
Plaintiff [NAME (First, Middle, Last) OF SPOUSE FILING THE DIVORCE]

vs.

Docket No: _____

Defendant [NAME (First, Middle, Last) OF THE OTHER SPOUSE]

Final Decree of Divorce
[With Divorce Agreement]

If you are ready to finalize your divorce, you must fill out this form. Only the spouse who filed the *Complaint for Divorce* is required to sign this *Decree* and that spouse **must go** to the Court hearing **BUT** it is a good idea for **both** spouses to go in case the Court has questions. The Judge does not have to sign this *Decree* if s/he does not think your *Divorce Agreement* is fair.

Take this form with you to your Court hearing, along with copies of all forms you have filed in this case, including:

- **Divorce Agreement** (FORM 5) signed by both spouses and notarized (**if** it was not filed with the *Complaint for Divorce*)
- **Certificate of Divorce or Annulment.** You **must** use the official *Department of Vital Records* form that can be obtained from the Clerk's Office or found online at <https://health.state.tn.us/vr/> and have it completely filled out before the Court hearing.

Court Hearing and Findings:

On (date) _____, there was a Court hearing at the Court and county listed above before (Judge's name) _____.

Parties at the hearing:

Plaintiff (Spouse filing the *Complaint for Divorce*):

Street or P.O. Box City State Zip Phone #

Defendant (The other spouse):

Street or P.O. Box City State Zip Phone #



The Court affirmatively finds as follows:

- ① The spouses have sworn and affirmed they **do not** have any children together who are under 18, in high school or disabled, and neither spouse is pregnant. “*Children together*” means children they had together before the marriage and all children born or adopted during their marriage.
- ② The spouses have both signed under penalty of perjury a *Divorce Agreement (Marital Dissolution Agreement)*. That *Agreement* has disclosed fully the spouses’ assets and liabilities, and the Court finds it equitably settles any and all property rights between them.

③ **Alimony:**

Neither spouse wants alimony, **OR**

The (check **one**) **Plaintiff** **Defendant** agrees to pay (amount) \$_____ each (check **one**): **Week** **Month** **Other:**_____

The alimony will end on (date): _____, **OR**

The alimony will end when this happens: _____

- ④ The spouses are now divorced based on irreconcilable differences and are restored to the rights and privileges of unmarried persons. The *Divorce Agreement (Marital Dissolution Agreement)* is now a part of this *Final Decree of Divorce*.

⑤ **Orders of Protection** (check **one**):

Neither party has a current Order of Protection.

The Court ends the current Order of Protection.

The Court continues the current Order of Protection from this Court until _____ (MM/DD/YYYY). **Attach a copy of the Order of Protection and write Case # here:**_____

The parties have an Order of Protection in a different Court. This *Final Decree of Divorce* does not change that Order of Protection. **Attach a copy of the Order of Protection and write Case # here:**_____

Restraining Order (check **one**):

Neither Party has a current *Restraining Order* or wants a *Restraining Order*.

The Court orders both parties not to hurt or threaten the other.

The Court further orders that they cannot contact each other after the divorce is final. They also cannot send messages to each other through other people.

⑥ **Name Change** (check **all that apply**):

This Order does not change either party’s name.

This Order changes the **Plaintiff’s** name to:

First Middle Last

This Order changes the **Defendant's** name to:

First Middle Last

Important! You may need a **certified copy** of this *Decree* to change your name on your driver's license or other records.

⑦ Lawyer Fees:

- Neither side has a lawyer.
- The **Plaintiff** will pay for his/her lawyer's fees and the **Defendant** will pay for his/her lawyer's fees.
- Other (explain): _____

⑧ Court Costs will be paid as follows (check **one**):

- The **Plaintiff** and **Defendant** will each pay 50% of the Court costs.
- Plaintiff** will pay all costs.
- Defendant** will pay all costs.
- Other agreement: _____

⑨ Other Orders:

Notice: This *Final Decree of Divorce* does not necessarily affect the ability of a creditor to proceed against a party or a party's property, even though the party is not responsible under the terms of the *Final Decree* for an account, any debt associated with an account, or any debt. It may be in a party's best interest to cancel, close or freeze any jointly-held accounts (*T.C.A., §36-4-134*).

What this means: This *Final Decree* does **not** protect you against creditors. They may try to collect from you even if your spouse is supposed to pay the debt. It may be best to cancel, close, or freeze any accounts you have together.

This *Decree* is made on (date) _____ By: _____
Judge's Signature

This *Final Decree* is **not final until 30 days after the Judge signs it**. During those 30 days, you may have questions about remarrying or buying property. If so, talk to a lawyer.

Presented By: _____
Person Filing the *Decree*



| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ Plaintiff's Signature | _____ Date (MM/DD/YYYY) |
| | _____ Plaintiff's Phone # |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ Defendant's Signature | _____ Date (MM/DD/YYYY) |
| | _____ Defendant's Phone # |

If your spouse did not go to this hearing, you must mail him/her a copy of this signed *Final Decree of Divorce*. Please fill out below.

| | |
|--|--|
| <u>Certificate of Service</u> | |
| I swear and affirm that that a true and exact copy of this <i>Final Decree of Divorce</i> was given to my spouse. It was delivered in person or sent by First Class U.S. Mail to this address: | |
| _____ _____ _____ | |
| on (date) _____ | |
| Spouse who mails it signs here: ▶ _____ _____ | |
| _____ (Street Address) | |
| _____ (City, State, Zip) | |
| _____ (Phone Number) | |

Attached:

- Divorce Agreement*** – Marital Dissolution Agreement (if not already submitted)
- Certificate of Divorce or Annulment*** (if not already submitted)
- Other:** _____