

**RESPONSE TO
PETITION REGARDING PARENTING TIME
SAGINAW COUNTY FRIEND OF THE COURT
FORM 50**

Use this Response if:

- You get a copy of the Petition Regarding Parenting Time. By filling out this response, you are answering the statements made in the Petition.

RESPONSE CHECKLIST

Use the following checklist to make sure you have done all the steps that are included.

DID YOU...READ THE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST?

1. Fill out all requested information on the Response? YES
2. Make all the necessary copies? YES
3. File the Response to Petition with the
Circuit Court Clerk's office?
(located in the basement of the Courthouse) YES
4. Mail (serve) a copy of the Response on the other party? YES
5. Return to the Clerk's office **after** you mailed the Response
and completed the certificate of mailing? YES
6. Keep one copy of the Response for yourself? YES
7. Give 1 copy of the completed Response to the
Circuit Court Clerk Court with the Completed Certificate of Mailing? YES
8. Deliver 1 copy of the completed Response to the
Friend of the Court with the Completed Certificate of Mailing? YES

If you cannot answer "YES" to all of the above steps, your Response may not be considered as a part of the Investigation.

By using this Response packet you are representing yourself in a Court action regarding parenting time. In order to receive the action you seek, you must follow the instructions in this packet. If you fail to do even one of the required steps, the Order you get from the Court may not give you the parenting time you want.

If you have any question about any steps in the process, refer to page 3 through 5 of this packet for details.

The Friend of the Court does NOT represent either party. In preparation for the Investigation, each party is encouraged to review the CHILD CUSTODY ACT, which may be obtained from the state court administrator's office (989-373-8289) or the public library. The Friend of the Court is NOT authorized to give the parties legal advice or assist in the filing of this Response. Either party may hire an attorney during any point in the process.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING A RESPONSE

⇔ FILING A RESPONSE

1. **Fill out the Response.**

Use the document on page 6. Use the instruction on page 5. Since there is only an original of the Response in this packet, type or print neatly, using a black or blue pen. Be careful to not make mistakes. (THIS IS A COURT DOCUMENT)

Make at least 4 copies of the Response after you have filled it out.

2. **File the Response form with the Circuit Court Clerk (located in the basement of the Courthouse).**

Take the original and 4 copies of the Response to the Circuit Court Clerk.

The Clerk will keep the original true copy of the Response and any attachments for the Court file and stamp "True Copy" on all other copies.

What you should have when you leave the Clerk's office:

- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)- for you
- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)- for the other party
- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)-for the Court
- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)-for the Friend of the Court

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVING A RESPONSE

⇔ SERVING THE RESPONSE ON THE OTHER PARTY OR PARTIES

1. Serve the Response on the other party.

YOU MUST SERVE (NOTIFY BY MAIL) the other party of your Response.

What you need for service:

- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)-with the Completed Certificate of Mailing for you.
- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)-with the Completed Certificate of Mailing for the other party.
- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)-with the Completed Certificate of Mailing for the Court.
- 1 Copy of the Response (with any attachments)-with the Completed Certificate of Mailing for the Friend of the Court.

Fill out the Certificate of Mailing (date and sign) on the copies of the Response. Mail one copy to the other party.

NOTE: Serve the papers by mailing them to the other party by regular, first class mail. **THE DATE ON THE CERTIFICATE OF MAILING MUST BE THE DATE YOU MAILED THE RESPONSE TO THE OTHER PARTY.**

2. Return to the County Clerk

Once you have mailed the Response to the other party return to the Circuit Court Clerk's office. You will have three copies with the completed certificate of mailing. Give the Circuit Court Clerk one copy for the Court file. Keep 1 copy for your own records. You **MUST** deliver a copy directly to the Friend of the Court office.

INSTRUCTION FOR COMPLETING “RESPONSE REGARDING PARENTING TIME”

Please print neatly. After filling in the Response you will need to make at least 5 copies.

Items A through G must be completed before your Response can be filed with the Court. Please read the instruction for each of item. Then fill in the correct information for that item on the Response.

- A. Before you fill in the Case No., get your copy of the Petition Regarding Parenting Time and copy the Case No. from that paper onto this form.
- B. Also use the Petition to fill in the “Plaintiff” and the “Defendant” boxes. Copy the names from these court papers onto this Response. For example, if your name is in the box that says “Plaintiff” on the original court document, then you should write your name in the “Plaintiff” box on this form.
- C. **Check only one box.** If you have a judgment or order for divorce, separate maintenance, or paternity, read it carefully to find out if there is any information in it about parenting time. If there is information about parenting time not just the word parenting time a specific schedule must be indicated, check box a. If there is no information about parenting time check box b.
- D. Check this box if you and the other party have agreed to start parenting time or make changes in the parenting time schedule. If you check this box, use a separate sheet of paper to **explain in as much detail** as possible what you have agreed on. Print this information as neatly as you can. You will need four copies of this attachment to attach to copies of this Response.
- E. Check the box that best states what you want the Court to Order. You need to **explain in as much detail** as possible what you want the Court to Order. Use a separate sheet of paper and print as neatly as you can. You will need 4 copies to attach to copies of this Petition. You will need four copies of this attachment to attach to copies of this Response.
- F. Check the box that best explains what you want the Court to order.. You need to **explain in as much detail** as possible what you want the court to Order. Print this information as neatly as you can. You will need four copies of this attachment to attach to copies of this Response.
- G. Write in today’s date and sign your name.

Make 4 copies of this Response form and go to the Circuit Court Clerk. Read page 3 of this packet for details.

STATE OF MICHIGAN 10TH JUDICIAL FAMILY DIVISION 111 S. MICHIGAN SAGINAW, MI 48602	RESPONSE REGARDING PARENTING TIME	A. CASE # _____
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B.

Plaintiff's name, address, city, state and zip.

V

Defendant's name, address, city, state and zip.

- C.** 1. **a.** On _____ a judgment or Order was entered regarding parenting time.
Date
- b.** There is currently no order regarding parenting time

- D.** 2. a. I agreed with the other party to start or make changes in parenting time as stated in the Petition.
- b. I agreed with the other party to start or make changes in parenting time. They were not what was stated in the Petition.
- c. I did not agree with the other party to start or make changes in parenting time.
- If b. is checked, explain in detail what you did agree on. Include all necessary facts. Use a separate sheet of paper if needed.

- E.** 3. I agree do not agree that is in the best interest of the child(ren) to establish parenting time change parenting time as stated in the Petition.
- If you do not agree with the Petition, explain why it is in the best interest of the child(ren). Use a separate sheet if necessary.

- F.** 4. **I ask the Court to order that parenting time** be not be established changed
- If you do not agree with the request in the Petition, explain in detail what you want the Court to order. Use a separate sheet of paper if needed.

I declare that the above statements are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

G. _____
Date

Responding Party's signature

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify on this date I mailed a copy of this response on the other party by ordinary mail at the above address.

Date

Responding Party's signature