

Concerns of the Parents

I request that you answer these questions, not your attorney.

- Describe your top 3 or 4 major concerns about the other parent or party to this suit. If you have more than 4 concerns major concerns you may continue to list them, but many times I find the concerns overlap another concern or there is a tendency to be redundant. Be specific regarding your concerns. Tell me what you are trying to accomplish through this suit and the Child Custody Evaluation. You may do this in narrative form or list in format. **When you explain your concerns or allegations, be sure to provide evidence or proof that will verify your concern. If you are unable to furnish proof explain why. Be specific with dates of when a “concern or allegation” took place.**
- Explain how you communicate with the other parent on child rearing issues? Give examples and will the other party agree or disagree with your example or description of “How do you communicate and try to cooperate with the other parent?” How would you rate your level of communication and cooperation on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being worst and 10 being best? How did you resolve conflicts before separation? How do you resolve them now? Explain!
- How do you currently make decisions with the other parent or party about school, extracurricular activities, doctors visits, vacations, and religious training? How is school and medical information shared between you and the other parent?
- What are your Concerns about the other parent’s ability to co-parent with you? What does the other parent or party do that contributes to the problems between you and the other parent? **Be specific with dates or approximate dates / time. Provide proof. NO hearsay.** Describe how you have attempted to work through these problems or how you have tried to compromise or correct the problem that interferes with your ability to co-parent effectively. What will the other parent or party say that YOU do that contributes to the on-going problem?

- **DON'T SKIP THIS!** What do you like about the other parent or party in terms of their parenting abilities? List their major strengths. Also, list their weaknesses. What are Your strengths and weaknesses as a parent?
- Did the Court order you and the other parent to attend a co-parenting class or parallel parenting class? If so, provide the name and phone number of the counselor, their address, and how many sessions are required? **If completed, provide certificate of completion.**
- What are the current possession / visitation arrangements that have been ordered by the Court? **Please attach copies of pertinent Court Orders, or custody / parenting agreements. If the current “parenting time” is different from what is stated in the Court Order, please explain why you decided to go outside the Court Order with a different possession arrangement.**
- Are there any perceived problems with the current child possession arrangements? If so, briefly describe your proposed solution to the perceived problems.

Note: When I say “Provide Proof, NO Hearsay” that’s what I mean. If you make a statement of concern about the other parent, I need something besides your verbal or written allegation of concern. For example, if you furnish copies of email exchanges between you and the other party, please identify which individual is speaking and which individual is making the reply. Provide sufficient email or text information that happened before the allegation, the allegation or concern you are telling me about, and the next message or two that follows so that I have a complete picture or understanding of what you are trying to demonstrate or convey to me. Don’t just include a snip-it of a text message without any groundwork before and after the concern. Your message that you are trying to support needs sufficient information to give me reasonable verification the allegation or concern happened. Include the date or approximate dates. Just be specific.