



DIVORCE PACKET

SAC AND FOX NATION DISTRICT COURT
356159 EAST 926 ROAD, STROUD, OK. 74079

PHONE: (918)968-2031

FAX: (918)968-3781

Court Personnel

Charlotte Smith, Court Administrator
Amy Goodman, Deputy Court Clerk
Jody Selfridge, Deputy Court Clerk
Andrew Dame, Court Officer
R. Daniel Carter, Attorney General
Stephen Ward, Tribal Attorney

District Court

Chief Judge, Gregory Bigler
Judge, Michael C. Smith
Judge, Jon D. Douthitt
Judge, Darrell Dowty

Supreme Court

Chief Justice, O. Joseph Williams
Vice Chief Justice, Timothy Posey
Justice, Larry K. Lenora
Justice, Barbara A. Dakin
Justice, Joe C. Taylor

The forms in this packet are to be used for your use as a guide or as the actual document, you will file when seeking a divorce. Please read the instructions carefully before completing the forms.

Remember that the Court Clerks cannot accept petitions that do not conform to the instructions in this packet. Should you need assistance in preparing the petition, you must consult an attorney at your own expense or your local legal aid. The Court Clerks are prohibited by Ethical Code and Court Rules to provide legal advice and in helping parties complete or prepare court documents. Court Clerks cannot advise you on how to proceed or what forms may be necessary in specific situations.

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DISCLAIMER

Forms available should not be considered legal advice, and are provided only for reference purposes. These forms are provided only as a guide in developing a form for a particular case and set of facts. The content and format of forms not specifically determined by the Sac and Fox Nation Tribal Code or court rule may require modifications to suit the specifics of a given case.

The publication of these forms is in no way a representation that they are either appropriate for use in a particular case or situation or that they are adequate for use without modification or elaboration.

To obtain legal advice and to ensure the proper use of this material, you should contact a lawyer.

By using, you are certifying that you have read, understand and agree with this disclaimer.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS-PLEASE READ

PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

1. *Petition for Dissolution of Marriage* **MUST** be signed in front of the Court Clerk or a notary public when you are ready to file.
2. **All Individual** who want to file must bring:
 - Completed Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
 - Completed Summons (fill in the style and the name and address of the party to be served)
 - Sac and Fox Tribal Membership Card/CDIB
 - Marriage License copy
 - Birth certificates for MINOR children of the marriage
 - FILING FEES \$60 + service/summons fee of \$25 within jurisdiction, \$15 outside jurisdiction
3. Filing Fees, copy fees etc., **MUST** be made in the form of:
 - a. in person Credit/Debit Card Payment (3% convenience fee incurred),
 - b. Online payment via CitePay USA (instructions on website),
 - c. Cashiers' check, Money Order or Personal Check made payable to "Sac and Fox Nation Tribal Court"; **OR**
 - d. Cash in the exact amount due. The Court does not keep cash on hand for making change. Filing fees **MUST** be paid at the time of filing your petition.
4. Submit original *Petition for Dissolution of Marriage* for the Court file. The Court Clerk will provide you with one copy of the petition for your own records.
5. Your *Petition for Dissolution of Marriage* **MUST** have the FULL ADDRESS (city, state and zip code) of both parties. Obtaining this information is your responsibility.

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, MONDAY – FRIDAY

DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SAC AND FOX NATION
356159 EAST 926 ROAD, STROUD, OKLAHOMA 74079
Charlotte Smith, Court Administrator
Amy Goodman, Deputy Court Clerk
Jody Selfridge, Deputy Court Clerk
Andrew Dame, Court Officer

PHONE: (918)968-2031
FAX: (918)968-3781

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SAC AND FOX NATION
356159 EAST 926 ROAD, STROUD, OKLAHOMA 74079

In re the Marriage of _____)
_____)
Petitioner,)
and _____)
_____)
Respondent.)

CASE NO. JFD-_____

PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

COMES now the Petitioner, _____, and files this verified
Petition for Divorce against the Respondent, _____ in the Sac and
Fox Tribal Court and alleges and states under oath that the following information is true and correct.

- (1.) That this Court has territorial jurisdiction to hear and decide this matter in that the [] Petitioner OR [] Respondent is now and has been for more than three (3) months next preceding the filing of the petition herein an actual resident, in good faith, of the State of Oklahoma, within the jurisdiction of the Sac and Fox Nation, and a resident of _____ County, said residence being _____.
- (2.) That the Sac and Fox Tribal Court has personal jurisdiction to hear and decide this matter because:
(CHOOSE ONE)

[] The Petitioner is an enrolled member of the Sac and Fox Nation of Oklahoma/Nation and Petitioner's address and telephone number is _____
_____(____); and the Respondent is an enrolled member of the Sac and Fox Nation and Respondent's address and telephone number is _____
_____ (____).

-OR-

[] That the Petitioner is a non-Indian, who submits to the jurisdiction of the court, and Petitioner's address and telephone number is _____
_____; and the Respondent is an enrolled member of the _____ and the Respondent's address and telephone number is _____
_____ (____), _____.

-OR-

[] That the Petitioner is an enrolled member of the _____ and Petitioner's address and telephone number is _____
_____; and the Respondent is a non-Indian,

who submits to the jurisdiction of the court and Respondent's address and telephone number is _____.

(3.) [] That the Petitioner and Respondent were legally married on the ___ day of the _____ month of the _____ year and said marriage is registered in the _____ County in the State of _____ and have since that time have lived as husband and wife;

-OR-

[] That the Petitioner and Respondent were common law married around the _____ month of _____ year and have since then lived as husband and wife;

(4.) That the Petitioner is of legal age, dob: _____ and may be identified by last four of S.S.# _____ and the Respondent is of legal age, dob: _____ and may be identified by last four of S.S.# _____;

(5.) That Petitioner is _____ years old and his/her occupation is _____ and that she/he has lived in Indian Country for _____ months/years and the Respondent is _____ years old and his/her occupation is _____ and that he/she has lived in Indian Country for _____ months/years;

(6.) That of the marriage _____ children have/has been born, namely:

_____	dob: _____	Tribe _____
_____	dob: _____	Tribe _____
_____	dob: _____	Tribe _____
_____	dob: _____	Tribe _____
_____	dob: _____	Tribe _____

(7.) That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent is not pregnant at this time;

-OR-

That the []Petitioner/[] Respondent is pregnant and the birth of said child is expected on or about the _____ day of _____ 20____, and that the father of said child is _____;

(8.) [] That the parties have lived separately and apart for at least _____ days prior to the filing of this petition;

(9.) [] That as grounds for this Petition for Dissolution of Marriage the Petitioner alleges: _____ and that a serious marital discord exists and there is no reasonable prospect of reconciliation;

(10.) [] That the Petitioner does not need a restraining order;

-OR-

[] That the Petitioner needs a restraining order because the Petitioner fears the Respondent may attempt to harm, harass or molest the Petitioner. Describe what has happened to cause the need for an order of restraint:

_____;

(11.) [] That the parties have not accumulated any property that needs to be divided by the Court;

-OR-

[] That the parties have acquired certain property either by real estate and/or personal that should to be divided by the Court as follows:

To the Petitioner:

To the Respondent:

(12.) [] That the parties have not acquired any debts that need to be addressed by the Court;

-OR-

[] That the parties have acquired debts that need to be divided by the Court in that the Petitioner shall be responsible for the following debts:

_____;

And the Respondent shall be responsible for the following debts:

_____;

(13.) That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent is a fit and proper person to have custody of the minor child(ren) of the parties;

(14.) That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent should have visitation with the minor child(ren) at reasonable times and places;

-OR-

That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent should have visitation with the minor child(ren) on a supervised basis;

-OR-

That the [] Petitioner / [] Respondent should have visitation with the minor child(ren) according the following schedule: _____

(15.) That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent is capable of providing reasonable child support and he/she should be ordered and directed to make child support payments in the amount of _____ per month per child;

-OR-

[] That no child support be ordered because there are no children of the marriage;

-OR-

[] That no child support be ordered because the children of the marriage have reached the age of majority;

(16.) That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent should not be required to pay spousal support;

-OR-

That the []Petitioner/[]Respondent should be required to pay spousal support in the amount of _____ per month until he/she remarries or until further order of the Court;

(17.) That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent **should be** restored to her maiden or former name of:

_____.

-OR-

That the [] Petitioner/[] Respondent **should not** be restored to her former name;

(18.) That no other divorce action has been filed by either the Petitioner or any other Respondent in any other state or tribal court as of this date;

-OR-

That another divorce action has been filed in another court in _____ County, City of _____, State of _____ and that said case number is_____.

Wherefore, premises considered, the Petitioner prays that upon hearing this cause the Court grant and award the Petitioner a decree of Dissolution of Marriage from the Respondent and any and all relief is requested herein and such other further relief as to which the Petitioner is entitled.

Petitioner

Address: _____

(_____) _____

Email: _____

VERIFICATION

I, _____ being duly sworn to tell the truth and being of lawful age above 18 years of age hereby states that I have prepared and read the attached petition and verify that all of the factual allegations contained in the petition are in fact true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, under penalty or perjury.

Petitioner

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary/Court Clerk

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SAC AND FOX NATION
356159 EAST 926 ROAD, STROUD, OKLAHOMA 74079

In re the Marriage of _____)
)
 Petitioner,)
and _____)
)
 Respondent.)

CASE NO. JFD-_____

RESPONDENT'S ENTRY OF APPEARANCE AND WAIVER

Comes now the **Respondent** herein, and hereby acknowledges receipt of a copy of the petition filed herein, states that he/she has read and understands the same, hereby waives the issuance, service, and return of process upon him/her in this action, enters a voluntary appearance in this cause, waiving all time and right to plead, answer or appear in this action, and consents that the same may be set down for trial and hear by the court at any time hereafter without notice to, and in the absence of, this Respondent.

DATED this the ____ day of _____, _____.

Respondent
Address:
Phone:

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) **SS:**
COUNTY OF _____)

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public within and for the State of Oklahoma , on this ____ day of _____, 20 , personally appeared the above named Respondent, and executed the foregoing entry of appearance and waiver, and personally acknowledged to me that he/she has read, understood and signed the same, and that he/she executed the same as his/her free and voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto affixed my signature and official seal the day and date heretofore stated.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SAC AND FOX NATION
356159 EAST 926 ROAD, STROUD, OKLAHOMA 74079
PHONE: (918) 968-2031

Petitioner,

-vs-

Case No. _____

Respondent.

SUMMONS

THE SAC AND FOX NATION TO:

Greetings:

You are hereby notified that a **Petition for Dissolution of Marriage** has been filed in the Sac and Fox District Court. You have twenty (20) days from the date of service to file an Answer.

You are hereby summoned and notified that the Court will hear the evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said Petition for Divorce at the Sac and Fox District Courthouse located 5 miles South and 1/4 mile East of Stroud, Oklahoma on the _____ day of _____ 20____ at the hour of ____:____ a.m..

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY ON ANY MATTER REGARDING THIS SUIT OR YOUR ANSWER.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal on _____, 20____.

SAC AND FOX NATION, Court Clerk
[SEAL]
By: _____ Clerk/Deputy

RETURN OF SERVICE

Received this on the _____ day of _____, 20____, at _____ am/pm, and executed the same on the _____ day of _____, 20____, at _____ am/pm, to:

Dated: _____ Police Officer

JUDICIAL ORDER FOR PROPER CONDUCT OF DIVORCED PARENTS

The Order is directed equally to both the Petitioner and Respondent in a divorce matter.

If there is bitterness between you, it should not be inflicted upon your children. In every child's mind there should always be an image of **TWO GOOD PARENTS**. Your future with your children and with this Court will be enhanced if you will follow these guidelines.

1. The divorce is not the children's fault. It is not because of anything they did. For the children, it is a confusing, frustrating experience over which they have no control. Children should not be made to feel like they need to **choose sides** when their parents are at odds.
2. **Children will tend to blame themselves** for the divorce and you must constantly reassure them that they are not to blame; that it happens to all kinds of children and that they are not alone. Help them with their fears by assuring them they will be taken care of.
3. Research is now suggesting that it is not the divorce itself that hurts the children, but rather the **conflict** that they have to live with afterwards that results in maladjustment.
4. It is important for children to have **access to both parents** for a balanced picture of male and female roles. They need your time and attention far more than presents. A child can love both parents more if he or she is not pressured to love one parent less. They will generally not feel very close to one parent who continually puts down the other and are quick to go for guidance to the parent who has a positive attitude towards life.
5. Your child's sense of who he/she is comes from both parents. They will be burdened if they are told of their other parent's shortcomings. Spare your children the painful experience of seeing his/her parents fighting. This only adds to the pain of divorce and the feeling that the conflict is over him/her.
6. Parents do your mourning with your adult friends and family rather than using your children as your therapist.
7. Do not criticize or berate the other parent, members of the other parent's family, acquaintances, or employees. Do not burden your children with the worries and troubles of adults-they are children only once. Do not discuss with them details of any pending litigation matters.
8. Do not expose your children to inappropriate sexual relations with any person with whom you may be emotionally involved.

9. Do not visit or transport the children in a motor vehicle driven by you if you have been drinking alcoholic beverages or are intoxicated. Minimize consumption of alcoholic beverages in the presence of the children and never become intoxicated when the children are in your care.
10. You are required to keep the other parent informed of any change of address and change of telephone number of yourself and the children at all times. All such changes must be reported immediately. You are required to inform the other parent at once of serious illness or injury to the children.
11. Do not use your visitation to continue argument with the other parent. Never quarrel in the presence of the children. You should not use the children as messengers to communicate with the other parent.
12. When in the best interests of the children, it is the Court's policy to assure minor children of frequent and continuing contact with both parents and encourage parents to share the rights and responsibilities of child rearing. To this end, when awarding custody, the Court considers which parent is more likely to allow the children frequent and continuing contact with the non-custodial parent.
13. Keep your visitation as pleasant as possible for your children by NOT questioning them regarding activities of the other parent. Do not burden your children with the worries and troubles of adults.
14. Parents must realize that visitation takes precedence over other plans for the children. However, infrequently there may be conflicts between visitation and plans which are in the best interest of the children. Both parents are required to work out this problem together as mature adults.
15. Do not use your visitation to continue argument with the other parent. Never quarrel in the presence of the children. You should not use the children as messengers to communicate with the other parent.
16. Do not attempt to visit or telephone your children at unreasonable hours.
17. Always notify the other parent as soon as possible if you are unable to keep your scheduled visitation. It is unfair to your children to keep them waiting and even worse to disappoint them by not coming at all. It is in the best interest of the children that scheduled visitation be timely. A visiting parent waiting or no parent present at the time the children are returned is an aggravation leading to confrontations in the presence of the children.

18. The custodial parent must prepare the children both physically and mentally for visitation. The children and necessities for their care should be available by the custodial parent to the non-custodial parent at the time mutually agreed upon or the time set by the Court. This includes clothing and medications. All items furnished by the custodial parent must be returned with the children.
19. The issues of visitation and child support are separate and distinct. Neither is dependent upon the other and both are independently enforceable by Contempt. Nonpayment of child support is not a ground the Court is to consider in contempt hearings for denial of visitation. Denial of visitation is not a ground the Court is to consider in contempt hearings for nonpayment of child support.
20. Be prompt in paying child support exactly as ordered. You will not be credited with presents, clothes, etc., as part of child support. The parent who has a duty of paying child support must always maintain proof of payment and be in a position to prove the payment (i.e. receipts, canceled checks, etc.).
21. Each parent must realize that the most important job is to carry out the responsibility of raising children in a proper, cooperative way. Always work for the emotional well-being, health, happiness, and safety of your children. Use good judgment and your very best example to achieve these goals. Schedule regular dental and medical examinations. When driving, secure your children in seat belts or a safety chair. Never expose your children to excessive alcohol consumption or inappropriate or illegal drug use nor any dangerous, immoral or illegal situation or circumstances.
22. The custodial parent shall promptly inform the non-custodial parent of any illness of the children which shall require medical attention. The custodial parent is responsible to the provider for all medical and dental expenses of the children over and above what is covered by insurance. The custodial parent shall provide to the non-custodial parent documentation from the provider of the actual expenses, the amount paid by insurance and the balance owing. The non-custodial parent shall reimburse the custodial parent his/her percentage share as determined under the child support guidelines within thirty (30) days of receipt of such documentation.
23. The parent that is responsible for providing major medical and/or dental insurance, or any type of insurance for the children, or who has voluntarily provided insurance for the children, is required to keep the other parent informed of the proper name and address of the company, any changed in the benefits, any and all pre-admittance notice required by the company, benefit cards with dependents identification numbers, and any other information reasonably necessary to assure the children are covered and claims are properly presented to the insurance provider.
24. The custodial parent is responsible to the provider for all child care expenses of the children. The custodial parent shall provide to the non-custodial parent documentation from the provider of actual expenses within thirty (30) days of receipt of same. The non-custodial parent shall reimburse the custodial parent his or her percentage share as

- determined under the child support guidelines with thirty (30) days receipt of such documentation.
25. It shall be the duty of the custodial parent to inform the non-custodial parent and provide copies to the non-custodial parent of all written schedules and notices of any school, church or extra-curricular activities or functions pertaining to your children; including but not limited to, teacher conference, open houses, awards, banquets, sporting events, school plays, report cards, test results, school photographs and similar items. It shall be the duty of the custodial parent to inform and provide copies of such to the non-custodial parent to take the necessary action with the school authorities to list the non-custodial parent of the children provide the school with the non-custodial parent's address and phone numbers, and if applicable, list the non-custodial parent as a person to be contacted in case of emergency.
 26. It shall be the duty of the non-custodial parent to facilitate your child's continued Participation in your child's school activities, extracurricular activities, sporting activities or church activities during your visitation period.
 27. Give your child unconditional love-they need it at this time more than any other. Remember, they are children only once and for a relatively short period of time.
 28. Do not accuse, blame or nag the other parent about things which have happened in the past. Use the same degree of consideration, kindness and respect toward the other parent that you expect in return. You must respect the fact that the opposing party is your child's Dad or Mom and treat them accordingly.
 29. All parties are advised that it is improper and unethical to discuss any pending matter with the Court unless both parties and their attorneys are present.
 30. Incorporated by reference is the Bill of Rights for Children of Divorce.
 31. All parties are directed to refrain from harassing each other through texting, calling, emailing and any other Internet media(s).

BILL OF RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN OF DIVORCE

1. The right to be treated as important human beings, with unique feelings, ideas, and desires and not as a source of argument between parents.
2. The right to continuing relationship with both parents and a freedom to receive love from and express love from both.
3. The right to express love and affection for each parent without having to stifle that love because of fear of disapproval by the other parent.
4. The right to know that their parents' decision to divorce is not their responsibility and that they will live with one parent and will visit the other parent.
5. The right to continuing care and guidance from both parents.
6. The right to honest answers to question about changing family relationships.
7. The right to know and appreciate t what is good in each parent without one parent degrading the other.
8. The right to have a relaxed, secure relationship with both parents without being place in a position to manipulate one parent against the other.
9. The right to have custodial parent not undermine visitation by suggesting tempting alternative or by threatening to withhold visitation as punishment.
10. The right to be able to experience regular and consistent visitation and the right to know the reason for a canceled visit.

Failure to follow these directions may result in violation of the Courts order and may be punishable by contempt of Court with fine, imprisonment or both. Failure to follow these directions will be considered by the Court as a factor in determining the best interest of the children at any hearing before the Court. There may also be additional expense of attorney fees and court costs, all of which can be better used for the benefit of your children.

Thank you
Michael C. Smith
District Court Judge

ORDER ENTERING VISITATION SCHEDULE

The non-custodial parent shall have visitation with all minor children of the parties as follows:

I. **REGULAR VISITATION:**

- a. The non-custodial parent shall have visitation every other weekend from Friday after school or day care until Monday morning when the non-custodial parent returns the child(ren) to school or day care.
- b. If a child is not attending school or day care the non-custodial aren't shall pick up the child from the custodial parent's home at 6 o'clock p.m. on Friday and shall return the child to the custodial Parent's home at 7:30 o'clock a.m. on Monday.
- c. All visitation weekends that include a Federal or State Monday holiday shall be part of the regular weekend and return time on Tuesday shall be the same as the Monday return time.
- d. Regular Visitation shall occur during the school year and shall not occur from June 1st until the 1st day of school.

II. **Holiday Visitation:**

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>EVEN YEARS</u>	<u>ODD YEARS</u>
Spring Break Parent	Custodial Parent	Non-Custodial
Fall Break	Non-Custodial Parent	Custodial Parent
Thanksgiving Break	Custodial Parent	Non- Custodial
First part of Christmas Break (From after school or day care on the last day of school before the break until 6 p.m. on December 27 th)	Non-Custodial Parent	Custodial Parent

Balance of Christmas Break	Custodial Parent	Non-Custodial Parent
----------------------------	------------------	-------------------------

(From 6 p.m. on December 27th until return to school or day care on the day school resumes)

- b. All Mother's Day weekends shall be spent with the Mother.
All Father's Day weekends shall be spent with the Father.
The weekend shall begin at 6 p.m. Friday before Mother's Day or Father's Day and conclude on the following Monday morning at the return time for

regular weekend visitation. Father's Day weekend is not available for Mother's summer visitation.

- c. **THE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE SUPERSEDES ALL REGULARLY SCHEDULED VISITATION.** The Holiday Schedule shall be governed by the school the child attends or would attend or would attend if not of school age. If a child not yet attending school shall be governed by the schedule for the school which the older sibling attends.

III. **SUMMER VISITATION:**

- a) The non-custodial parent shall have summer visitation for two weeks in June and must notify the custodial parent of the dates in writing by March 30.
- b) The July 4th holiday (from 6 p.m. on July 3rd to 6 p.m on July 5th shall alternate between the parties on a yearly basis. The non-custodial parent shall not select date in July which include the July 4th holiday in consecutive years.
- c) Two weeks shall mean one period of 14 consecutive days or two periods of 7 consecutive days, with the visitation beginning and ending at 6 p.m.
- d) The non-custodial parent shall have summer visitation from 6 p.m. on August 8th. If the child(ren)'s school year does not begin until September, an additional week of visitation in August will be available with dates to be agreed upon by the parents by June 1.
- e) The non-custodial parent shall not schedule periods of summer visitation consecutively to create a period of 3 consecutive weeks (such as the last 2 weeks of July and the first week of August) or a period of 4 consecutive weeks (such as the last weeks of June and the first 2 weeks of July).
- f) If the non-custodial parent fails to give proper notice of when she/he will exercise summer visitation in June and/or July

IV. **OTHER PROVISIONS**

- a) Toys and clothes belonging to the child(ren) should travel freely between households and shall be returned with the child(ren) in a clean and orderly manner.
- b) Parents are allowed to deviate from this schedule by mutual agreement.
- c) It is important to be aware that this visitation schedule is for the purpose of providing assured minimum amounts of visitation between non-custodial parent and child(ren). Visitation should exceed the number of occasions set out herein.
- d) In addition, liberal telephone communications between the non-custodial parent and child(ren) are encouraged and should occur. Liberal telephone communications are also encouraged and should occur between the child(ren) and the custodial parent during the non-custodial parent during the non-custodial parent's visitation.

(2/2003)

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The new schedule now provide pickup and return times for a child who is too young to attend school and is not in day care.
2. There is now clarification that the non-custodial parent does not continue to have alternate weekend visitation in the summer plus the blocks of time allocated in June, July and August.
3. The new Christmas schedule prevents one parent having the child for Christmas day in consecutive years. This schedule also allows for travel out of state without the need for the child to travel on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.
4. This schedule solves the problems arising from a child in preschool having a different holiday schedule than an older, school-age sibling.
5. Under the new schedule, the non-custodial parent cannot include July 4th in his/her July visitation each year. Also the notification dates are moved back

INFANT VISITATION SCHEDULE

- I. AGE 0-6 MONTHS** (time period to establish object relationships)
 - a. Mother is primary caretaker
 - b. Father has limited visitation
 1. Daytime visitation very liberal
 2. Mother must be present at visitation
 - c. Father must learn infant care skills from mother
 1. Develop bond and trust with infant
 2. Develop object permanence with father
- II. AGE 7-12 MONTHS** (time period to develop relationships with extended family)
 - a. Father may engage in brief (hours) unattended visitation during months 7-9
 1. During brief visitation father may introduce infant to extended family
 - b. Father may take child for overnight visitation (hours)
 1. During brief overnight visitation father may introduce infant into extended family
 - c. Child should not be separated from mother for extended periods (18-24 hours)
- III. AGE 12-18 MONTHS** (time period to establish independence/autonomy)
 - a. Father may continue overnight visitation in months 12-15

1. May take child in brief excursions, i.e. play in park
- b. In months 15-18 visitation of 24 hours may be established, with continued excursions.

IV. AGE 19-24 MONTHS (time period to move from infancy to early childhood)

- a. 19-21 months continued 24 hour visitation with expansion to 36 hours.
- b. 22-24 months, 48 hour visitation may be established.

REFERENCES

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Gardner, Richard PSYCHOTHERAPY WITH CHILDREN OF DIVORCE