

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.903(d), ANSWER TO COUNTERPETITION (05/12)

When should this form be used?

This form should be used by a **petitioner** to respond to the **respondent's** **counterpetition**. You should use this form to admit or deny the allegations contained in the counterpetition.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the case is filed and keep a copy for your records.

What should I do next?

You have 20 days to answer after being served with the other party's counterpetition. A copy of this form must be mailed **or** hand delivered to the other party.

To proceed with your case, you should refer to the instructions to your petition regarding setting a case for trial under **UNCONTESTED** and **CONTESTED**.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms. The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there.

Special notes...

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner/Counterrespondent,

and

_____,
Respondent/Counterpetitioner.

ANSWER TO COUNTERPETITION

I, {full legal name} _____, being sworn, certify
that the following information is true:

1. I **agree** with Respondent as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Counterpetition and, therefore, **admit** those allegations: {indicate section and paragraph number} _____
2. I **disagree** with Respondent as to the allegations raised in the following numbered paragraphs in the Counterpetition and, therefore, **deny** those allegations: {indicate section and paragraph number} _____.
3. I am currently unable to admit or deny the following paragraphs due to lack of information: {indicate section and paragraph number} _____

I certify that a copy of this document was {choose all used} () mailed () faxed () hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} _____.

Respondent or his/her attorney:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Fax Number: _____
Email Address: _____

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this answer and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: _____

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.]

_____ Personally known

_____ Produced identification

Type of identification produced _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: *{choose only one}* () Petitioner () Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, *{state}* _____ *{telephone number}* _____.