IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
_____ COUNTY, ILLINOIS

_____,	)	
	)	
Petitioner *(your name)*,	)	
	)	
and	)	No. _____ F _____
	)	
_____,	)	
	)	
Respondent *(the mother's name)*.	)	

Instructions: Use this form to ask the Court to establish parentage and allocation of parental responsibilities of your child(ren).

You can use this form if all of these things are true:

- You are the father of the child(ren) (use a different form if you are the birth mother);
- There are no court or administrative orders about your paternity of the child(ren) (including a divorce order between you and the mother that describes the child(ren) as "child(ren) of the marriage");
- You did not sign a valid Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity (VAP) for the child(ren);
- You are not currently married to the child(ren)'s mother, and, if you were ever married to her, you got divorced at least 300 days before the birth of the child(ren).
- The child(ren) and the mother have certain connections to Illinois. (See sections 4 and 9 of this form for more information.)
- The child(ren) have not been adopted (including adoption by the mother's husband).

CAUTION: There are deadlines and other special rules that may apply to your case if:

- There is already a court order or court case about the child(ren) (including a divorce order that describes the child(ren) as "child(ren) of the marriage;")
- Someone signed a valid Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity for the child(ren); or
- The mother was married to someone else at the time of the birth(s) of the child(ren), or married someone else after the birth(s) of the child(ren) and that person is listed as the father on the birth certificate.

If you think any of these apply to your case, you should talk to a lawyer about your options.

FATHER'S PETITION TO ESTABLISH PARENTAGE AND ALLOCATE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF MINOR CHILD(REN)

I, _____ *(your name)*, Petitioner, ask this Court to enter an order establishing parentage and allocating parental responsibilities of the minor child(ren) listed in this Petition. In support of this Petition, I state as follows:

1. Information about me

Name	Address	Age	Occupation

☐ There is a history of domestic violence and listing my address is not in the best interests of me and/or my child(ren).

2. <u>Information about Respondent</u> (the mother)

Name	Address	Age	Occupation

3. <u>Child(ren)</u>

a. I believe I am the father of the following child(ren), and I am asking the Court to enter an order establishing my parentage and allocating parental responsibilities:

Name or initials of child	Age	Currently lives with *(me, mother, etc.)*
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

(Attach additional pages if needed)

b. <u>Unborn child(ren)</u> *(check only one)*

☐ Respondent (the mother) is not currently pregnant.

☐ Respondent (the mother) is currently pregnant and I believe I am the father.

☐ Respondent (the mother) is currently pregnant and I believe I am not the father.

☐ I do not know whether Respondent (the mother) is currently pregnant.

4. <u>Personal jurisdiction</u>

Check only a or b. If neither a nor b is true, you cannot use this form and you should talk to a lawyer about your options.

a. ☐ Respondent (the mother) lives in Illinois.

b. ☐ Respondent (the mother) does not live in Illinois, but *(check at least one option for each child):*

☐ We had sex in Illinois that may have resulted in the conception of _____ *(name(s)/initials of child(ren))*.

☐ _____ *(name(s)/initials of child(ren))* live in Illinois

because of the Respondent's (the mother's) actions or demands.

☐ Respondent (the mother) used to live in Illinois and she provided support in Illinois for _____ *(name(s)/initials of child(ren)).*

5. I am not already the legal parent of the child(ren)

You cannot use this form unless all of the statements below are true. If any of these is not true, you should talk to a lawyer about your options.

a. There are no court or administrative orders about my paternity of the child(ren) (including divorce orders describing the child(ren) as "child(ren) of the marriage").

b. I have not signed a valid Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity for the child(ren).

c. I am not currently married to Respondent (the mother).

d. If I was ever married to the mother, we divorced more than 300 days before the birth of all of the child(ren) listed in this Petition.

6. Presumed parent

a. Respondent (the mother) was married at or before birth *(check if applicable)*

☐ To the best of my knowledge, Respondent (the mother) was married to someone other than me at the time at least one child was born, or within 300 days before that child's birth. *(If you choose this option, you must fill out the chart below and send the person(s) named below the Notice of Presumed Parent.)*

Name or initials of child	Name of person the mother was married to at the time of birth or within 300 days before that child's birth *(if you don't know the person's name, write "I don't know")*
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

b. Respondent (the mother) was married after birth *(check if applicable)*

☐ To the best of my knowledge, Respondent (the mother) married someone other than me after the birth of at least one child and that person is listed as the parent on that child's birth certificate. *(If you choose this option, you must fill out the chart below and send the person(s) named below the Notice to Presumed Parent.)*

Name or initials of child	Name of person the mother married after the child's birth and who is listed as the parent on the child's birth certificate *(if you don't know the person's name, write "I don't know")*

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

7. Other legal parent(s) of the child(ren)

a. Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity *(check if applicable, and fill out the chart below)*

☐ To the best of my knowledge, another man has signed a valid Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity (VAP) for the child(ren).

Name or initials of child	Name of man who signed a VAP for the child(ren) *(if you don't know the person's name, write "I don't know")*
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

b. Court order of parentage *(check if applicable, and fill out the chart below)*

☐ To the best of my knowledge, there is a court order naming someone other than me or the mother as parent of the child(ren) (including a divorce order between the mother and someone other than me that describes the child(ren) as "child(ren) of the marriage").

Name or initials of child	Name of person named as parent of the child(ren) in a court order *(if you don't know the person's name, write "I don't know")*
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

8. Child(ren)'s living arrangements during the last 5 years

The minor child(ren) has/have lived at the following addresses during the last 5 years. *(If there is more than one child and the children have lived apart at any time during the last 5 years, fill out one chart for each child and attach additional pages. If you do not know some of this information, write "I don't know.")*

Name(s) or initials of child(ren): _____

From *(date)*	**To** *(date)*	**Address** *(street address, city, state, zip code and county)*	**Lived with** *(me, Respondent, etc.)*
	Current		

(Attach additional pages if needed)

☐ There is a history of domestic violence and listing my address is not in the best interests of me and/or my child(ren).

9. <u>Allocation jurisdiction</u>

(Check all that apply, but choose only one option for each child. If neither of the first two choices is true, you should talk to a lawyer about your options.)

☐ _____ *(child(ren)'s name(s) or initials)* is/are **older than** 6 months old and has/have lived in Illinois for at least 6 consecutive months within the past 12 months.

☐ _____ *(child(ren)'s name(s) or initials)* is/are **younger than** 6 months old and has/have lived in Illinois since birth.

☐ _____ *(child(ren)'s name(s) or initials)* is/are **older than** 6 months old and has/have lived in a state other than Illinois _____ *(name of state)* for at least 6 consecutive months within the past 12 months.

☐ _____ *(child(ren)'s name(s) or initials)* is/are **younger than** 6 months old and has/have lived in another state _____ *(name of state)* since birth.

☐ None of the choices above apply to _____ *(child(ren)'s name(s) or initials),* but the child(ren) and at least one parent have significant connections to Illinois, and there is substantial information about the child(ren) available in Illinois.

10. Other people claiming rights to the child(ren) *(check only one option)*

☐ No one other than me and Respondent (the mother) claims to have rights to make important decisions for, care for, or spend time with the child(ren).

☐ Someone other than me and Respondent (the mother) claims to have rights to make important decisions for, care for, or spend time with the child(ren). That person(s) is/are *(list names):*

_____

11. Other court cases involving the child(ren) or parents *(check only one option)*:

☐ No other court cases: I know of no other court cases or orders in Illinois or any other state that might affect the child(ren) (such as orders of protection, parentage, divorce, custody, visitation, allocation of parental responsibilities, child or spousal support, adoption, termination of parental rights, court cases involving DCFS, etc.).

☐ Other court cases: I know of the following court case(s), both pending and closed, that might affect the child(ren) (such as orders of protection, paternity, divorce, custody, visitation, allocation of parental responsibilities, child or spousal support, adoption, termination of parental rights, court cases involving DCFS, etc.):

County & State	Case number	Kind of case *(paternity, custody, etc.)*

(Attach additional pages if needed)

I understand that I have a continuing duty to inform the Court of any legal proceeding in Illinois or any other state that could affect allocation of parental responsibilities. This means that I must let the Court know if I find out about any other court case in Illinois or any other state that could affect my child(ren).

12. Allocation of significant decision-making responsibilities

I am asking the Court to allocate significant decision-making responsibilities for the child(ren) as follows (*check only <u>one</u> option*):

☐ <u>I have all decision-making:</u> It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that temporary and permanent sole significant decision-making responsibility for the child(ren) be allocated to me.

☐ <u>Respondent (the mother) has all decision-making:</u> It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that temporary and permanent sole significant decision-making responsibility for the child(ren) be awarded to Respondent (the mother).

☐ <u>Respondent (the mother) and I share decision-making:</u> It is in the best interests of the child(ren) that temporary and permanent significant decision-making responsibility for the child(ren) be allocated to both me and Respondent (the mother).

☐ I am not asking the Court to make a decision about significant-decision making responsibility.

13. <u>Allocation of parenting time</u>

I am asking the Court to allocate parenting time as follows *(check only <u>one</u> option)*:

☐ <u>Both parents have parenting time:</u> It is the best interests of the child(ren) that I be allocated temporary and permanent parenting time with the child(ren), and that Respondent (the mother) be allocated either unrestricted or restricted parenting time.

☐ <u>I have all of the parenting time:</u> It is in the best interests of the children that I be allocated all of the temporary and permanent parenting time with the child(ren), and that Respondent (the mother) not be allocated parenting time.

☐ I am not asking the Court to make a decision about parenting time.

14. <u>Child support</u>

a. *(check one)*

☐ I am asking the Court to order child support including, if appropriate, support back to the birth of the child(ren).

☐ I am asking the Court to reserve child support.

☐ I am not asking the Court to order child support.

b. <u>Information about me:</u>

i. I am ☐ employed / ☐ unemployed *(check one).*

ii. I am ☐ able / ☐ unable *(check one)* to help support our minor child(ren).

c. Information about Respondent (the mother):

i. Respondent (the mother) is ☐ employed / ☐ unemployed *(check one).*

ii. Respondent (the mother) is ☐ able / ☐ unable *(check one)* to help support our minor child(ren).

RELIEF REQUESTED:

Therefore, I am asking the Court to enter an order which provides as follows:

A. Parentage *(check one or more options, but only one option for each child):*

☐ That a parent/child relationship exists and is established between me and_____ *(child(ren)'s names or initials)*, without the need for genetic (DNA) testing.

☐ That a parent/child relationship exists and is established between me and_____ *(child(ren)'s names or initials)*, if supported by the results of genetic (DNA) testing.

B. Genetic testing *(check only if applicable)*

☐ That the parties and the following child(ren) _____ *(child(ren)'s names or initials)* submit to genetic (DNA) testing to determine parentage.

C. Allocation of significant decision-making responsibility (*check the same option that you chose in section 12 above):*

☐ That temporary and permanent sole significant decision-making responsibility of the minor child(ren) be allocated to me.

☐ That temporary and permanent sole significant decision-making responsibility of the minor child(ren) be allocated to Respondent (the mother).

☐ That temporary and permanent significant decision-making authority be allocated to both me and Respondent (the mother).

☐ I am not asking the Court to enter an order allocating significant decision-making responsibility.

D. Allocation of parenting time *(check the same option that you chose in section 13 above)*:

☐ That temporary and permanent parenting time be allocated to me, and either restricted or unrestricted parenting time be allocated to Respondent (the mother).

☐ That all temporary and permanent parenting time be allocated to me, and that no parenting time be allocated to Respondent (the mother).

☐ I am not asking the Court to enter an order allocating parenting time.

E. Child support *(check the same option that you chose in section 14 above)*:

☐ That Respondent (the mother) pay child support to me, including, if appropriate, support back to the birth of the child(ren).

☐ That I pay child support to Respondent (the mother).

☐ That child support be reserved.

☐ I am not asking the Court to enter an order for child support.

F. Any other appropriate relief.

CERTIFICATION

Under the penalties for perjury provided by Section 1-109 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, I certify that my statements in this document are true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____