

II. CUSTODY AND DECISION MAKING

A. Legal Custody shall be (choose one):

- with the Mother
- with the Father
- joint

B. Primary Physical Custody:

For each of the children named below, the primary physical custodian shall be:

CHILD	DATE OF BIRTH	MOTHER	FATHER	JOINT

* WHERE JOINT PHYSICAL CUSTODY IS CHOSEN BY THE PARENTS OR ORDERED BY THE COURT, A DETAILED PLAN OF THE LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE CHILD(REN) SHALL BE ATTACHED AND MADE A PART OF THIS PARENTING PLAN.

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.

D. Major Decisions:

The parties will consult with each other and attempt to arrive at consensus on major decisions. Should they be unable to reach consensus, final decision will be made as follows:

III. PARENTING TIME/VISITATION SCHEDULES

During the term of this Parenting Plan the non-custodial parent, [or in joint custodial arrangements the ()mother or ()father], shall have at a minimum the following parenting times:

A. Weekend/ Weekday Periods:

1. Choose one of the following weekend periods:

- The weekend of the first and third Friday of each month.
- The weekend of the second and fourth Friday of each month.
- The weekend of the first, third, and fifth Friday of each month.
- Every other weekend, starting on _____.
- Other:_____.

* For purposes of this Parenting Plan, a weekend will start at _____am/pm on _____, and end at _____am/pm on _____.

2. Choose one of the following weekday periods:

- None
- Weekday visitation to be exercised as follows: _____
_____.

* The weekend/weekday periods of visitation will begin (choose one):

- On _____ at _____am/pm.
- On the date of the Court's Order.

B. Major Holiday and Vacation Periods:

Choose the following periods which are applicable for the non-custodial parent's visitation. A holiday/vacation period of visitation must not interfere with the school schedule of the school where it is proposed the child will be enrolled:

() Fall Break: This visitation period will begin _____ at _____ a.m/p.m , and will end _____ at _____ a.m/p.m.

() Thanksgiving Break: This visitation period will begin _____ at _____ a.m/p.m., and will end _____ at _____ a.m/p.m.

() Christmas Break: The ()mother ()father shall have the child(ren) for the first period from _____ p.m. the day school is dismissed until December _____ at _____ a.m./p.m. in (choose one): ()odd numbered years ()even numbered years ()every year. The other parent will have the child(ren) for the second period from the day and time indicated above until _____ p.m. on _____. Unless otherwise indicated, the parties shall alternate the first and second periods from year to year.

() Winter Break: This visitation period will begin _____ at _____ a.m/p.m., and will end _____ at _____ a.m/p.m.

() Spring Break: This visitation period will begin _____ at _____ a.m/p.m., and will end _____ at _____ a.m/p.m.

() Summer Vacation: This visitation period will begin _____ at _____ a.m/p.m., and will end _____ at _____ a.m/p.m.

* Additional information concerning the major holiday/vacation visitation periods is as follows:

C. Other Holiday Periods (if applicable):

* Indicate whether the child(ren) will be with the parent in ODD or EVEN numbered years or EVERY year:

HOLIDAY	MOTHER	FATHER	START/STOP TIMES
Martin Luther King Day			
President's Day			
Mother's Day			
Memorial Day			
Father's Day			
July Fourth			
Labor Day			
Halloween			
Child(ren)'s Birthday			
Mother's Birthday			
Father's Birthday			
Religious Holidays			
Other			

D. Military Provisions (if applicable):

How the child will transition into temporary physical custody to a non-deploying parent if a military parent is deployed: _____

The manner in which the child will maintain continuing contact with a deployed parent: _____

How a deployed parent's parenting time may be delegated to his or her extended family: _____

How the parenting plan will be resumed once the deployed parent returns from deployment: _____

How the above provisions serve the best interest of the child: _____

*** Schedule Conflicts:** In the event a holiday parenting period listed in Subsection C above conflicts with a major holiday and vacation period listed in Subsection B, then (choose one):

- The Subsection C holiday period will be observed
- The Subsection B major holiday/vacation period will be uninterrupted
- Other: _____ If there is conflict between the weekend/weekday period listed in Subsection A and a holiday period listed in Subsection C, the Subsection C holiday period will take precedence.

E. Transportation Arrangements:

* Exchanging the child(ren) between parents shall take place as follows:

* Payment of long distance transportation costs, if applicable, will be paid by (choose one):

- Mother Father Equally by both parents

* For purposes of transportation, the term long distance is defined as:

* Other transportation arrangements: (Ex: disabled parent, parent without a valid driver's license, other approved transporters, etc.):

* Should the parent picking up the child(ren) exceed a _____ minute grace period without prior notification or alerting the other parent by phone of an unavoidable breakdown or delay en route, the parenting time for that period is forfeited. * Should either party repeatedly cause delay by not having the child(ren) prepared for exchange or being late for pick-up or return, a modification of parenting time may be sought. Repeatedly causing delay is defined as:

F. Communication Access:

* When the child(ren) are in the physical custody of one parent, the other parent will have the right to contact the child(ren) as follows (check all that apply):

Unrestricted telephone access during reasonable hours and of reasonable duration.

_____ telephone calls to the child(ren) per day/week with the duration of each call not to exceed _____ minutes within the following time consideration:

The child(ren) are allowed to call either parent at any time. Other agreed provisions for telephone/e-mail access:

G. Other Parenting Time Provisions/ Agreements:

* Check all that apply:

Each parent shall promptly notify the other parent of a change of address, phone number or cell phone number so that the other parent may exercise their parenting time, notify the other parent as needed, and reach the child(ren) while they are in the other parent's household.

When making child care arrangements while the child is with them, parents agree to the following (Ex: age before child(ren) will be left alone, appropriate caregivers, right of first refusal to provide care, etc.

If either parent decides to relocate more than _____ miles away from the other parent's home, the moving parent will give the other parent written notice of the intent to relocate no less than (choose one): 30 days 60 days 90 days 180 days prior to the date of moving.

Supervised parenting time shall apply as follows:

Place: _____

Person/Organization supervising: _____

Responsibility for costs: mother father both equally

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.

Parents will consult with each other prior to scheduling any activity that will impact time the other parent spends with the child(ren).

() Additional agreements:

IV. ACCESS TO RECORDS AND INFORMATION

Absent agreement to limitations or Court ordered limitations, both parties 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.

* Limitations on access rights: _____

* Check all that apply:

() Mother () Father will notify school authorities where child(ren) are enrolled each year to list both parents to receive all notifications, reports.

() Each parent shall promptly notify the other parent of any information received through the child(ren) concerning parent meetings, reports or school activities in which the child(ren) may be engaged or interested.

() Other information sharing provisions: _____

V. MODIFICATION OF PLAN OR DISAGREEMENTS

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 the Court.

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 prior to involving the Court.

VI. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Pleas attach an addendum detailing any special circumstances of which the Court should be aware (e.g., health issues, educational issues, etc.).

VII. PARENTS’ CONSENT

Please review the following and initial:

A. We recognize that a close and continuing parent-child relationship and continuity in the child(ren)’s life is in the child(ren)’s best interest.

Mother’s initials _____ Father’s initials _____

B. We recognize that our child(ren)’s needs will change and grow as the child(ren) 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 is minimized.

Mother’s initials _____ Father’s initials _____

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

Mother’s initials _____ Father’s initials _____

() 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 ____ day of _____, 20__.

Judge, Superior Court
Houston Judicial Circuit