

Safety Focused Parenting Plan

Do you need a Safety Focused Plan? This list can help you decide.

Has the other parent:

- ▶ acted as though violent behavior toward you or your child(ren) is OK in some situations?
- ▶ damaged or destroyed property or pets during an argument?
- ▶ threatened to commit suicide?
- ▶ pushed, slapped, kicked, punched or physically hurt you or your child(ren)?
- ▶ had problems with alcohol or other drugs?
- ▶ needed medication to be safe around others?
- ▶ threatened not to return or not returned your child(ren)?
- ▶ used weapons to threaten or hurt people?
- ▶ threatened to kill you, your child(ren) or anyone else?
- ▶ sexually abused anyone by force, threat of force, or intimidation?
- ▶ been served a protection or no contact order?
- ▶ been arrested for harming or threatening to harm you or anyone else?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, please continue to take your safety, and your children's safety, seriously. You may need to use a Safety Focused Parenting Plan.

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Oregon law requires parents to file a **Parenting Plan** (a document that states when the child will be with each parent and how decisions will be made) with the final request for divorce or child custody order. Parenting Plans may be modified by agreement of the parties (see the paragraph entitled “Changes to the Parenting Plan”) or by returning to court seeking a modification. The purpose of these materials is to help you develop a safety focused parenting plan. We recommend that you file a plan when first filing your case in the court. This packet offers three samples of safety focused parenting plans:

Option A: You feel your child cannot be safe alone with the other parent - *supervised parenting time or no parenting time.*

Option B: You feel your child can safely spend limited time with the other parent under certain conditions - *no overnight parenting time.*

Option C: You feel your child can safely spend time with the other parent, but you are not safe when the other parent is with you - *overnight parenting time, public drop off and pick up sites.*

These instructions are not a complete statement of the law. For legal information, please talk to a lawyer, visit your local law library and/or refer to the “Resource List” in the Parenting Plan Guide for Parents developed by the Oregon Judicial Department (<http://courts.oregon.gov/familylaw>). Your court may also have local rules, programs and procedures that are not explained in these instructions. **Some courts have family law facilitators and/or clerks who may provide you with further assistance.**

Instructions for completing the plan that you have chosen

- ▶ **County:** At the top of the page, fill in the name of the county in which you are filing your Parenting Plan at the top of the page.
- ▶ **Names:** On the lines provided, fill in the names of the Petitioner and Respondent. If you filed together, check the box marked “Co-Petitioner.” If you have an existing court case, use the labels and names as they appear on your original documents filed with the court.
- ▶ **Case Number:** On the right side, enter your case number. A case number is assigned when papers are filed with the court.
- ▶ **Information About The Children:** Write down the full legal name (do not use nicknames) and date of birth for each child of this relationship.
- ▶ **Who Are You?:** The residential parent is the term for the parent with whom the children live most of the time. The other parent is the non-residential parent. These labels are used throughout the parenting plan.
- ▶ **Parenting Schedule:** In deciding on a schedule you may want to refer to the “*What’s Best for my Child-Ages and Stages of Children*” section of the BASIC PARENTING PLAN GUIDE FOR PARENTS located at: <http://courts.oregon.gov/familylaw>. Click on the “Parenting Plan Information” link.
- ▶ **You need to attach your parenting plan to your court papers when you first file them with the court.**