

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF _____ COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

_____,
Plaintiff,

vs. Civil Action No. _____

_____,
Defendant.

PARENTING PLAN

The parties have agreed to the terms of this plan and this information has been furnished by both parties to meet the requirements of OCGA Section 19-9-1. The parties agree on the terms of the plan and affirm the accuracy of the information provided, as shown by their signatures at the end of this order.

This Plan: is a new plan.
 modifies an existing Parenting Plan dated: _____
 modifies an existing Order dated: _____

Child's Name	Date of Birth		Child's Name	Date of Birth

I. CUSTODY AND DECISION MAKING:

A. Legal Custody (choose one:)

- Joint** **Father**
 Mother **Other** _____

B. Primary Physical Custodian

Child's Name	Primary Physical Custodian
	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father

C. Day-To-Day Decisions

- Each parent shall make decisions regarding the day-to-day care of a child while the child is residing with that parent, including any emergency decisions affecting the health or safety of a child.
- Other:

D. Major Decisions

Educational Decisions e.g., school choice, educational support services, speech therapy, tutoring, educational planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint* <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
Non-emergency Health Care e.g., scheduled examinations, dental and vision care, vision care, psychological treatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint* <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
Religious Upbringing e.g., choice of religion, religious education or training,	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint* <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
Extracurricular e.g., sports, arts and music, camps, summer programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint* <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint* <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father

E. Disagreements and Tie-breaking Authority

The parties shall at all times confer with each other on all above-referenced “major decisions,” as well as on any and all other important matters pertaining to the welfare of the minor child(ren) with a view toward arriving at a harmonious policy calculated to promote the child(ren)’s best interest. When Joint* Decision Making is selected in Section I.D above, disagreements in decisions will be resolved as outlined below.

Educational Decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
Non-emergency Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
Religious Upbringing	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

Extracurricular	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father

II. PARENTING TIME/VISITATION SCHEDULES

A. Day to Day Parenting Time/Visitation

During the term of this parenting plan the non-custodial parent shall have at a minimum the following rights of parenting time/ visitation (choose an item):

- The first and third weekend of each month beginning on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm and ending on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm.
- The first, third and fifth weekend of each month beginning on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm and ending on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm. [A weekend beginning on the fifth Friday in a month will be defined as a “fifth weekend”]
- The second and fourth weekend of each month beginning on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm and ending on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm.
- Every other weekend beginning on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm and ending on _____ (day) at _____ (time) am/pm.
- Other:
- _____ and weekday parenting time/visitation on (choose an item):
 - Every _____ (day) evening beginning at _____ (time) pm and ending at _____ (time) pm.
 - Every _____ (day) evening during week prior to non-visitation weekend beginning at _____ (time) pm and ending at _____ (time) pm.
 - Every _____ (day) and _____ (day) evening beginning at _____ (time) pm and ending at _____ (time) pm.
 - Other:

This parenting schedule begins: _____ Date of this Parenting Plan

_____ Initials _____ Initials

B. Major Holidays and Vacation Periods

The day to day schedule established in section A. above shall apply during any holiday unless other arrangements are set forth below [i.e., leaving blanks empty means that the schedule established in section A will apply]:

Thanksgiving

Unless specified differently herein, Thanksgiving break shall begin at 6:00 pm on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and end on the Sunday after Thanksgiving at 6:00 pm. The day to day schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth below:

Winter Vacation [a/k/a "Christmas Holiday"]

The MOTHER FATHER shall have the child(ren) for the first period from the day and time school is dismissed until December _____ at _____ (time) am / pm in ODD EVEN years.

The other parent will have the child(ren) for the second period from the day and time indicated above until 6:00pm on the evening two evenings before school resumes. Unless otherwise indicated, the parties shall alternate the first and second periods each year.

Other: _____

Summer Vacation

Define summer vacation period:

Definition of Summer: Summer vacation shall be defined as commencing at 10:00 am the day after school ends for the school year, and ending at 6:00 the day before the start of the new school year.

Split Summer: This time period shall be split in half, with Part A being the first half and Part B being the second half with the exchange date on _____ (date).

Other: _____

During summer, the day to day schedule under Section II.A above shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth below:

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

_____ beginning (year).

Spring Vacation (if applicable)

Define: _____

The day to day schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth below:

_____ beginning (year).

Fall Vacation (if applicable)

Define: _____

The day to day schedule shall apply unless other arrangements are set forth below:

_____ beginning (year).

OTHER: _____

C. Other Holiday Schedule (if applicable)

HOLIDAY	MOTHER	FATHER
MLK, JR. Day (January)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
President's Day (February)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
Mother's Day (May)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
Memorial Day (May)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
Father's Day (June)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
July Fourth (July)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

Labor Day (September)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
Halloween (October)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
Children's Birthday	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
Religious/Other Holidays (list)	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every	<input type="checkbox"/> Odd <input type="checkbox"/> Even <input type="checkbox"/> Every

D. Other extended periods of time during school (defined by the school schedule):

E. Start and end dates for holiday visitation:

For purposes of this parenting plan, the holiday will start and end as follows:

- Holidays that fall on Friday will include the following Saturday and Sunday.
- Holidays that fall on Monday will include the preceding Saturday and Sunday.
- Other: _____

F. Coordination of Parenting and Children's Schedules

Check if applicable:

- The holiday parenting time/visitation schedule takes precedence over the regular parenting time/visitation schedule.
- Each party agrees that the other party shall have the first right of refusal to keep the child(ren) in the event that the other party will be unable to care for the child for a period of _____ hours or more. In the event that the other party is unable to care for the child, the party needing child care will insure that a qualified and appropriate family member or child care provider is employed to care for the child.
- The parent in possession of the minor child(ren) will be responsible for supervising and assisting in any schoolwork immediately due and for any activity scheduled for the child. The parents agree to give each other reasonable notice of any activities scheduled during the other parent's possession of the child(ren).
- When the child(ren) are with a parent for an extended period of time (such as summer), the other parent shall be entitled to visit with the child(ren) during the extended period, as follows:
_____.

G. Transportation Arrangements

For visitation, the *place of meeting for the exchange* of the child(ren) shall be:

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

The Mother Father will be responsible for transportation of the child(ren) at the beginning of visitation.

The Mother Father will be responsible for transportation of the child(ren) at the conclusion of visitation.

Transportation [e.g. airplane, train, long-distance] costs, arrangements and supervision, if any, will be allocated as follows:

Both parties will be diligent in having the child ready with the necessary belongings and available at the appointed time and the transporting party shall be prompt in picking up and delivering the child, provided however, that the transporting parent for visitation shall have a grace period of fifteen (15) minutes for pick-up and delivery if both parties live within a distance of fifty (50) miles from each other. If the one way distance to be traveled is in excess of one hundred (100) miles, the grace period shall be thirty (30) minutes. In the event the visiting parent exceeds the grace period, the visitation for that weekend is forfeited unless prior notification and arrangements have been made and except in cases where the visiting parent suffers an unavoidable breakdown or delay en route and the visiting parent promptly notifies the custodial parent by phone of the delay. Repeated violations by either parent shall be cause for a modification of the custody order either by changing the custody or curtailing visitation, as the case may be.

H. Contacting the Child(ren)

When the child(ren) are in the physical custody of one parent, the other parent will have the right to contact the child or children as follows:

Telephone: When the child is with each parent, that parent will ensure that the child has access to a telephone at all times. The other parent may telephone the child at all reasonable times, however, these calls shall not unduly interfere with that parent's time with the child. Likewise, the parent with physical custody will allow the child to telephone the other parent at all reasonable times.

Other: _____

I. Supervision of Parenting Time (if applicable)

Supervised parenting time shall apply during the day to day schedule as follows:

Place:

Person/organization supervising:

Responsibility for Costs:

Other: _____

J. Communication Provisions [Must check one option below:]

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

- A parent changing residence must give at least 30 days notice of the change and provide the full address of the new residence. Each parent shall promptly notify the other of a change of phone number.
- Due to prior acts of family violence, the address of the child(ren) and victim of family violence shall be kept confidential. The protected parent shall promptly notify the other parent, through a third party, of any change in contact information necessary to conduct visitation.
- Other: _____

III. ACCESS TO RECORDS AND INFORMATION

Rights of the Parents

Absent agreement to limitations or court ordered limitations, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §19-9-1(b)(1)(D), both parents are entitled to access to all of the child(ren)’s records and information, including, but not limited to, education, health, extracurricular activities, and religious communications. Designation as a non-custodial parent does not affect a parent’s right to equal access to these records.

The custodial parent shall promptly transmit to the non-custodial parent any information received concerning parent-teacher meetings, school club meetings, school programs, athletic schedules and any other school activities in which the child(ren) may be engaged or interested.

The custodial parent shall promptly, after receipt, furnish to the non-custodial parent a photo-copy of the child’s grade cards or reports and copies of any other reports concerning the child’s status or progress.

The custodial parent shall when possible arrange appointments for parent-teacher conferences at a time when the non-custodial parent can be present and whenever possible they shall be attended by both parents.

- Limitation on access: _____

IV. MODIFICATION OF PLAN

Parties may, by mutual agreement, vary the parenting time/visitation; however, such agreement shall not be a binding court order. Custody shall only be modified by court order. Should the parents disagree about this parenting plan or wish to modify it, they must make a good faith effort to resolve the issue between them.

If either of the parties disagrees with the other’s compliance with the terms of this Order, the parties are directed to appear before the Mediation Center in Chatham County (or before a private mediator if both parties agree) for at least one session of good faith mediation to resolve their dispute, as a condition precedent to the filing of any action to enforce the terms of this decree. Should a party fail to participate in scheduling and appearing before the Mediation Center or a mutually agreed private mediator within **thirty (30) days of the first written request**, the failure to cooperate will be reported to this Court and considered as evidence of willful intent to violate the terms of this Order. This provision shall NOT apply to the following circumstances: contempt or modification actions regarding inability to pay or failure to pay any support obligations under this order; the

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

The Mediation Center, 5105 Paulsen Street, Suite 125D, Savannah, Georgia 31405
 (912) 354-6686 (office) (912) 354-8690

unauthorized denial of visitation or the unauthorized failure to return a child after a visitation; a parent is incarcerated; or an emergency need involving the safety and well-being of minor child(ren).

V. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Attached as Exhibit A-1 is an Addendum, detailing any special circumstances involved in this case (e.g., health issues, educational issues, etc.).

- During the time that either party has physical custody of the child, that parent shall not have residing in the house, or staying overnight, anyone of the opposite sex not related by blood or marriage.

- During the time that either party has physical custody of the child, that parent shall not drink any alcohol.

- Other:

VI. RULES OF CONDUCT

1. Neither party shall discuss with the minor child(ren) their past, present or future domestic relations litigation with the exception of the custody schedule and these rules of conduct.

2. Neither party shall complain about, criticize, blame the other in the present of the minor child(ren), and shall instruct others to refrain from such conduct in the presence of the minor child(ren).

3. Neither party shall accuse the other of being at fault in the presence of the minor child(ren).

4. Neither party shall make negative, critical and/or hurtful comments about the other party's family members in the presence of the minor child(ren).

5. Neither party shall use the minor child(ren) to convey messages to the other parent.

6. The parents shall not hassle over visitation with the child. This undermines the parents' relationship with the child and burdens the child with the guilt of responsibility for such hassles.

7. It is beneficial that the child experiences affectionate care from both parents. The visitation privileges exist primarily for the child and not the parent.

8. The issue of visitation and child support are not related. The custodial parent shall not deny visitation to the non-custodial parent to enforce the payment of child support. Such denial is a violation of this Order.

It is the intention of this Order to relieve the minor child(ren) of embroilment in his/her/their parents' controversies and disputes. Such conduct is injurious to the health and well-being of the minor child(ren) and will not be tolerated by the Court.

_____ Initials

_____ Initials

VII. PARENT’S CONSENT

Please review the following and initial:

We recognize that a close and continuing parent-child relationship and continuity in the child's life is in the child's best interest.

_____ (Mother)

_____ (Father)

We recognize that the parent with physical custody will make the day-to-day decisions and emergency decisions while the child is residing with such parent.

_____ (Mother)

_____ (Father)

We recognize that our child's needs will change and grow as the child matures; we have made a good faith effort to take these changing needs into account so that the need for future modifications to the parenting plan are minimized.

_____ (Mother)

_____ (Father)

We knowingly and voluntarily agree on the terms of this Parenting Plan. Each of us affirms that the information we have provided in this Plan is true and correct.

Mother's Signature

Father's Signature

ORDER

The Court has reviewed the foregoing Parenting Plan, and it is hereby made the order of this Court.

This Order entered on the _____ day of _____ 20____.

JUDGE OF SUPERIOR COURT OF _____ COUNTY,
GEORGIA

_____ Initials

_____ Initials