FORMS FOR MODIFYING A CUSTODY ORDER

PLEASE READ ALL OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET BEFORE YOU START FILLING OUT THE FORMS.

THIS PACKET DOES NOT CONSTITUTE LEGAL ADVICE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCESS, YOU SHOULD SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY. THE COURT ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCEPTS NO LIABILITY FOR ACTIONS TAKEN BY USERS OF THESE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING RELIANCE ON THEIR CONTENTS.

We encourage you to contact an attorney to advise you on this matter. If you cannot afford an attorney, the Court will <u>not</u> appoint an attorney for you. You may contact Northwestern Legal Services at (800) 665-6957 or (814) 724-1040 to see if they will provide free legal services to you. They are not obligated to do so.

You will be required to follow the Pennsylvania and Crawford County Rules of Civil Procedure and all applicable laws even if you do not have an attorney.

This packet is for use by people who already have a custody order in place in Crawford County, and they would like to change/modify it.

If you have a custody order that was entered in another County or State, you will either have to file your petition in that County or State, or try to have your case moved to Crawford County. If you want to try to move your case to Crawford County, you should speak to an attorney.

When filling out these forms, you are given several options for the type(s) of custody you are seeking. You may request a form of legal and/or physical custody. <u>Legal custody</u> is the right to make major decisions on behalf of the child, including, but not limited to, medical, religious and educational decisions. <u>Physical custody</u> is the actual physical possession and control of a child. Your options and their definitions under 23 Pa.C.S. § 5322(a) are:

- Shared legal custody The right of more than one individual to legal custody of the child.
- Sole legal custody The right of one individual to exclusive legal custody of the child.
- Partial physical custody The right to assume physical custody of the child for less than a majority of the time.
- Primary physical custody The right to assume physical custody of the child for the majority of time.
- **Shared physical custody** The right of more than one individual to assume physical custody of the child, each having significant periods of physical custodial time with the child.
- Sole physical custody The right of one individual to exclusive physical custody of the child.
- **Supervised physical custody** Custodial time during which an agency or an adult designated by the court or agreed upon by the parties monitors the interaction between the child and the individual with those rights.

You will need the following to complete this packet:

- Contact information for yourself and the other party or parties;
- A copy of the most recent order in this case;
- The reason you are requesting the modification; and
- When filling out the "Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification," If you or anyone in your household has been convicted of any of the crimes on the form:
 - The type of crime,
 - o The date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea or pending charges, and
 - o The sentence.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. When filling out these forms, please write as clearly and neatly as possible.
- 2. Fill out these forms to the best of your abilities, completing every line that applies. DO NOT LEAVE ANY LINES BLANK. Use "None" or "0" if necessary. Do NOT use "N/A" (not applicable) anywhere on the forms.
- 3. Be sure the caption is filled out EXACTLY the same on all forms; you should always have the same names in the same place on each form. Check the original case's caption and use the same names for the "Plaintiff" and "Defendant" in the captions in this packet. The "FD" line is for the case number, which was assigned when the original complaint was filed.
- 4. Because you are filing a petition, you are the "Petitioner." The other party is the "Respondent."
- 5. Fill out the "Petition for Modification of a Custody Order" [pages 4-5], and one copy of the "Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification" [pages 7-12]. You can fill out the caption and the Respondent's and child(ren)'s names on the (proposed) "Custody Conference Order of Court" [page 6]. Do not sign or date the (proposed) Custody Conference Order.
- 6. When you file these forms, you will have to pay a conference fee at the Prothonotary's Office unless you and the Respondent have agreed to a new consent order, and conferencing will therefore not be necessary. If you feel you cannot afford that fee, you can fill out the "In Forma Pauperis" paperwork to request that the County pay the fee for you. This paperwork is available at the Law Library on Level 2 of the Crawford County Judicial Center.
- 7. After you file the forms, you will have to serve the Respondent with the Petition, proposed Order, and your Verification. You will also have to attach the second copy of the "Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification" for the Respondent to fill out and file. You should serve the Respondent as directed by Rule 440 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure; a copy of that Rule is attached. Generally:
 - a. If the Respondent <u>has an attorney</u>, you should mail by regular first class mail, hand deliver, or leave a copy of the documents at the attorney's office. If the attorney has a box in the Prothonotary's Office, you can leave their copy in their box if the attorney previously in this case agreed to receive service that way.
 - b. If the Respondent <u>does not have an attorney</u> and you know their current address, you should mail by regular first class mail, hand deliver, or leave a copy of the documents at the Respondent's home.
 - c. If the Respondent <u>does not have an attorney and you do not know the Respondent's current address</u>, you should mail by regular first class mail or leave a copy of the documents at the address that the Respondent put on their most recent pleading in this case, or hand deliver the documents if you can locate the Respondent somewhere else.
 - d. You can serve the documents by fax if the Respondent or the Respondent's attorney agreed, or if the Respondent or the Respondent's attorney put a fax number on an earlier pleading in this case. Please read Rule 440(d)(2) to see how the fax cover sheet should be prepared.
- 8. The conference will be scheduled after you file the petition. You and the Respondent will receive notice of the conference by mail from the Court Administrator's Office.

RULE 440. SERVICE OF LEGAL PAPERS OTHER THAN ORIGINAL PROCESS

- (a) (1) Copies of all legal papers other than original process filed in an action or served upon any party to an action shall be served upon every other party to the action. Service shall be made
 - (i) by handling or mailing a copy to or leaving a copy for each party at the address of the party's attorney of record endorsed on an appearance or prior pleading of the party, or at such other address as a party may agree, or

Note: Such other address as a party may agree might include a mailbox in the Prothonotary's Office or an e-mail address. For electronic service by means other than facsimile transmission, see Rule 205.4(g).

- (ii) by transmitting a copy by facsimile to the party's attorney of record as provided by subdivision (d).
- (2)(i) If there is no attorney of record, service shall be made by handing a copy to the party or by mailing a copy to or leaving a copy for the party at the address endorsed on an appearance or prior pleading or the residence or place of business of the party, or by transmitting a copy by facsimile as provided by subdivision (d).
 - (ii) If such service cannot be made, service shall be made by leaving a copy at or mailing a copy to the last known address of the party to be served.

Note: This rule applies to the service upon a party of all legal papers other than original process and includes, but is not limited to, all other pleadings as well as motions, petitions, answers thereto, rules, notices, interrogatories and answers thereto. Original process is served under Rule 400 et seq.

- (b) Service by mail of legal papers other than original process is complete upon mailing.
- (c) If service of legal papers other than original process is to be made by the sheriff, he shall notify by ordinary mail the party requesting service to be made that service has or has not been made upon a named party or person.
- (d) (1) A copy may be served by facsimile transmission if the parties agree thereto or if a telephone number for facsimile transmission is included on an appearance or prior legal paper filed with the court.
 - (2) The copy served shall begin with a facsimile cover sheet containing (i) the name, firm, address, telephone number, of both the party making service and the party served, (ii) the facsimile telephone number of the party making service and the facsimile telephone number to which the copy was transmitted, (iii) the title of the legal paper served, and (iv) the number of pages transmitted.
 - (3) Service is complete when transmission is confirmed as complete.

Note: See Rule 236(d) providing for the Prothonotary to give notice of orders and judgments, and also other matters, by facsimile or other electronic means

See Rule 205.4 governing filling and service of legal papers by electronic means other than facsimile transmission.

	:	
Plaintiff v.	: :	
Defendant	t:	
PETITION FOR MODIFICAT	TION OF A CUSTODY ORDER	
1. The Petitioner is		residing at
(street)	(city)	(zip code)
		(county and state)
Phone: (, work phone: (_		
messages can be given to me by calling ()	, who is my	.
2. The Respondent is		, residing at
(street)	(city)	(zip code) (county and state)
Respondent's phone number is ()	, and at work is (), or
(if no telephone), messages can be given to Respondent	by calling: ()	, who is Respondent's
 3. Petitioner respectfully represents that on was entered for the following: shared legal custody , 		
$\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $	dy / sole physical custody	/ / supervised physical
custody. A true and correct copy of the Order is attached	d.	
4. This Order should be modified because:		

5.	Petitioner has attached the Criminal Record / Abuse History Verification form required pursuant to
Pa.R.Civ	.P. 1915.3-2.
interest	WHEREFORE, Petitioner requests that the Court modify the existing Order because it will be in the best of the child(ren).
(date)	Petitioner
	VERIFICATION and CERTIFICATION
herein a	I verify that the statements made in this Complaint are true and correct. I understand that false statements are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.
	I also certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Case Records Public Access Policy of the Judicial System of Pennsylvania that require filing confidential information and documents differently than information and documents.
	Petitioner

	:
Plaintiff	:
V.	: FD 20
, Defendant	: t:
CUSTODY CON	FERENCE ORDER
You,	, have been sued in court to obtain modify
custody of the following child(ren), listed by their ini	tials:,
such a time as will be determined by the conference mail to the address listed on the complaint that has be	ford County Judicial Center for a custody conference at se officer, who shall send you a notice of the hearing by seen filed recently. If you fail to appear as provided by set you or the court may issue a warrant for your arrest.
	y criminal record or abuse history regarding you and any ct with the court (including, but not limited to, the custody ng pleading, whichever occurs first.
	ild which significantly impairs the ability of the other party a all of the applicable provisions of 23 Pa.C.S. § 5337 and
AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET F HELP. THIS OFFICE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH INFOR AFFORD TO HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE MAY BE AGENCIES THAT MAY OFFER LEGAL SERVICES TO ELIG	ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER AND CANNOT ORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL MATION ABOUT HIRING A LAWYER. IF YOU CANNOT ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT IBLE PERSONS AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE. ministrator
Crawford County Judicial Cente	r Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335 33-7498
AMERICANS WITH DI	SABILITIES ACT OF 1990
Disabilities Act of 1990. For information about access to disabled individuals having business before the Cou	required by law to comply with the Americans with sible facilities and reasonable accommodations available urt, please contact the Court Administrator's Office. All to any hearing or business before the Court. You must
	By the Court,
Data	
Date:	

	Plain	, . itiff :			
v.		: :	FD 20		_
		:			
	Defe	ndant :			
REPORT OF C	CRIMINAL RECO	-			RT
Participants. Please list ALL me	embers in your/the	participant's ho	usehold and at	tach sheets if neo	cessary:
Name	Date of Birth	A	Address	Relationship	to Child(ren)
§§ 6701-6713, or the Ch protection under the same Please list ALL mer	•			·	_
Name	Date of Birth	A	Address	Relationship	to Child(ren)
Party requests their re Act, 23 pa.c.s. § 6112, or t §§ 6701-6713, or the Ch protection under the same	he Domestic and Seild Custody Act, 23	exual Violence V	ictim Address (Confidentiality Ad	ct, 23 Pa.C.S.
SUBJECT CHILDREN—Atta	ch additional sheet	s if necessary:			
	Name		Date	of Birth	

- 2. *Criminal Offenses*. As to the following listed Pennsylvania crimes or offenses, or another jurisdiction's substantially equivalent crimes or offense, check the box next to any applicable crime or offense in which you or a household member:
 - has pleaded guilty or no contest;
 - has been convicted;
 - has charges pending; or
- has been adjudicated delinquent under the Juvenile Act, 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 6301–6375, and the record is publicly available as set forth in 42 Pa.C.S. § 6307.

You should also check the box next to a listed criminal offense even if the offense has been resolved by Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) or another diversionary program, unless it has been expunged pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 9122, or a court has entered an order for limited access, *e.g.*, Clean Slate, pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 9122.1 or 9122.2.

"Other" means household member other than yourself.

"Date" means the date of conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea, or pending charges.

Check all that apply	Self Other Date	Sentence
18 Pa.C.S. Chapter 25 (relating to criminal homicide)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2701 (relating to simple assault)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2702 (relating to aggravated assault)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2705 (relating to recklessly) endangering another person)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2706 (relating to terroristic threats)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2709.1 (relating to stalking)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2718 (relating to strangulation)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2901 (relating to kidnapping)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2904 (relating to interference with custody of children)		
18 Pa.C.S. § 2910 (relating to luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure)		

Check all that apply	Self	Other	Date	Sentence
18 Pa.C.S. Chapter 30 (relating to human trafficking)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3121 (relating to rape)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3126 (relating to indecent assault)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3127 (relating to indecent exposure)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3129 (relating to sexual intercourse with animal)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3130 (relating to conduct relating to sex offenders)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 3301 (relating to arson and related offenses)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 4302 (relating to incest)		Ш		
18 Pa.C.S. § 4303 (relating to concealing death of child)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 4305 (relating to dealing in infant children)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 5533 (relating to cruelty to animal)				
18 Pa.C.S. § 5534 (relating to aggravated cruelty to animal)				
Crawford County Judicial Center				Rev. 5/23/25

Custody Modification Forms

Check all that apply	Self Other	Date	Sentence
18 Pa.C.S. § 5543 (relating to animal fighting)			
18 Pa.C.S. § 5544 (relating to possession of animal fighting paraphernalia)			
18 Pa.C.S. § 5902(b) or (b.1) (relating to prostitution and related offenses)			
18 Pa.C.S. § 5903(c) or (d) (relating to obscene and other sexual materials & performances)			
18 Pa.C.S. § 6301 (relating to corruption of minors)			
18 Pa.C.S. § 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children)			
18 Pa.C.S. § 6318 (relating to unlawful contact with minor)			
18 Pa.C.S. § 6320 (relating to sexual exploitation of children)			
Finding of contempt of a Protection from Abuse order or agreement under 23 Pa.C.S. § 6114	□ □ <u> </u>		
Finding of contempt of Victims of Sexual Violence and Intimidation order or agreement under 42 Pa.C.S. § 62A14			
Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol			
Manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, offering for sale or possession of any controlled substance or other drug or device			

A <i>buse or Agency involvement</i> : Check the box next to any sta old member, or your child.	temen	t tilat appli	es to you,
Involvement with a children and youth social service agency in Pennsylvania or a similar agency in another jurisdiction.	Self	Household member	Child
What jurisdiction?:			
A determination or finding of abuse (<i>i.e.</i> , indicated or founded report) by a children and youth social service agency or court in Pennsylvania or a similar agency or court in another jurisdiction.			
What jurisdiction?:			
An adjudication of dependency involving this child or any other child under Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act, or a similar law in another jurisdiction.			
What jurisdiction?:			
Is the case active?:			
A history of perpetrating "abuse" as that term is defined in the Protection from Abuse Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 6102.			
A history of perpetuating "sexual violence" or "intimidation" as those terms are defined in 42 Pa.C.S. § 62A03 (relating to protection of victims of sexual violence and intimidation).			
Other			
f you checked a box in (2) or (3), list any evaluation, counseling, o	r other	treatment i	received as
If you checked a box in (2) or (3) that applies to your household moson's name, date of birth, and relationship to the child:	ember,	who is not a	a party, stat

-	ther party or the other party's household member has a criminal record cluding the county and state in which the conviction occurred):
	IS FORM. IF A PARTY IS REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY GN THIS FORM ON BEHALF OF THE PARTY.
•	bove is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information of tements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 authorities.
Date	Plaintiff/Defendant Signature
	Printed Name

	Plair	, : ntiff :			
v		: :	FD 20		
		:			
	Defe	endant :			
REPORT OF C	CRIMINAL RECO	-			RT
Participants. Please list ALL m	embers in your/the	participant's ho	usehold and at	tach sheets if ned	cessary:
Name	Date of Birth	,	Address	Relationship	to Child(ren)
§§ 6701-6713, or the Ch protection under the sam Please list ALL me	•			·	_
Name	Date of Birth	,	Address	Relationship	to Child(ren)
Party requests their re			•	•	
Act, 23 pa.c.s. \S 6112, or $\S\S$ 6701-6713, or the Chprotection under the sam	ild Custody Act, 23				
SUBJECT CHILDREN—Atta	ach additional sheet	s if necessary:			
	Name		Date	of Birth	

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Crawford County Judicial Center				Pay 5/22/25

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Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol			
Manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, offering for sale or possession of any controlled substance or other drug or device			

<i>buse or Agency Involvement</i> : Check the box next to any staged and the box next to any staged	tement	t that appli	es to you,	а
	Self	Household member	Child	
Involvement with a children and youth social service agency in Pennsylvania or a similar agency in another jurisdiction.				
What jurisdiction?:				
A determination or finding of abuse (<i>i.e.</i> , indicated or founded report) by a children and youth social service agency or court in Pennsylvania or a similar agency or court in another jurisdiction.				
What jurisdiction?:				
An adjudication of dependency involving this child or any other child under Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act, or a similar law in another jurisdiction.				
What jurisdiction?:				
Is the case active?:				
A history of perpetrating "abuse" as that term is defined in the Protection from Abuse Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 6102.				
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Other				
you checked a box in (2) or (3), list any evaluation, counseling, o	r other	treatment	received as	; a
				_ .·
you checked a box in (2) or (3) that applies to your household me on's name, date of birth, and relationship to the child:	ember,	who is not	a party, sta	te
 				_

-	ther party or the other party's household member has a criminal record cluding the county and state in which the conviction occurred):
	IS FORM. IF A PARTY IS REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY GN THIS FORM ON BEHALF OF THE PARTY.
•	bove is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information of sements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 authorities.
Date	 Plaintiff/Defendant Signature
	Printed Name