT REQUIRED TO NOTIFY YOU OF HEARINGS. If you do not attend the court hearings, the Plaintiff may receive everything requested in the Complaint.** You will not get a chance to tell your side of the story.

5. **YOU MUST GIVE OR SEND A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER TO THE PLAINTIFF.** If the Plaintiff has an attorney, you must give or send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff's attorney.

6. **YOU MUST GIVE OR SEND YOUR ORIGINAL ANSWER TO THE COURT at this address:**
   Select Address

7. **LEGAL ASSISTANCE:** You may wish to get help from a lawyer. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still give the Court a written Answer to protect your rights.

Dated

_____ _____

Signature of Court Clerk

COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE/LEGAL SEPARATION/DISSOLUTION

FACTS

The Plaintiff states that the following facts are true:

1. **Residence:**

(A) I am now a resident of _____ (*County*), _____ (*State*).

☐ I have resided in Vermont for 6 full months, since _____ (*Month/Date/Year*).

(B) Defendant is now a resident of _____ (*County*), _____ (*State*).

☐ Defendant has resided in Vermont for 6 full months, since _____ (*Month/Date/Year*).

2. ☐ **Marriage:**

We were married at _____ (*City*), _____ (*State*)

on _____ (*Month/Date/Year*) and are still married.

☐ **Civil Union:**

Our civil union took place at _____ (*City*), _____ (*State*)

on _____ (*Month/Date/Year*) and it has never been dissolved.

3. **Grounds for Divorce/Legal Separation/Dissolution:** The reason I am asking for a

☐ Divorce ☐ Legal Separation ☐ Dissolution

Is that:

☐ **Six Month Separation:** We have or will have lived separate and apart for more than six (6) consecutive months and it is not reasonably probable that we can resume our relationship. The Defendant and I separated on: _____ (*Month/Date/Year – **this field is required***).

☐ **Other:** *(Please explain)* _____

4. **Minor Children of the Parties:**

We have children of our marriage who are either younger than 18 years old, or are 18 years old and still in high school. Include born or adopted children.

Name of Child	**Date of Birth**
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. UCCJEA Jurisdiction: Information required under 15 V.S.A. § 1071

(A) During the last five years the children listed above have lived at the following addresses with the following household members:

*(Begin with the child's residence **just before** this court case started and list all addresses for the past five years.)*

Address *(Include street/city/state)*	**Dates** *(From when to when)*	**Name of All Persons Living in the Household with the Child**

Use an additional page if you need more space. If children have lived at different addresses from each other please indicate the addresses for each child.

(B) If the current address of any household member listed in the last column is different from the address listed above, please provide a current address for that person in the box or on another page.

(C) Please check the box below if the statement next to it is true. For each box you check, please explain your answer on another page.

☐ I have participated as a party, witness, or in some other way in a court case about the custody of this child or these children in Vermont or another state.

☐ I have information about a case concerning this child or these children that is now pending in a Vermont court or a court in another state.

☐ I have knowledge about a person who is not a party to this case who has physical custody of this child or these children or who claims to have custody of or visitation rights to this child or these children.

6. Property, Assets and Debts: ☐ I am ☐ I am not filing with this Complaint, a completed Financial form 400-00813B that lists all of the property, assets and debts that my spouse and I own together or separately that are known to me

7. Public Assistance:

☐ I receive assistance from the Division of Economic Services.

☐ The Defendant receives public assistance from the Division of Economic Services.

8. Earlier actions for divorce, legal separation, dissolution, annulment:

☐ I have not filed for divorce, legal separation, dissolution or annulment in any court against the Defendant, as far as I know, the Defendant has not filed for divorce, legal separation, dissolution or annulment against me.

☐ I have filed OR the Defendant has filed for divorce, legal separation, dissolution or annulment before the date of the filing of this petition. (*If you check this box, you must fill in the information below. Use an additional page if necessary.)*

Type of Action	Who Filed	Where Filed *(Court, County, State)*	Year Filed

Please attach a copy of any Court Order issued in a case listed above.

9. Relief from abuse or protective order proceedings:

☐ I have not filed a complaint for relief from abuse or a request for a protective order against the Defendant AND, as far as I know, the Defendant has not filed such an action against me.

☐ I have filed a complaint for relief from abuse or a request for a protective order against the Defendant OR the Defendant has filed a complaint for relief from abuse or a request for a protective order against me. (*If you check this box, you must complete the information below. Use an additional page if necessary.)*

Type of Action	Who Filed	Where Filed *(Court, County, State)*	Year Filed

Please attach a copy of any Court Order issued in a case listed above.

10. Military Service:

☐ The Defendant is in the military service.

☐ The Defendant is not in the military service.

☐ I am in the military service.

☐ I am not in the military service.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

☐ **1. I ask that the Family Court grant me:** ***(check each box that applies)***

☐ Decree of Divorce ☐ Decree of Legal Separation ☐ Decree of Dissolution

☐ **2. Parental Rights and Responsibilities**

Legal parental rights and responsibilities:

☐ Shared jointly

☐ Given solely to: ☐ Myself ☐ Defendant

Physical parental rights and responsibilities

☐ Shared jointly

☐ Given solely to: ☐ Myself ☐ Defendant

☐ **3. Parent Child Contact for:** ☐ Myself ☐ Defendant

☐ **4. Child support, medical support and/or maintenance supplement.**

☐ **5. Division of Property (divide our property, assets and debts).**

☐ **6. Spousal Maintenance (Alimony).**

☐ **7. Court costs.**

☐ **8. Attorney fees.**

☐ **9. Name change: I would like to resume my former name of:_____.**

☐ **I have attached a written agreement signed by my spouse and myself. I ask that the Court issue an order that includes the provisions of our written agreement**. (*In order to qualify for the reduced filing fee, the attached agreement must cover all the issues that the Plaintiff seeks to have the Court resolve.)*

I hereby swear or affirm that the information above is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated

_____ _____

Signature of Plaintiff

_____

Printed Name

Signed and sworn to or affirmed before me:

Date	*Signature of Notary Public*	*Expiration Date*