

## IN THE 76<sup>TH</sup>/276<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURTS

## CAMP, MORRIS AND TITUS COUNTIES, TEXAS

## STANDING ORDER REGARDING CHILDREN, PROPERTY, AND CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES IN FAMILY LAW CASES FILED IN CAMP, MORRIS AND TITUS COUNTIES, TEXAS

No party to this lawsuit has requested this order. Rather, this order is a Standing Order of the Camp, Morris and Titus County District Courts that applies in every divorce suit and every suit affecting the parent-child relationship filed in Camp, Morris or Titus County. The District Courts of Camp, Morris and Titus County have adopted this order because the parties and their children should be protected and their property preserved while the lawsuit is pending before the Court. Therefore, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- NO DISRUPTION OF CHILDREN: IT IS ORDERED THAT both parties are prohibited from performing the following acts concerning any children who are subjects of this case:
- 1.1 Removing the children from the State of Texas, acting directly, or in concern with others, without the written agreement of both parties or an order of this Court.
- 1.2 Disrupting or withdrawing the children from the school or day-care facility where the children are presently enrolled, without the written agreement of both parents or an order of this Court.
- 1.3 Hiding or secreting the children from the other parent or changing the children's current place of abode without the written agreement of both parents or an order of this Court.
  - 1.4 Disrupting the peace of the children.
- 2. <u>CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES DURING THE CASE</u>: IT IS ORDERED THAT both parties are prohibited from performing the following acts:

- 2.1 Using vulgar, profane, obscene, or indecent language, or using language in a coarse or offensive manner, to communicate with or about the other party, whether in person, directly or indirectly, by telephone, texting, e-mail, or other form of written, digital or electronic communication, including use of any form of mass dissemination of communication via digital sources, commonly referred to as "social media," such as, but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, etc.
- 2.2 Threatening the other party to take unlawful action against any person, whether in person, directly or indirectly, by telephone, texting, e-mail, or other form of written, digital or electronic communication, including use of any form of mass dissemination of communication via digital sources commonly referred to as "social media," such as, but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, etc.
- 2.3 Placing or originating, in person, anonymously or otherwise, one or more telephone calls, text messages, e-mails, or other electronic communications at an unreasonable hour in an offensive or repetitious manner without a legitimate purpose of communication.
  - 2.4 Opening or diverting mail, including electronic mail, addressed to the other party.
- 3. PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND USE OF FUNDS DURING DIVORCE

  CASE: If this is a divorce case, IT IS ORDERED THAT both parties to the marriage are prohibited from performing the following acts:
- 3.1 Destroying, removing, concealing, encumbering, transferring, or otherwise harming or reducing the value of the property of one or both of the parties. Misrepresenting or refusing to disclose to the other party or to the Court, on proper request, the existence, amount or location of any property of one or both of the parties.
  - 3.2 Damaging or destroying the tangible property of one or both of the parties,

including any document and/or electronically stored information that represents or embodies anything of value.

- 3.3 Tampering with the tangible property of one or both of the parties, including any document, including electronically stored information, that represents or embodies anything of value, and causing pecuniary loss to the other party.
- 3.4 Selling, transferring, assigning, mortgaging, encumbering, or in any other manner alienating any of the property of either party, whether personal property or real estate property, and whether separate or community, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 3.5 Incurring any indebtedness, other than legal expenses in connection with this suit, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 3.6 Making withdrawals from any checking or savings account in any financial institution for any purpose, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 3.7 Spending any sum of cash in either party's possession or subject to either party's control for any purpose, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 3.8 Withdrawing or borrowing in any manner for any purpose from any retirement, profit-sharing, pension, death or other employee benefit plan or employee savings plan or from any individual retirement account or Keogh account, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 3.9 Signing or endorsing the other party's name on any negotiable instrument check or draft, such as tax refunds, insurance payments, and dividends, or attempting to negotiate any negotiable instrument payable to the other party without the personal signature of the other party.
- 3.10 Taking any action to terminate or limit credit or charge cards in the name of the other party.

- 3.11 Entering, operating, or exercising control over the motor vehicle in the possession of the other party.
- 3.12 Discontinuing or reducing the withholding for federal income taxes on wages or salary while this suit is pending.
- 3.13 Terminating or in any manner affecting the service of water, electricity, gas, telephone, cable or satellite television, internet service or other contractual services, such as security, pest control, landscaping, or yard maintenance at any residence occupied by either party, in the absence of a written agreement or further Order of the Court, or in any manner attempting to withdraw any deposits for service in connection with such services.
- 4. <u>PARTIES TO FURNISH INFORMATION</u>: If children are involved in this case, or child support is an issue, IT IS ORDERED THAT *both* parties shall [pursuant to Section 154.063 of the Texas Family Code]:
- 4.1 Furnish information sufficient to accurately identify the party's net resources and ability to pay child support; and
- 4.2 Produce copies of income tax returns for the past two years, a financial statement, and current pay stubs for all employment.
- 5. PERSONAL AND BUSINESS RECORDS IN DIVORCE CASES: If this is a divorce case, IT IS ORDERED THAT both parties to the marriage are prohibited from performing the following acts:
- 5.1 Concealing or destroying any family records, property records, financial records, business records, or any records of income, debts or other obligations.
  - 5.2 Falsifying any writing or record relating to the property of either party.
  - 5.3 "Records" include e-mail or other digital or electronic data, whether stored on a

computer hard drive, diskette, "cloud storage" or other electronic or digital storage method or device.

- 6. <u>INSURANCE IN DIVORCE CASE</u>: If this is a divorce case, IT IS ORDERED THAT both parties to the marriage are prohibited from performing the following acts:
- 6.1 Withdrawing or borrowing in any manner all or any part of the case surrender value of life insurance policies on the life of either party, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 6.2 Changing or in any manner altering the beneficiary designation on any life insurance on the life of either party or the parties' children.
- 6.3 Canceling, altering, or in any manner affecting any casualty, automobile, health or dental policies insuring the parties' property or persons, including the parties' minor children.
- 7. <u>SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATIONS IN DIVORCE CASE</u>: If this is a divorce case, both parties to the marriage are specifically authorized to do the following:
- 7.1 To engage in acts reasonable and necessary to the conduct of that party's usual business and occupation.
- 7.2 To make expenditures and incur indebtedness for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses in connection with this suit.
- 7.3 To make expenditures and incur indebtedness for reasonable and necessary living expenses for food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and medical care.
- 7.4 To make withdrawals from accounts in financial institutions only for the purposes authorized by this order.
  - 8. SERVICE AND APPLICATION OF THIS ORDER:
  - 8.1 The Petitioner shall attach a copy of this Order to the Original Petition and to

each copy of the Petition.

- 8.2 This order is effective as against all parties upon the filing and proper service of the Original Petition, and shall remain in full force and effect as a Mutual Temporary Restraining Order for fourteen days after the date of the filing of the Original Petition. After notice and an opportunity for hearing within the time prescribed by law, except to the extent modified, reformed or vacated by subsequent order, this Standing Order shall continue in full force and effect as a Mutual Temporary Injunction until further order of the Court. This entire order will terminate and will no longer be effective once the Court signs a final order or decree.
- 9. <u>EFFECT OF OTHER COURT ORDERS</u>: If any provision of this Order is different from any provision of a protective order that has already been entered or is later entered, the protective order provision prevails. Any provision of this order not amended by some later order remains in full force and effect until the court signs a final order or decree.
- 10. PARTIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEEK AMICABLE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES: The parties are encouraged to settle their disputes amicably prior to seeking any court intervention, including, but not limited to seeking Temporary Orders. The parties are encouraged to use informal settlement conferences and formal alternative dispute resolution methods, such as mediation, to resolve any conflicts that may arise in this lawsuit.
- 11. MANDATORY MEDIATION BEFORE CONTESTED FINAL HEARING OR TRIAL: The parties are specifically given notice that these Courts shall refer all contested matters to mediation prior to a final hearing or trial.

THIS STANDING ORDER REGARDING CHILDREN, PROPERTY, AND CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ALL FAMILY LAW CASES FILED IN THE 76<sup>TH</sup>/276<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURTS IN CAMP, MORRIS

AND TITUS COUNTIES <u>ON JANUARY 25, 2023</u>, AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT HEREAFTER UNTIL FURTHER ORDER OF THE 76<sup>TH</sup>/276<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURTS.

A FILE-MARKED COPY OF THIS ORDER SHALL BE ATTACHED TO ANY PETITION IN A FAMILY LAW SUIT AND SUCH FILE-MARKED COPY IS AS EFFECTIVE AS THE ORIGINAL SIGNED ORDER AND SHALL BE FULLY ENFORCEABLE VIA THE CONTEMPT POWERS OF THE COURT.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

MICHAEL P. KOPECA

DISTRICT JUDGE

276TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

ANGELA SAUCIER

DISTRÍCT JUDGE

76TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT